

NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

# NAHMANews™

PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTY MANAGERS AND OWNERS

## NAHMA Names Worla Dra-Zonyrah National Poster Contest Winner

*Alexandria, Va., July 13, 2017* — Worla Dra-Zonyrah, a sixth-grader from Worcester, Mass., has been named the grand prizewinner in NAHMA's annual AHMA Drug-Free Kids poster and art contest. The talented youngster's artwork will appear on the cover of NAHMA's 2018 calendar. Worla, 12, also receives an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for NAHMA's Regulatory Issues fall meeting in October, as well as a scholarship of \$2,500 from the NAHMA Educational Foundation.

The poster contest is open to children and elderly residents 55 years or older who live in a community of a NAHMA or a local Affordable Housing Management Association (AHMA) member company, as well as residents with special needs who live in a permanent supportive housing community or Section 811 community of a NAHMA or a local AHMA member company.

The underlying message for the annual contest is always a drug-free theme but the association wanted to open the door for more avenues of expression, so a subtheme is incorporated into the poster contest. The subtheme for 2017 is Learning Will Get Me Where I'm Going: Reaching for Knowledge.

Nearly 5,000 eligible residents participated in the nationwide contest.

New for this year, each national winner of the NAHMA contest—regardless of entry category—receives a \$1,000 educational scholarship from the NAHMA Educational Foundation. All winners are also featured as their own month in the 2018 calendar.

Additionally, participants in the annual art contests held by the local AHMAs are eligible to be selected as Regional AHMA Art Contest Honorable Mentions. Those selected for this distinction will have their artwork featured in a special section of the NAHMA 2018 Drug-Free Kids calendar and receive a \$100 scholarship. These participants are in addition to those that are selected as national winners.

The original winning artwork will be auctioned at the Educational Foundation's gala—which takes place during the NAHMA fall meeting, Oct. 22-24—with the proceeds supporting the foundation's scholarship program. Through this 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 is divided into seven categories with winners selected from each of the following: kindergarten-first grade, second-third grades, fourth-sixth grades, seventh-ninth grades, 10th-12th grades, seniors and residents with special needs. Only students are eligible for the grand prize.

Calendars may be ordered beginning in September by visiting the Online Store on NAHMA's website, [www.nahma.org](http://www.nahma.org). The cost is \$5.50, which is a Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Agriculture allowable project expense.

The following lists this year's national program winners and honorable mentions, with their ages at time of submission, grade completed in June 2017/contest category, community where they live, management company and name of the AHMA that submitted their artwork.

#### **GRAND PRIZEWINNER**

- Worla Dra-Zonyrah, 12, sixth grade; Stratton Hill Park, Worcester, Mass.; Corcoran Management; NEAHMA

#### **NATIONAL WINNERS**

- Kheahna Davis, 8, third grade; Sunflower Lane Apartments, Clarksdale, Miss.; Interstate Realty Management Company; SAHMA
- Moriah Fordjour, 6, first grade; Stratton Hill Park, Worcester, Mass.; Corcoran Management; NEAHMA
- Uriel Fordjour, 10, fifth grade; Stratton Hill Park, Worcester, Mass.; Corcoran Management; NEAHMA
- Deyha L. Gomez, 10, fifth grade; Riverwalk Apartments, San Diego, Calif.; Solari Enterprises; AHMA-PSW
- J. Johnson, 14, ninth grade; Crawford Square, Pittsburgh, Penn.; McCormack Baron Management Services; PAHMA
- Anthony Keshishyan, 11, sixth grade; The Gardens on Garfield, Glendale, Calif.; Thomas Safran & Associates; AHMA-PSW
- Arusyak Keshishyan, 16, 11th grade; The Gardens on Garfield, Glendale, Calif.; Thomas Safran & Associates; AHMA-PSW
- Jennifer Lauzon, 17, 11th grade; Bay Village, Fall River, Mass.; First Realty Management Corp.; NEAHMA
- Jessica Lauzon, 13, eighth grade; Bay Village, Fall River, Mass.; First Realty Management Corp.; NEAHMA
- Winnie Mei, 17, 11th grade; Charlesview Residences, Brighton, Mass.; Peabody Properties Inc.; NEAHMA
- Jean Mistretta, 74, senior; Linwood Mill, Whitinsville, Mass.; Peabody Properties Inc.; NEAHMA
- José Ribot Rosa, 66, senior; Trigo Elderly Housing, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Martinal Management Corporation; SAHMA
- Diego Salcido, 8, third grade; Strathern Court, Sun Valley, Calif.; Thomas Safran & Associates; AHMA-PSW

#### **HONORABLE MENTIONS**

- Kenny Camacho, 48, special needs; Winteringham Village, Toms River, N.J.; The Michaels Organization; JAHMA
- Marianna Gonzalez, 10, fifth grade; Village Park Apartments, Scranton, Penn.; Interstate Realty Management; PennDel AHMA
- Beverly Hamler, 71, senior; Logan Place, Mansfield, Ohio; Gorsuch Management/Fairfield Homes; MAHMA
- Ariana Lemus, 9, third grade; Don De Dios Apartments, San Jose, Calif.; EAH Housing; AHMA-NCH
- Jada McCaslin, 12, seventh grade; West End Baptist Manor Apartments, San Antonio, Texas; McDougal Property Management; SWAHMA

- Phyllis Monroe, 58, senior; Parc Crest Apartments, Farmville, Va.; Park Properties; Mid-Atlantic AHMA
- Divina Saavedra, 75, senior; Evergreen Commons, Houston, Texas; Multifamily Management Ministries Housing; AHMA East Texas
- Elliot Seymour, 17, 11th grade; Council Groves Apartments, Missoula, Mont.; Tamarack Property Management Co.; Rocky AHMA
- Jiahui Wu, 13, seventh grade; Kuna Valley Run Apartments, Kuna, Idaho; Northwest Real Estate Capital Corp.; Idaho AHMA

### **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. NAHMA's membership represents 75 percent of the affordable housing industry, and includes its most distinguished multifamily owners and management companies. Visit [www.nahma.org](http://www.nahma.org) 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 [www.nahma.org/about/educational-foundation](http://www.nahma.org/about/educational-foundation).

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