



## Ford Motor Company Fund

**WHO?** Metro Atlanta middle and high school students

**WHAT?** Since 2008, The National Center for Civil and Human Rights (NCCHR) has strived to increase awareness and understanding of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). In partnership with Ford Motor Company Fund, the Center will continue its efforts by launching its 2012 Essay Contest, in conjunction with other commemorative activities observing and celebrating International Human Rights Month.

The UDHR is based on the "inherent dignity" of all people and affirms the equal rights of all men and women, in addition to their right to freedom. For over fifty years the UDHR has served as a vibrant moral conscience to the world community. It provides international norms and standards to which the world community is expected to embrace. The values we share—respect for the rule of law and the dignity of the person, fairness and equitable treatment, tolerance and the acceptance of diversity, and the fundamental principle of democratic participation—are inherent in the UDHR.

Ford Motor Company Fund and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights invite metro Atlanta middle and high school students to participate in an Essay Contest titled **READ IT. EMBRACE IT. EXPRESS IT.** The 2012 Essay Contest encourages students to express how they interpret one or more of the 30 Articles in the UDHR and its relevance in the world today and into the future. A copy of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights can be found by visiting [www.un.org/en/documents/udhr](http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr). Made possible by a grant from Ford Motor Company Fund, \$6,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to winners of essay contest.

### **ESSAY CONTEST QUESTIONS**

Students must respond to one (1) of the following questions:

1. *Based on the current conflicts in the world today, what do you believe is the biggest threat to UDHR? Why?*
2. *What do you believe an individual citizen, like you, can do to live the values and principles of the UDHR?*
3. *What leadership role can you as a young person take to help your peers to understand and support the UDHR?*

**WHEN?** Essay Contest submissions must be submitted no later than Friday, October 26, 2012 @ 5:00 p.m. (EST)

**WHERE?** Essay Contest submissions can only be submitted electronically to [UDHREssay@cchrpartnership.org](mailto:UDHREssay@cchrpartnership.org).

The winners will be recognized at the Human Rights Performance Celebration on the evening of Saturday, December 8th at the Rialto Center for the Arts at Georgia State University at 8:00p.m.

**HOW?** Essay submissions will be reviewed by a confidential panel of volunteer judges who are intimately familiar with the UDHR and who are knowledgeable human and civil rights advocates.

**DETAILS?** Essays must be received by Friday, October 26, 2012 @ 5:00 P.M. (EST)

Essays must respond to 1 of the Essay Contest Question.

Essay submissions must:

- Be in MS Word or .pdf formats;
- Include your name, telephone number, physical mailing address, email address, name of school, and current grade level;
- Include the Essay Contest Question for which you are responding;
- Contain a maximum of 1,000 typed words;
- Not include ANY other documents, articles, recommendation letters, transcripts, etc.; and
- Be submitted to [UDHREssay@cchrpartnership.org](mailto:UDHREssay@cchrpartnership.org) by 5:00 P.M. (EST) on Friday, October 26.

Neither late essays nor additional materials will be considered.

Winners will be notified during the week of November 6, 2012. No phone calls please.

Questions about the Essay Contest must be submitted to [UDHREssay@cchrpartnership.org](mailto:UDHREssay@cchrpartnership.org).

All questions will receive a response within 48 hours.

**WHAT** Five (5) Middle School Student submissions will each be awarded \$500.

**ELSE I?**

The Top Three (3) High School Student submissions will be awarded a scholarship, in the following amounts:  
**1st Place: \$1,500, 2nd Place: \$1,000, and 3rd Place: \$750**

**NOTE:** High school seniors will receive a scholarship and funds will be sent directly to the institution of higher learning. High school freshmen, sophomores and juniors will receive cash prizes.

**WHAT** For additional information on the Essay Contest, please contact Cecilia Villanueva at [cvilanueva@civilandhumanrights.org](mailto:cvilanueva@civilandhumanrights.org)  
**ELSE II?**

**WHAT** A copy of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights can be found by visiting [www.un.org/en/documents/udhr](http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr)  
**ELSE III?** Media Inquiries should contact, Deborah Richardson at [drichardson@civilandhumanrights.org](mailto:drichardson@civilandhumanrights.org)  
 Additional information on NCCHR can be found by visiting [www.civilandhumanrights.org](http://www.civilandhumanrights.org)

