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Arapahoe County challenges young authors to cash in on Foster Care Month

\$75 gift certificate up for grabs in Foster Care Month essay competition

Aurora, Colo. --- Arapahoe County Department of Human Services is challenging budding young authors to write short, inspirational essays about foster kids they know and admire, in recognition of National Foster Care Month. The competition is open to all students between the ages of 12 and 16 during the month of May. A \$75 Best Buy® gift certificate will be awarded to the best entry.

“Foster Care Month is our opportunity to recognize foster children in our community,” said Carla Finch, Children and Family Services Division Manager for Arapahoe County. “Daunte Culpepper, Cher, Eddie Murphy, Marilyn Monroe, Babe Ruth—even Harry Potter and Superman—were all foster children, and we’d like to use their achievements to inspire others to acknowledge local foster children for their own successes.”

The competition tasks students to write about “the foster kid I admire most, and why”, with a goal to increase awareness of the number of foster children in the community, as well as the need for more foster homes across the state.

How to enter

Entrants should submit a typed, 350 to 500 word essay to be received on or before Tuesday June 1, to: Cheryl Allen, Arapahoe County Human Services, 14980 E. Alameda Dr., Aurora, CO 80012. The entry must be the author’s own work. One prize winner will be announced before the end of June.

Contest rules

This competition is open to any public or private school student ages 12 to 16 inclusive. The winner will be selected by a panel of judges selected by Arapahoe County; the decision of the judges will be final. All essays submitted become the property of Arapahoe County, and all or part of any essays may be used by Arapahoe County in promotional materials. Children of employees of Arapahoe County are not eligible. The winner will receive a \$75 gift certificate to Best Buy® or an equivalent prize. All entries must be received by Arapahoe County no later than June 1, 2005.

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