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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission: Fair Housing Poster Contest

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA – February 11, 2016 – The Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission is pleased to announce the kickoff of the second annual Fair Housing Poster Contest. Fair Housing refers to civil rights laws that protects an individual’s rights to obtain the housing of their choice, in the location of their choice, free from discrimination.

Participation will be by youth grades K-12 in the Cedar Rapids community. The intention of the poster contest is to increase awareness of youth, in Cedar Rapids, of the right to equal housing opportunity. Students who participate will compete in the K-5 age group or 6-12, depending on their grade at the time of submission. There will be a grand prize winner and a runner-up from each age group. Each student will have an opportunity to win up to \$500.00 toward their higher education. All scholarships will be facilitated through College Savings Iowa and the winners will be required to file paperwork in order to receive their scholarship. For more information about College Savings Iowa, please visit their website.

<https://www.collegesavingsiowa.com/content/home.html>

The contest starts today and the deadline for submissions is Friday, April 1, 2016 at 5:00 pm. All entries must be submitted to the Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission at that time, late entries will not be considered. Please submit posters to 50 Second Avenue Bridge, 7th Floor, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401. Posters can be submitted by postal mail, but **must** be postmarked by Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

Informational packets are available online at www.Cedar-Rapids.org/CivilRights. Hardcopies are available at 50 Second Avenue Bridge, 7th Floor, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 or by mail upon request. All contestants **must** fill out the entry form and release form included in the informational packet to be considered for scholarships and contestants can fill those out ahead of time or at time of submittal.

For more information, multilingual resources, supplies, questions, or concerns please contact Sophie Belter at (319) 286-4593 or S.Belther@Cedar-Rapids.org.