



Dear Faculty/ Staff/ Community Member,

It is a great privilege to write this letter to you, seeking submissions for our annual Create Your Own Story initiative. Nominations are now open and we will be accepting them through January 27, 2012. The preferred deadline is **December 23, 2011**.

Create Your Own Story recognizes current students who have made their UNH story a success. This initiative exists not only to highlight dedicated students but also to inspire others to take advantage of all that UNH has to offer. How does this work? We ask you to nominate the students; we interview them and our committee writes their story. Ten students are recognized each year. Their stories are made into a traveling display. The students and their chosen faculty/staff mentors participate in a luncheon in the spring celebrating their achievements and unveiling the display. The luncheon is on April 10, 2012 in the Squamscott Room in Holloway Commons. It is an incredible showcase of stellar students, and a powerful, inspirational event for everyone.

We ask that you please take a few moments to recognize those students that have really taken strides in shaping their own education. We are looking for stories that are rich, unique, and inspiring. We hope to gather a diverse pool of nominees so that the stories inspire a wide range of students, who will in turn see that they can create their own amazing story. You may feel that you know some of a student's story, but not the story in entirety. We recognize this and welcome your nomination with this understanding. You can also ask a student to share with you the parts of their life/UNH experience you are less familiar with before completing the nomination. We also allow you to reach out to another staff or faculty member with whom you could co-nominate the student.

For more information and for nomination forms, go to www.unh.edu/createyourownstory. On the website, you will find some sample nominations from past recipients to look at as a reference as well as a brief video summarizing the 2010 luncheon. The preferred deadline for nominations is **December 23, 2011**, however nominations will be accepted through January 28, 2012. Please feel free to contact Ruth Abelman (862-2268) with any questions you may have.

On behalf of the committee, we are looking forward to reading your nominations!

Thank you so much,

Ruth Abelman, Chair
CYOS Committee – Associate Director of Residential Life