

NAHMA Drug-Free Kids Calendar Features Amazing Artwork

Alexandria, Va., Nov. 7, 2018 — Now that the elections are over, there is one thing we can all get behind: the artwork in the 2019 National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA) Drug-Free Kids Calendar is amazing. The calendars sell out annually, so get your order in now by visiting the <u>Online Store</u> at <u>www.nahma.org</u>. A downloadable <u>order form</u> is also available on the calendar contest webpage. The cost is \$5.50 per calendar, which is a Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Agriculture allowable project expense.

The <u>calendars</u> feature outstanding original artwork by children, seniors and adults with special needs living in affordable multifamily housing. The underlying message for the annual calendar 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 this year is Hope Is in Bloom: Nurturing Our Community.

Ani Keshishyan, a ninth-grader from Glendale, Calif., was selected the grand prizewinner in the annual AHMA Drug-Free Kids poster and art contest. Her artwork appears on the cover of NAHMA's 2019 calendar. Ani, 14, also received an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for NAHMA's Biannual Top Issues in Affordable Housing fall conference, as well as a scholarship of \$2,500 from the NAHMA Educational Foundation.

Nearly 5,000 eligible children, seniors and residents with special needs participated in the nationwide contest. Each winner of the NAHMA contest receives a \$1,000 educational scholarship from the NAHMA Educational Foundation. All winners are also featured in the 2019 calendar.

Additionally, participants in the annual art contests held by the local Affordable Housing Management Associations (AHMAs) are eligible to be selected as Regional AHMA Art Contest Honorable Mentions. Those selected for this distinction are featured in a special section of the 2019 NAHMA Drug-Free Kids Calendar and receive a \$100 educational scholarship.

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.

The complete list of winners and a sneak preview of their artwork can be found on the <u>Current Winners</u> webpage under the Awards & Contests tab.

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 <u>www.nahma.org</u> for more information.

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