

Special points of interest:

- **2012 Poster Contest theme: “Fair Housing: Welcome Home”**
- Open to all students in 1st - 8th grades
- Contest Begins Monday, January 9, 2012
- Contest ends Friday, March 2, 2012 (All entries must be received by 5:00PM)
- Prizes Awarded!

2012 Fair Housing Poster Contest



2011 Grand Prize Winner Annabella Schiavone

Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) invites you and your students to participate in our 16th annual Fair Housing Poster Contest. Participation in this contest fosters a better sense of understanding, acceptance, and appreciation for the diversity in our neighborhoods and throughout our community.

SSFHC has designed this contest to help the youth of our community understand that under federal and state fair housing laws, *all* residents of Nevada have equal access to housing regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status, disability,

ancestry, sexual orientation, and gender identity/expression. It is intended to coincide with existing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Black History Month and Civil Rights curricula. All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation. An awards reception will be held to publicly announce the winners, award prizes and celebrate National Fair Housing Month in April.

SSFHC’s 2012 Poster Contest Theme is:

“Fair Housing: Welcome Home”

All entries that meet the contest guidelines will be judged and then displayed throughout the month of April at Reno City Hall, Sparks City Hall, and the Washoe County Administration Building. A Fair Housing Awards reception will be held to publicly recognize the thirteen winners and their artwork will be featured in SSFHC’s 2013 Fair Housing Calendar.

If you would like to participate or want to distribute the information to your students to take home, please contact me at 775.324.0990. SSFHC will supply you with Poster Contest registration forms for all of your students. Signed registration forms are required for poster images to be publicly displayed and used in SSFHC promotional materials. Due to the volume of entries, artwork **WILL NOT** be returned.

Thank you in advance for your interest and support. We look forward to working with you on this wonderful fair housing educational opportunity.

Joel E. Lindsey
 Education/ Outreach Coordinator

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History of the Fair Housing Act



The Fair Housing Act, also known as the Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, is the result of three years of congressional consideration of housing discrimination and how housing discrimination should be addressed. This debate occurred at the time our country was experiencing the rise of the civil rights movement under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., increased public awareness of social injustices, and more strident voices calling for violent responses to those injustices.

On April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. It was a time of great upheaval and Congress worked quickly to pass legislation which would help settle the unrest following King's assassination. One week after King's assassination, on April 11, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act into law.

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibited housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, and national origin. It also included provisions for the enforcement of the law. Housing discrimination cases can be pursued through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a private court action, a suit by the U.S. Department of Justice, or any combination of these. Sex was added as a prohibited basis of discrimination in housing in 1974.

The Fair Housing Act was amended in 1988 to include additional protections. Attorney and author Robert G. Schwemm likens the passage of the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 to passage of the original Fair Housing Act in 1968, when societal changes forced Congress to address civil rights issues for additional groups in our society. Influencing factors included: Democrats regaining control of the Senate in the 100th Congress, enactment of the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and the 1988 presidential campaigns of George H. W. Bush and Jesse Jackson, both of which demonstrated a renewed concern for civil rights.

On September 13, 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the Fair Housing Amendments Act. The amended Fair Housing Act now includes protections based on one's family status (having children under the age of 18) and protections for persons with disabilities, including accessibility standards for new multi-family housing. Nevada state law offers additional protections against discrimination based on ancestry, sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.



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**ADVOCATING
FOR EQUAL
ACCESS TO
HOUSING IN
NEVADA**

THANK YOU

CITY OF RENO ⬠ CITY OF SPARKS ⬠ WASHOE COUNTY ⬠
NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

CONTEST GUIDELINES

“Fair Housing: Welcome Home”

WORDS & IMAGERY

- Entries **MUST** contain the written theme: *“Fair Housing: Welcome Home”*
- Entries **MUST** include interpretations of the contest theme, including representation of some, if not all, protected classes (race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity/expression) interacting in a housing related situation.
- Entries **MUST** be on construction-type paper and range in size from 8 1/2 x 11” to no larger than 12 x 18.” Please do not place wording closer than 3/4” to edge of paper.

MEDIA

- **Bold** colors and a variety of artistic media (collages, painting, watercolor, fabric, etc.) are encouraged.
- **NO** 3-Dimensional and **NO** computer generated artwork. **NO** corporate logos or brand names in the artwork.
- Artwork will be judged on originality, visual impact, artistic merit, and overall adherence to the contest theme.

