



# pinal county

town hall

## 2011 WAYNE G. GERKEN YOUTH OF THE YEAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### OFFICIAL ESSAY SUBMISSION FORM

Please provide the following requested information in its entirety

NAME: Kimberly Koerth

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SCHOOL: Casa Verde High School GRADUATION YEAR: 2012

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS/ACTIVITIES: Phi Theta Kappa, STEM Club, Yearbook Editor,  
Interact Club Vice President, National Honor Society Secretary, Student Council  
Student Body Treasurer, Orchestra, Teacher Aide, Academic Peer Tutoring

COMMUNITY/CHURCH/OTHER ACTIVITIES: Church Altar Server, Teen Spirit Youth Group,  
Secretary of Casa Grande Youth Commission, GCCA Youth & Adult Orchestra,  
Editorial Intern at Pinal County Lifestyles Magazine, Volunteer at Black Box Theatre

HONORS/AWARDS (SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY): 4.0 GPA at CVHS & CAC, Graduation at age  
15 from CVHS & CAC, 1<sup>st</sup> Chair Violist in CVHS & GCCA Orchestras,  
Perfect Attendance, Student of the Year, Presidential Award for Academic Excellence

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAMES: Joyce Koerth & John Koerth

I AM ...  UNDER THE AGE OF 18  18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER

## 24th Pinal County Town Hall Essay Topic:

Based on the information provided in your packet and what you learned from the speakers today, what do you think your community leaders should do to prepare for your entry into the Pinal County job market?

### RULES:

- **WRITE LEGIBLY!!!**
- An essay may only be submitted in this booklet only. If you lose or spoil one, you may ask for another.
- You **may not** add additional pages to this booklet. Your essay must fit in the space provided.
- Stay on topic.

As a youth leader in the community of Pinal County, I was eager to receive the honor to attend this year's Town Hall, particularly when I found out that the theme was 'Putting the Pieces Together for Pinal County's Economic Future'. For as long as I can remember, I have heard about the state of the economy and what specific hardships future generations will be up against. These worries are intimidating, especially when no one seems to have an effective solution for the problems our economy faces, but proper education on the topic of economic development can bolster our confidence in the future of our community. Just in the span of ten hours or so this weekend, I have already learned countless pieces of information about Pinal County's current economy and where it's headed on local, state, national, and even international levels. I imagine the possibilities if everyone were provided with this knowledge! People are out there with solutions and ideas, just waiting for the opportunity to voice their opinions. With that, I would like to discuss three ways community leaders could assist the youth of their community upon our entry into the Pinal County job market.

The main underlying priority that I see is keeping young adults in Pinal County in the first place. The more people we retain in our community, the greater the potential we have for attracting large corporations, as well as successful local businesses. With each of the wonderful speakers we have had this week, members of the public have brought up concerns they have about specific organizations' contributions to the economy, but they all look to the speakers and other leaders of the community for a solution to the problems they see. These people are phenomenal role models, but we often forget how they reached their positions in the first place. If we promote leadership and encourage entrepreneurship in our community, more people will feel comfortable sharing their ideas, ideas which might otherwise be overlooked. Every opinion is