
**CHATHAM COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION RESOLUTION
IN HONOR THE 2010 STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION WINNERS**

WHEREAS, “social justice, sometimes called civil justice, refers to the concept of a society in which justice is achieved in every aspect of society, rather than merely the administration of law”; and

WHEREAS, environmental justice is “equal and fair access to a healthy environment, equal enforcement of environmental regulations, and the protection of communities of color and poor communities from environmental hazards”; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Office of Human Relations and the Chatham County Human Relations Commission (CCHRC), in partnership with Chatham County Schools and Newland Communities, have sponsored the *2010 Uplifting a Diverse World: Make Our Space a Better Place Student Essay Competition*; and

WHEREAS, the student essay competition was designed for elementary, middle, and high school students and was intended to promote discussion among students about environmental and social justice; to strengthen students’ problem-solving and writing skills while emphasizing empathy and compassion; and to teach our youth the role of personal and civic responsibility in affecting change; and

WHEREAS, through essay writing our youth can discover how to build bridges of appreciation, tolerance, and understanding of persons of all religions, races/ethnicities, colors and cultures, ability levels, economic status, and places of birth; and

WHEREAS, through essay writing students can learn to creatively express their own ideas, to sharpen their sense of audience, and to pay close attention to the details of grammar, clarity, content, and style; and

WHEREAS, a strong writing ability is important to individual success and encourages all of us, including our youth, to think critically about the issues we face as a society at large and to seek positive solutions that will make the world a better place to live in;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CCHRC and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners (BOC) commend the following winners of the student essay competition:


- Savannah Dowdy, Grade 3, J.S. Waters Elementary School
- Arden Tally, Grade 4, Bonlee School
- Bailey Brewer, Grade 5, Bennett School
- Ronald Fox, Grade 6, J.S. Waters Elementary School
- Cailin Evensen, Grade 7, Perry Harrison School
- Torie Gray, Grade 8, Bennett School
- Aysia Evans, Grade 9, Northwood High School
- Victoria Brooke Smith, Grade 9, Northwood High School
- Dominique Chevelle Dukes, Grade 10, Northwood High School
- Anastasia Hilton, Grade 11, Woods Charter School

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CCHRC and the BOC applaud the parents, teachers, school leaders, nonprofits, elected leaders, and community members who have supported these exemplary students in their academic and social justice growth and development.

Adopted this the 21st day of June, 2010.


Sally Kost, Chair

ATTEST:


Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners