

**PLU Wild Hope Center for Vocation  
2025 - Student Voices on Vocation Contest  
Proposal Form and Project Prompt**

The Wild Hope Center for Vocation invites all currently enrolled full-time undergraduate students to **submit a proposal** for our *2025 Student Voices on Vocation Contest*. Proposals will be reviewed by faculty and staff from the Center for Vocation Advisory Committee.

**Students whose proposals are selected by our committee and who complete their proposed projects by May 1, will receive a \$150 prize and will be honored at the Wild Hope Banquet including a catered dinner on May 7th.** Winners will be notified via PLU email and announced on the Center’s social media. As many as 8 winners will be chosen.

This year, we challenge students to **explore the theme of sustainability and ecological flourishing** and express how your sense of vocation (meaning, purpose, or calling) shapes and inspires you to engage with these critical issues.

Through an essay, video, poem, artwork, or another creative format, you are invited to reflect on how your undergraduate educational experience has influenced or is influencing your understanding of sustainability and ecological flourishing, and how you are called to promote these values in your life, community, and world.

**Proposal Options and Submission Guidelines**

Students may submit proposals for a project in one of the following formats:

| Essay                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Video                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Creative projects                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p><b>Length:</b> 1,000-1250 words (noted at the end)</p> <p><b>Formatting:</b> Double-spaced, 1” margins, 12 pt. font (Calibri or Times New Roman)</p> <p><b>File format:</b> .docx or .pdf</p> <p><b>Citation:</b> MLA, APA, or Chicago style</p> | <p><b>Length:</b> 2-3 minutes</p> <p><b>Script:</b> 300-400 words, clearly organized with an introduction, insights, and takeaway.</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Present your ideas with clarity, creativity, and professionalism.</p> <p><b>Citations:</b> MLA, APA, or Chicago Should be included in the script and included at the end of the video, but not mentioned in the video.<br/><a href="#">This resource can help you how to cite sources in a video</a></p> <p>For large video files, upload them to Google Drive and email the link.</p> | <p><b>Medium:</b> Any medium is welcome</p> <p><b>Artist’s Statement:</b> 200-300 words, explaining your project’s connection to the contest theme of sustainability or ecological flourishing.</p> |

All proposals and subsequent projects should engage deeply with one or more of the following prompts:

- How has your PLU education fostered an awareness of and commitment to ecological flourishing?
- How does your sense of purpose (vocation) connect with practices that promote sustainability and ecological flourishing?
- How has PLU's commitment to sustainability shaped your understanding of local partnerships and actions that support ecological health?
- In what ways do the values of thoughtful inquiry, service, leadership, and care connect with local and global efforts to promote ecological flourishing?
- How have your academic OR co-curricular experiences at PLU equipped you to participate in sustainability initiatives within your community?

### Submission Timeline:

- **Proposals** due: Mar 21, 2025 11:59 p.m.
  - Proposal review period: Mar. 21 - Apr. 5
  - Winners notified: Apr 7, 2025 by 5 p.m.
  - **Projects** must be completed: **May 1, 2025 by 5 p.m.**
  - **Prizes awarded and winners honored at Wild Hope Banquet** **May 7, 2025**
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### Resources for Inspiration

1. [PLU Mission Statement](#).
  2. [Wild Hope statement on vocation](#).
  3. The core element of Lutheran Higher Education titled "[Discerning one's Calling](#)"
  4. [Integrating the Imperatives of Diversity, Social Justice, and Sustainability](#) (Updated Fall 2023): This resource outlines how diversity, justice, and sustainability interrelate and drive PLU's mission.
  5. ["The Serviceberry" by Robin Wall Kimmerer \(Emergence Magazine\)](#): A reflection on the interconnectedness of ecosystems and our role in sustaining them.
  6. **Relevant sources from your FYEP course or other related course work.**
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### Proposal Submission Form

To enter the contest, please provide the information below and submit it to [wildhope@plu.edu](mailto:wildhope@plu.edu) by March 21, 2025.

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### Student Information

- **Full Name:**
- **Pronouns:**
- **PLU Email:**
- **PLU Student ID number:**
- **Major/Minor:**
- **Year in School:**

### Project Information

- **Project Title:**
- **Project Type (Essay, Video, Creative Project):**
- **Brief Description of Project (250 words max):**

### Connection to Contest Prompts

Which contest prompt(s) will your project address? (Check all that apply)

- How has your PLU education fostered an awareness of and commitment to ecological flourishing?
- How does your sense of purpose (vocation) connect with practices that promote sustainability and ecological flourishing?
- How has PLU's commitment to sustainability shaped your understanding of local partnerships and actions that support ecological health?
- In what ways do the values of thoughtful inquiry, service, leadership, and care connect with local and global efforts to promote ecological flourishing?
- How have your academic OR co-curricular experiences at PLU equipped you to participate in sustainability initiatives within your community?

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Questions, please contact Laree Winer at [wildhope@plu.edu](mailto:wildhope@plu.edu) or [winerll@plu.edu](mailto:winerll@plu.edu). Thank you for your interest in the 2025 Student Voices on Vocation Contest! We look forward to reviewing your proposals and celebrating your creative projects!