

Call for Submissions (\$250 awards)

Empathy and Valuing Every Person Lecture Series: Three Phases of COVID-19 experiences

3rd Annual event in honor of Dr. Anthony Thomas, Jr

Hosted by Center for Bioethics

Inspired by Dr. Anthony Thomas, Jr.'s valuing of every person with whom he came into contact no matter their background, appearance, or social status, we invite insights gained through moments of "Empathy and Valuing Every Person" in the context of healthcare delivery. In particular we want to learn from you about the wisdom and power of human interactions that allow flourishing, amplify voices who have been less heard, and give rise to unexpected kindnesses in human interactions. Stories of ways in which people have positively overcome systemic assumptions and injustices are particularly encouraged. This year's theme focuses on the challenges presented in light of the turbulence caused by COVID-19 and the instances of humanity, empathy, and respect for others that continue to abound.

New This Year:

1. Nine awards (\$250) for presented stories, reflection, poetry or testimonial
2. Three awards (\$250) for visual art presentation
3. Three virtual sessions, each with a unique focus (September 15th, October 19th, and November 17th)

Each session will focus on a distinct aspect of the pandemic. Applicants are asked to focus on an event that happened in one of the following three "stages" of our COVID-19 experience reflecting on a specific occurrence of "Empathy and Valuing Every Person" experienced in the delivery of healthcare during COVID-19.

- **September:** Initial stages of COVID-19 during initial upheaval, and pandemic planning
- **October:** Middle stages during stay at home order, PPE shortages, social distancing, caring for patients affected by COVID-19
- **November:** Later stages during reopening, resumption of regular care, adjusting to the "new normal" and longer term planning



Four awards will be presented at each session (one specifically for visual). Experience with public speaking is not necessary and organizers are supportive of helping individuals be comfortable in sharing their thoughts in a variety of formats.

Talks from 2018 can be viewed at [<http://www.clevelandclinic.org/anthonythomas>]

Who This includes (but is not limited to): Patients, Family/Friend of Patient, Providers in EVS, Food Services, Administrative Support, Technicians, Nursing, Allied Health, Transportation, Volunteers, Medical Trainees, Students, and Physicians.

Award: In addition to the opportunity to present at the event, selected speakers will be awarded a \$250 prize.

Submission Due Date: August 7st (for September 15th event)//September 1st (for October 19th event)//October 1st (for November 17th event)

How to Submit: Send an email to Paul Ford (fordp@ccf.org) with Subject Line "Empathy Lecture" with the following information:

Name: _____ Contact Phone#: _____ COVID 19 "Stage": Initial (Sept) Middle (Oct) Later (Nov)

1-Connection with program: Student/Trainee (past or present)
 Patient of Cleveland Clinic
 Friend/Family of patient
 CCF Employee (if so what is your role in the healthcare system) _____

2-Presentation is "in honor of/ in memory of/ or in thanks to": _____ (Can be more than one person) (**Optional**)

3-What wisdom do you want to share about "Empathy and Valuing every person" in the healthcare environment? (Less than 250 words)

4-In what way will you share your story (example: Personal story, Lecture, Poetry, Visual Artwork... etc.):

Established in 2018 as, The Anthony "Tony" Thomas Jr., MD Memorial Lectures: Empathy and Valuing Every Person. Thank you to the generous donations of Colleagues, Friends, and Family of Dr. Thomas that have made this annual lecture possible (see:

<https://give.ccf.org/fundraiser/1863394>)