



**For more information, contact:** Beth von Behren  
Public Information Officer, City of Kirkwood  
139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122  
314-822-5894 or 314-495-7382 (cell)

*For Immediate Release*

***Kirkwood Human Rights Commission Announces  
2010 Essay Contest for High School Juniors***

September 29, 2010

**Kirkwood, Missouri:** The Kirkwood Human Rights Commission has announced the topic and deadline for the 2010 Essay Contest for high school juniors. The essay topic for 2010 will be:

**What do you see as the long and short term solutions to the problems with the lack of sensitivity towards diversity in Kirkwood? Please include a specific personal plan of action as to what the essayist is willing to do.**

Commission members will judge the essays based on thematic maturity, content, and communication. The deadline for receipt of the essays is **4:00 p.m., Monday, October 25, 2010**. The essay contest was implemented in 2006 and has received a growing response each year from young writers.

The essay should be five (5) paragraphs in length, typed, double spaced, in a font size of between 10 and 12, with reasonable margins, and with pages numbered. The author's name should appear at the top of each page. Members of the Human Rights Advisory and Awareness Commission will judge each essay on the following criteria:

- 1) **Thematic maturity:** How the essay demonstrates the ability to write in a logical, organized manner that easily and efficiently conveys meaning.
- 2) **Content:** How the essay expresses ideas that are substantive and workable.
- 3) **Communication:** The essay's content should be understandable, with good sentence and paragraph construction, attention paid to spelling and grammar, and formatted according to the above instructions.

Contest awards will be \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place. An Honorable Mention will also be awarded. The contest is open to any Kirkwood resident entering the 11<sup>th</sup> grade in the 2009-2010 school year as well as any 11<sup>th</sup> grade student attending St. John Vianney High School, Ursuline Academy, or Kirkwood High School.

Essays should be submitted in hard copy to Michael G. Brown, City of Kirkwood, 139 S. Kirkwood Road and received by 4:00 p.m., Monday, **October 25, 2010**. Include participant's contact information: name, address, telephone number, age, and high school.

###

---