PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTY MANAGERS AND OWNERS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NAHMA Announces Winners of Its 28th Annual Poster/Calendar Contest

"Join the Dance of Life: Celebrate Music, Arts and Crafts" Is 2015 Calendar Theme

July 22, 2014 – Alexandria, VA – The National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA) recently judged its 28<sup>th</sup> annual "AHMA Drug-Free Kid" poster art and calendar contest. Nearly 5,000 children, elderly/disabled and special needs residents of NAHMA- and AHMA-member affordable housing communities nationwide participated in the contest. Winning artwork will be featured in a 2015 calendar available for sale through NAHMA and the AHMAs (Affordable Housing Management Associations).

This year's contest theme was one of celebration: "Join the Dance of Life: Celebrate Music, Arts and Crafts."

The contest's grand-prize winner is Jennifer Lauzon, an eighth grader from Fall River, MA. Her artwork will appear on the cover of NAHMA's 2015 calendar. She will also receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for NAHMA's annual Fall meeting in October, as well as a scholarship of \$2,500 from the NAHMA Educational Foundation. Other national winners whose artwork will appear in the 2015 calendar receive scholarships of \$1,000 from the NAHMA Foundation, which also awards Honorable Mentions \$100 scholarships.

The original winning artwork will also be auctioned for sale at the NAHMA Fall meeting, and proceeds from the auction will support the NAHMA Educational Foundation's scholarship program. Through its program, the NAHMA Educational Foundation awards scholarships and encourages children, teens and adults to set goals, emulate good role models, and live a drug-free lifestyle.

For the contest, the artwork was categorized by grade, with winners selected from each category (grades K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, seniors and special needs residents). Only students can be selected for the grand prize.

Calendars may be ordered beginning in September 2014 by visiting NAHMA's website at <a href="https://www.nahma.org">www.nahma.org</a>. Calendars cost \$5.50 and are a HUD and RHS allowable expense.

The following lists this year's national program winners, with their ages, addresses, name of the management company where they live, and name of the AHMA that submitted their artwork:

### **GRAND-PRIZE WINNER**

Jennifer Lauzon, Grade 8, Bay Village, Fall River, MA, First Realty Management, NEAHMA

### **NATIONAL WINNERS**

- Barbara Balogh, Senior, Laurelwood Apartments, Johnstown, PA, Improved Dwellings for Altoona, PAHMA
- Kenneth Camacho, Special Needs, Winteringham Village, Toms River, NJ, Interstate Realty Management, JAHMA
- Bianca Salcido, Grade 11, Strathern Park, Sun Valley, CA, Thomas Safran and Associates, AHMA PSW
- Lizbeth Torres, Grade 5, Glenoaks Townhomes, Sylmar, CA, Alcole Properties, AHMA PSW
- Winnie Mei, Grade 8, Charlesview Residences, Brighton, MA, Peabody Properties, NEAHMA
- Alphonso Veasey, Grade 2, Chickasaw Place, Memphis, TN, Alco Management, SAHMA
- Asael Lopez, Grade 3, Don De Dios Apartments, San Jose, CA, EAH Housing, AHMA NCH
- Genesis Serrano, Grade 1, Parque De Los Monacillos, San Juan, PR, Partners Business Service, LLC, SAHMA
- Ciondra Craig, Grade 5, Winnsboro Arms Apartments, Winnsboro, SC, Southern Development Management Company, Inc., SAHMA
- Zudarius Glass, Grade 5, North Hills, Meridian, MS, Interstate Realty Management, SAHMA
- Kia Taylor, Grade 9, The Fairways Apartments., Worcester, MA, First Realty Management, NEAHMA
- Bette Shapiro, Senior, Ocean Park Villas, Santa Monica, CA, G&K Management, AHMA PSW
- Karla Davila, Grade 10, Laredo Manor Apartments, Laredo, TX, Housing & Community Services, Inc., SWAHMA

### **HONORABLE MENTIONS**

- Juanita Gallegos, Special Needs, Country Club Village Apartments, San Antonio, TX, Housing and Community Services, Inc., SWAHMA
- Winifred LeVeris, Senior, Vittoria Square, Newberg, OR, Housing Authority of Yamhill County, OR AHMA
- Jazmin Moreno, Grade 11, Fawn Ridge Apartments, The Woodlands, TX, BSR Trust, AHMA East Texas
- Allina Mohammad Nadir, Grade 5, Village Park Apartments, Scranton, PA, Interstate Realty Management, PennDel AHMA
- Imani Claiborne, Grade 6, Cross Creek, Portsmouth, VA, Community Housing Partners, Mid-Atlantic AHMA
- Jamal Ali, Grade 8, Southpark Apartments, Columbus, OH, American Apartment Management, MAHMA
- Shevonne Bivens, Grade 4, Council Grove Apartments, Missoula, MT, Tamarack Property Management, Rocky AHMA

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More details on the NAHMA Fall meeting are available at <a href="http://www.nahma.org/meetings/MeetingInfo.html">http://www.nahma.org/meetings/MeetingInfo.html</a>.

#### **About NAHMA**

NAHMA is the leading voice for affordable housing management, advocating on behalf of multifamily property managers and owners whose mission is to provide quality affordable housing. NAHMA supports legislative and regulatory policy that promotes the development and preservation of decent and safe affordable housing, is a vital resource for technical education and information and fosters

strategic relations between government and industry. Founded in 1990, NAHMA's membership today includes the industry's most distinguished multifamily owners and management companies. Visit <a href="https://www.nahma.org">www.nahma.org</a> for more information.

# **About the NAHMA Educational Foundation**

The NAHMA Educational Foundation is organized and operated exclusively as a Section 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Founded in October 1994, the NAHMA Educational Foundation works to assist residents of federally subsidized housing as they strive to enhance their lives, job opportunities and children's futures. Its mission is also to enhance the livability and standing of communities managed by NAHMA member companies nationwide. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.nahma.org/about/educational-foundation">http://www.nahma.org/about/educational-foundation</a>.

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