

## 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, elderliness (age 55+), sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status and source of funds.

The Fairfax County Student Human Rights Commission 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.

**Contest Prizes:** The first-place winner will receive a \$300 prize, and the second-place winner will receive a \$200 prize. The prizes are co-sponsored by the Northern Virginia

Association of Realtors®.



Winners will also be recognized at the Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs' Annual Fair Housing Month event in April 2026.

## General Contest Information & Rules

- The contest is open to all **Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) high school students**. Only one entry allowed per FCPS high school student.
- Artwork must depict this year's Fair Housing theme, ***A Place to Call Home***.
- All submissions must be **original works**. Your artwork must measure no more than

18" x 24". **No computer generated/AI or photography entries permitted.**

- Each entry should include the contestant's full name, grade, high school and contact information (email address and telephone number). Please include a brief description (in 100 words or less) explaining the connection between your artwork and this year's contest theme.
- **Contest entries must be postmarked - OR - emailed by **March 27, 2026**.**
- If sending via postmarked mail: Send to – **Fairfax County Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 318, Fairfax, VA 22035**
- If sending via email, attach contest **entry as a .PDF file** in an email to [FairfaxCountyStudentHumanRightsCommission@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:FairfaxCountyStudentHumanRightsCommission@fairfaxcounty.gov)
- Through submission of an entry, entrants grant Fairfax County, its partners, and/or prize sponsors permission to use their name, likeness, contest entry, 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 by noting this on or with their submission. Participants under the age of 18 acknowledge that they have the consent of their parent or legal guardian to participate in the contest. If you would like your original art submission returned to you after the contest has ended, you will need to coordinate picking it up in person at the Fairfax County Office of Human and Equity Programs during business hours.



Fairfax County Student Human Rights Commission  
**"to promote comprehensive equality, cultural awareness and unity"**

