



**The American Balint Society**  
announces the Third Biennial Enid Balint  
Student/Resident Essay Contest

**Topic:**

**The Clinician-Patient Relationship - the  
therapeutic value of the clinical encounter**

Contest open to all students and residents in the health care professions in the United States and Canada

Purpose: To encourage students and residents to reflect on their patient encounters, to inspire others in their caring relationships.

**Entries due: December 31, 2017**

**Winners will be announced in early April, 2018**

- One to three winning essays will be selected.
- The ABS has arranged for the winning entries to be published in the Medline referenced International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine.
- The winner(s) will be invited to read their essay(s) at the biennial ABS society-wide meeting and conference-July 25-28, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN. For each winner, the ABS will pay the conference registration fees and will award up to \$750 for travel and housing expenses. If the winner(s) is/are not able to attend the conference, the ABS will award the winner(s) a cash prize of \$250.
- The ABS reserves the right to have the winning essay read at the conference, with full credit given to the author.

Guidelines for entries	Submission guidelines
<p>Essays should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe a student/resident – patient relationship and include reflection on that relationship. This reflection should include a description of how the author experienced the relationship, the author's own perception of the demands to which s/he felt exposed and an illustration of how s/he responded, a discussion of ways in which the author's own approach to patients will be influenced in the future by this relationship or encounter. It might also include possible ways in which medical training might enhance others' awareness of the therapeutic value of the clinical encounter.</li><li>• Be based on the writer's personal experience</li><li>• Be written in English</li><li>• Where clinical histories are included, the identity of the patient(s) and any other parties involved must be suitably concealed. The author's identity must also not be revealed in the essay itself.</li><li>• All references should conform to APA format.</li><li>• Quality of writing will be taken into account. Personal narrative style is encouraged.</li><li>• Word limit: 2,500 – 3,500 words</li></ul>	<p><b>Entries due via email, no later than December 31, 2017.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Email entries to John R. Freedy, MD, PhD, Chair of the ABS Essay Contest Committee: <a href="mailto:ijpmssc@mussc.edu">ijpmssc@musc.edu</a></li><li>• Pages should be numbered. The title of the essay may appear on each page, but no information identifying the author should appear on any page.</li><li>• Entries should be submitted via email as a Word attachment, accompanied by a separate cover page that identifies<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Title of the essay</li><li>• Author's name</li><li>• Author's school or residency program, and its location (city and state)</li><li>• Author's expected graduation / completion date</li><li>• Author's email address</li></ul></li><li>• Multiple submissions are not accepted</li><li>• Essays should not have been previously published, nor have been awarded an Ascona or British Balint Society prize.</li></ul>

For further information about this contest, contact John R. Freedy, MD, PhD, at [ijpmssc@musc.edu](mailto:ijpmssc@musc.edu)

*[www.americanbalintsociety.org](http://www.americanbalintsociety.org)*