**Live Deliberately Essay Contest Reviewer Rubric**

**Thank you so much for being a guest reviewer for the Live Deliberately Essay Contest!**

It is our intention that you will only receive essays that meet the basic requirements of the contest (word count, deadline, respond to the prompt) to review. If you believe you have received an essay that does not meet the basic requirements, please let me know when you submit your scores.

The scores in each category are weighted. For those weighted with a “3,” please multiply your score in that category by 3 to come up with your total score in that category. For those weighted with a “2,” multiply those scores by 2. Then add all of your weighted scores to come up with the overall score. Please email Whitney Retallic, WWP Director of Education, at [whitney.retallic@walden.org](mailto:whitney.retallic@walden.org) if you have questions!

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| **Contestant Name: (e.g., “RetallicW”)** | **1 (Not evident)** | **2 (Poor)** | **3 (Moderate)** | **4 (Good)** | **5 (Excellent)** | **Score weight** | **Total**  **Scores** |
| **Addresses Prompt—**The essay effectively takes into account, either literally or metaphorically, the entirety of the prompt. |  |  |  |  |  | X 2 |  |
| **Focus**—The thesis/main message is clear and supported throughout. The essay does not stray from the main message. |  |  |  |  |  | X 2 |  |
| **Organization & Structure**—The essay is organized and well-structured. Author demonstrates command of grammar, spelling and mechanics. |  |  |  |  |  | X 2 |  |
| **Voice/Originality**—The essay uses a highly engaging and personal style. The author finds fresh or interesting ways to convey ideas. The author approaches the topic from a unique perspective. |  |  |  |  |  | X 3 |  |
| **Evidence of Personal Reflection**—The essay demonstrates that the author has genuinely explored the topic/question and how it relates to his or her own life. The essay reflects a depth in reflection. |  |  |  |  |  | X 3 |  |
| **OVERALL SCORE**  **Comments (optional):** | | | | | | | **Sum of Above:** |