



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

Public Information Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BEAVERTON STUDENTS INVITED TO ENTER 12TH ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS CREATIVE EXPRESSION CONTEST

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The city of Beaverton’s Human Rights Advisory Commission (HRAC) is now accepting entries for its annual Creative Expression Contest. The contest gives Beaverton-area students, grades K-12, the opportunity to express their ideas about the importance of human and civil rights.

Creativity is highly encouraged. Entries may take the form of any artistic medium, including poems, stories, essays, original songs (or other musical compositions), any type of two- or three-dimensional artwork, film, dance, or any combination of these.

Participants should convey the importance of respect and acceptance at home, school, in the community or the world—whether they see it or not. Students may tell about a personal experience from their life or the life of their family, write about a time they felt included or excluded, or saw this happening to someone else. Students may also share something about a civil rights hero/heroine and relate it to their own life, or imagine a world in which everyone lives and works together in peace.

“Each year, HRAC receives amazing examples of how students view the issues involved in human rights,” said HRAC vice chair Sheri Struk. “It has been impressive to see how thoughtful the students’ work is, and how creative they are in expressing how history and their own lives have been shaped by human rights.”

Informational flyers can be found at all Beaverton-area libraries, Powell’s Books at Cedar Hills, the human resources department at The Beaverton Building, Beaverton schools, THPRD rec centers, or online, in English and Spanish, at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Creative.

Prizes will be awarded in three categories: elementary school, middle school and high school. The first place winner in each category will receive a \$50 gift card to Powell's Books. Two runner-up winners in each category will receive a \$25 Powell's gift card. All winners will be celebrated at a reception and televised awards ceremony at a city council meeting in May. A binder of all entries is kept in the young adult room of the Beaverton City Library for a full year. Winning entries can be viewed online. Entries may be submitted by an individual, in pairs, with a small group or as a classroom project, however, only one prize will be awarded per entry.

Submissions must be received by the city of Beaverton's human resources department at The Beaverton Building (12725 SW Millikan Way) or online at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Creative by **5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 29.**

For more information, please call 503-526-2569 or email HRAC@BeavertonOregon.gov.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

Beaverton is a welcoming and responsible city that enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. In 2015, Beaverton was recognized as one of the **safest cities** in the Pacific Northwest (according to CQ Press with cities more than 75,000). Recently, the city's award-winning finance department received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** as well as the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine. The city was named **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com* and **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine. The city also received the **Recycler of the Year** award from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, named a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, received a **Silver Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists, and recognized as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**. Lastly, the city's nationally acclaimed visioning program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter and also received the prestigious **3CMA Award of Excellence**.

For more information, reminders and community news, visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov. Also follow Beaverton on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton, or Twitter at www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton.



Caption: The city of Beaverton's Human Rights Advisory Commission is holding its 12th annual Creative Expressions Contest for students. The winners of last year's contest (pictured) were honored at a May 2015 city council meeting. (Photo/City of Beaverton)