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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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June 19, 2009

Ald. Milele A. Coggs  
(414) 286-2994

## Ald. Coggs Challenges Students To Put Freedom In Writing

### *FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP Essay Contest Enters Its Second Year*

As the City of Milwaukee celebrates the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Juneteenth Festival, it is important to remember the struggle for freedom that people of African descent in America went through not only on Juneteenth Day, but every day. And in that spirit of remembrance and also celebration, 6th District Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs is pleased to open her now annual Freedom Scholarship Essay Contest to entrants for 2009.

The contest, which the Alderwoman inaugurated last year as part of a dedicated investment in opportunities for students in her district, asks students what the concept of “freedom” means to them and how they, as students, can combat and prevent prejudice, discrimination and violence in our world today.

“Reading the entries submitted last year only reaffirmed for me how important it is to acknowledge those students who are eagerly working toward their education and offering all students the opportunity to think through their role in preventing and curtailing some of the most pervasive problems facing our society,” Ald. Coggs said. “Making this scholarship an annual event is one way we are telling students that the role they play in defining the future is important.”

Ald. Coggs has offered two now annual scholarship contests for students in her district since she took office. “This essay contest is about engaging young people to express their innermost thoughts about freedom and hope as they move ever closer to assuming roles of leadership and contributing their vital talents and abilities to the Milwaukee of the twenty-first century,” Alderwoman Coggs said.

**-More-**

## **Coggs Opens Scholarship Essay Contest/ADD ONE**

Two scholarships will be awarded and excerpts from winning essays may be published, Ald. Coggs said.

**Applications will be made available beginning June 19, 2009 and must be returned and postmarked by August 6, 2009.**

Eligibility requirements are:

*Students must be:*

- Recent high school graduates (2007, 2008 or 2009)
- Milwaukee 6th Aldermanic District residents -- see map at:  
[www.city.milwaukee.gov/district6](http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/district6)
- Accepted to a two- or four-year college or university (*verification will be required*)
- Able to submit a completed application

Applications will be available on Friday, June 19, 2009 at:

- **Martin Luther King Library**, 301 W. Locust St., Milwaukee, WI 53212
- **Northcott Neighborhood House**, 2460 N. 6th St., Milwaukee, WI 53212
- **Wisconsin Black Historical Society Museum**, 2620 W. Center St., Milwaukee, WI 53206

Applications can also be found starting June 23 on the web at:

[www.city.milwaukee.gov/district6](http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/district6)

**Additional contest rules, complete details and submission requirements are contained within the application.** For more information, please contact: Akuwa Dantzler at **(414) 286-8640**.