REFUGEE YOUTH SHOW RESILIENCE THROUGH SELF-EXPRESSION
ECDC African Community Center Hosts Refugee Youth Talent Night

Denver, CO – At least ten refugee youth in the Denver area will share their talents at Central High School in Aurora at the Second Annual International CITY Talent Night on Friday, February 10, 2017. The event, hosted by ECDC African Community Center (ECDC ACC), a local refugee resettlement agency, is focused on celebrating the skills, courage, and resilience of refugee and immigrant youth.

“This evening represents the success of the refugee resettlement program here in Colorado,” says Melissa Theesen, Managing Director of ECDC ACC. “It’s a tribute to our state’s heritage of not only accepting refugees, but celebrating their individual talents and strengths.”

The event comes at a time when refugee resettlement continues to face challenges by a recent Executive Order restricting refugee arrivals. The order placed a 120-day ban on arrivals and dropped the number of anticipated arrivals from 110,000 to 50,000 for fiscal year 2017.

The public is invited to the Talent Night on February 10 from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at Central High School (11700 E 11th Ave, Denver, CO 80010). A $2 donation or donated school supply is asked in lieu of an entrance fee.

ECDC ACC youth programs support and prepare refugee and immigrant young adults as they navigate new sociocultural, economic, academic, and personal landscapes. College access classes, after school programs, and a Refugee Leaders Scholarship all provide leadership and character development activities to ensure the future upward mobility of refugee youth as they transition into a different cultural context.

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ECDC African Community Center (ECDC ACC) is a branch office of the Ethiopian Community Development Council. ECDC ACC is authorized by the Department of State to resettle refugees in the U.S. and has been welcoming refugees into the Denver metro area for 15 years. ECDC ACC helps refugees build safe, sustainable lives. ECDC ACC is a 501(c)(3) entity. For more information about ECDC ACC, visit www.acc-den.org.