Susa Young Gates Award for Best Student Essay in Women’s Studies

The BYU Women’s Studies Program is pleased to announce a new award to encourage quality student research and writing in any field related to Women’s Studies. The award of $150 will be given annually for the best Women’s Studies essay written by a student at Brigham Young University. The deadline to submit a paper to be considered for the 2014 award will be April 15, 2014. Send your paper by email to womensstudies@byu.edu with the words “Susa Young Gates Award” in the subject line. The award recipient will be announced at the annual Women’s Studies graduation reception and closing social. The winning essay will be published in the following year’s volume of the Women’s Studies student journal, Awe: A Woman’s Experience.

This award is named in honor of Susa Young Gates (1856-1933), a writer, editor, and women’s rights advocate. Gates published nine books and left many works in manuscript, including two novels, a biography of her father Brigham Young, a history of Latter-day Saint women, and a history of the Young Ladies’ Mutual Improvement Association. She contributed dozens of articles to several periodicals, including the Deseret News. She served as editor of the University of Deseret school newspaper, and was founding editor of both the Young Women’s Journal and the Relief Society Magazine. She worked as a delegate and speaker to five congresses of the International Council of Women, as well as on the National Council of Women. She was an active member of the National Household Economics Organization, the Utah chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, and the National Woman’s Press Club, and worked as the Head of the Research Department and Library of the Genealogical Society of Utah. She served on the Boards of Regents of Brigham Young University and Utah State Agricultural College.