REGISTRATION

- Each entry **MUST** be accompanied by a Contest Registration slip signed by a parent/guardian.
- Registration forms are available in Spanish
- **ONLY ONE STUDENT NAME PER ENTRY FORM**
- Registrations should be **taped, not stapled**, to the back of the entry.
- Entries without signed registration forms will not be eligible for prizes.
- Per the registration form, artwork becomes property of SSFHC and **WILL NOT** be returned.

DEADLINE

- Deadline is Friday, March 2, 2012 at 5:00pm.
- All entries must be received at the office of Silver State Fair Housing Council
- To make arrangements for poster entries to be picked up at your school or organization, please call 775.324.0990.

PRIZE SUMMARY

Grand Prize Winner

- \$100 Savings Bond
- Artwork developed into SSFHC’s 2013 Fair Housing Poster and Calendar
- Two framed posters, one for the winner and a second for their school/organization

1st PLACE Winners

- Each winner receives a \$100 Savings Bond
- Artwork included in SSFHC’s 2013 Fair Housing Calendar

Nine Additional Winners

- Each winner receives a \$50 Savings Bond
- Artwork included in SSFHC’s 2013 Fair Housing Calendar

Community Recognition

- Winners and honorable mention entries will be displayed throughout the month of April 2012



2011 Poster Contest Winner Aria Bakondi

Open To All
Students In 1st - 8th
Grades

Contest Deadline:
All entries must be
received at the
SSFHC office on
Friday
March 2, 2012
by 5:00 pm

**One GRAND
PRIZE
winner**

1st Place will be
awarded in each of
the following grade
groups:
1st - 3rd
4th - 6th
7th - 8th

NINE additional
winners will also be
chosen

The artwork of the
THIRTEEN
winning entries
will be featured in
SSFHC’s 2013 Fair
Housing Calendar

ALL participants
will receive a
Certificate of
Participation

The school or
organization with
the **MOST
ENTRANTS**
will receive a
“Most Participants”
Award



Mailing: P.O. Box 3935, Reno, NV 89505
(775) 324.0990 or (888) 585.8634 Toll-Free Relay Nevada: 711
email: fairhousing@gbis.com website: silverstatefairhousing.org

Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) is a private, non-profit corporation that promotes equal housing opportunity in Nevada. Under provisions of the Fair Housing Act, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, financing or insuring of housing based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status or disability. Nevada state law offers additional protections against discrimination based on ancestry, sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.

SSFHC'S Programs and Services:

- ☑ Education and outreach about fair housing rights
- ☑ Discrimination complaint intake, investigation, and referral
- ☑ Assessment of barriers to fair housing in Nevada
- ☑ Funding for SSFHC is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Fair Housing Initiatives program, City of Reno, City of Sparks, Washoe County, as well as individual and corporate donations

Accomplishments:

- ☑ Receive and process over 900 housing discrimination inquiries and complaints per year
- ☑ Trained over 250 volunteer testers for housing discrimination investigations
- ☑ Initiated litigation resulting in the complete retrofit of 5 Washoe County apartment complexes for compliance with the Fair Housing Act accessibility guidelines
- ☑ Annual Fair Housing Poster Contest featuring the artwork of students in Washoe County
- ☑ Developed and continue to disseminate a Fair Housing Accessibility Guidelines booklet for architects and developers
- ☑ Developed and conduct local and statewide fair housing trainings, including educational credits for attorneys, real estate professionals and architects

Resources



STAFF ASSISTANCE

Our staff is available to talk with teachers and their classes about the Fair Housing Act and housing discrimination issues in our community. Please contact SSFHC to discuss the possibilities.

PRINT MEDIA

SSFHC has brochures, handbooks and a variety of posters and publicity which may assist teachers and students to better understand housing discrimination and everyone's right to choose where they want and can afford to live, regardless of race, color, religion, sex (gender), national origin, family status or disability.

VIDEOS

“Opening Doors in Rural Communities, Fair Housing Protects Us All”

Discrimination/fair housing experiences of persons living in rural areas, including northern Nevada

“We Still Have A Dream”

A reflection of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision

“Sharing the American Dream”

Fair housing and advertising of housing

“Housing Discrimination-Who Should Ever Have to Get Used to That?”

A law professor's description of her experience with housing discrimination in Washington, DC

“Right at Home”

Overview of fair housing provisions for persons with disabilities

“No Way In”

A segment of NBC Dateline (9/9/97) about accessibility discrimination in housing

“Fair Housing, It's Your Right”

Overview of Fair Housing Laws and Amendments

“Must There Be A Wall Between You and Me?”

Housing discrimination and how fair housing councils can help

“Hurtful to My Heart”

Verlinda Boswell's housing discrimination experience

“On the Threshold of Freedom”

Housing discrimination, segregation, and the effect it has on economy, and integrated communities