

FOR IMMEDIATE FOR RELEASE

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The Official Atlanta Citizen Review Board 2017 Art & Essay Contest

New Category Opens Contest to Virtually Any Citizen in the Atlanta Metropolitan Area Interested in Expressing Their Views about Relations between Police and Citizens

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“How to bring police and citizens together...” is the theme of the 2017 Atlanta Citizen Review Board Art & Essay Contest for students of the City of Atlanta which begins today.

The enthusiastic response to such an important topic from the 2016 contest demanded a bigger and better version for 2017. The contest is now open to all grade levels. And this year for the first time, all age groups can participate in a newly added category.

We all have seen news headlines that have focused on mistrust between citizens and police. The ACRB’s aim is to promote public confidence in law enforcement and lessen the possibility that future incidents of urban unrest will occur. The ACRB has a mandate to educate the public regarding citizen oversight and individual rights.

The ACRB Art and Essay Contest has over the years targeted one of the most vulnerable members of our community, children and teenagers, who far too often are caught in a dangerous crossfire of mistrust and misinformation. But in 2017, for the first time, entire family members will each have a chance to consider “How to bring police and citizens together...,” then express their feelings with a stroke of a brush or a pen. The contest provides a platform for all citizens to be heard, unhindered by anything other than their imagination, skills and experiences.

There will also be a special day and time for the Atlanta City Council to honor all the winners, their families, school counselors, teachers, principals and librarians who assist and encourage the students during the event. Guests will receive a catered reception at Atlanta City Hall followed by a special televised recognition ceremony during an Atlanta Council meeting. Not only will contest winners be recognized, but also the winner’s school will receive a proclamation signed by the full council membership.

The contest will officially begin on Monday, January 9, 2017. Winners will be notified via certified USPS mail by May 17, 2017. Contest rules, entry forms with parental consent are attached to this letter. Feel free to copy forms as needed. For more information, please contact Charles Curry at 404-865-8408 or Myola Smith at 404-330-6428. If your school expresses an interest in participating in the contest, you can expect an acknowledgement call and on-going communication to keep you updated on the contest.

The Atlanta Citizen Review Board is an agency of the City of Atlanta

