The 10th Annual Fair Housing Art & Writing Contest

2020 Vision: Looking Towards a Brighter Future in Fair Housing
Submit an original piece of artwork or writing discussing or depicting this year’s theme.

For entry information and contest details, see the reverse side.

WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A $300 PRIZE

To request this information in an alternate format, call the Fairfax County Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs at 703-324-2953, TTY 711.
What is Fair Housing?

Housing discrimination denies people the right to choose the neighborhoods in which they want to live. The Fairfax County Human Rights Ordinance and The federal Fair Housing Act guarantee everyone the right to rent or buy housing on a fair and equal basis regardless of their race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or familial status. In Fairfax, it is also illegal to discriminate in housing based on marital status or elderliness (age 55+).

The Fairfax County Student Human Rights Commission (SHRC) is holding this contest to create awareness among high school students of fair housing issues and laws and to promote the importance of providing equal housing opportunities for all.

For more information about fair housing discrimination or the contest, please contact the Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs at 703-32-2953, TTY 711 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/humanrights.

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General Contest Information

- The contest is open to all public high school students within Fairfax County.
- Entries will be judged by category. Students may participate by submitting artwork or a written work on this year’s contest theme, 2020 Vision: Looking Towards a Brighter Future in Fair Housing. Students may only submit one entry.
- All submissions must be original works. One winner will be selected in each category. Each winner will receive a $300 prize. The prize is co-sponsored by the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®. Winners will also be recognized at the Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs’ Annual Fair Housing Month Luncheon in April 2020.
- Contest entries must be postmarked by March 13, 2020. Send or deliver entries to: the Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 318, Fairfax, VA 22035 or email to SHRC@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- Each entry should include the contestant’s name, grade, high school and contact information (email address and telephone number).
- Through submission of an entry, entrants grant Fairfax County, its partners, and/or prize sponsors permission to use their name, likeness, prize information, and name of high school, for private or public purposes without further permission or compensation. Entrants may opt-out from granting such permission via signed opt-out form at the time of entry. Participants under the age of 18 acknowledge that they have the consent of their parent or legal guardian to participate in this contest.

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Art/Poster Contest Rules:

1. Artwork must depict this year’s Fair Housing theme, 2020 Vision: Looking Towards A Brighter Future in Fair Housing.
2. Your artwork must measure no more than 18” x 24”. You may use any art medium, including markers, paint, colored pencils, mixed-media, computer-generated, etc.
3. Criteria for judging are adherence to the contest theme, originality of concept and design, visual impact, and artistic merit.

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Literary Contest Rules:

1. Your essay or written work should not exceed 700 words and should discuss this year’s Fair Housing theme, 2020 Vision: Looking Towards a Brighter Future in Fair Housing.
2. All entries should be typed or neatly written, double-spaced on 8 ½” x 11” pages with one inch margins in 12 point font.
3. Criteria for judging are adherence to the contest theme, originality, persuasiveness, and quality of writing (grammar, organization, and style).