

NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

NAHMANews™

PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTY MANAGERS AND OWNERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2007 Calendars Feature Outstanding Artwork by Kids and Seniors Living in Affordable Housing

September 15, 2006, Alexandria, Va. — **NAHMA Drug-Free Kids Calendars** for 2007 are now on sale for the modest price of \$5.50 each from the National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA).

The full-color calendars feature the artwork of children and seniors who reside in affordable, multifamily housing all across the country. More than 130 children (grades K-12), seniors (age 62 or older) and special needs residents competed in the national calendar contest and winners were selected by a panel of independent judges this past June. Children and seniors competing in the national contest are selected from the thousands who participate in the regional poster contests sponsored by local Affordable Housing Management Associations across the country.

The grand-prize winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship from the NAHMA Educational Foundation in the form of a U.S. Savings Bond, national winners receive a \$1,000 Savings Bond and Honorable Mentions receive a \$100 Savings Bond. In addition, the grand-prize-winning artwork is printed on the cover of the 2007 calendar, with the other artwork appearing inside and on the back cover.

The 2007 calendar is sponsored in part by Quadel Consulting, headquartered in Washington, DC. Since 1982, Quadel has had a close working relationship with the HUD subsidized multifamily industry through its training programs and consulting on compliance and regulatory matters. Over the past five years this relationship has become even closer, as Quadel has worked in four states as Section 8 Multifamily Contract Administrators. "Through this long-term association we have come to have enormous respect and admiration for the for-profit and non-profit owners and managers who have made long-term commitments to providing high quality affordable housing to lower income families and individuals," said Edward Symes III, Quadel's executive vice president. "For many owners, commitment to residents has meant providing important services in addition to housing. The NAHMA annual calendar is but one example of owner concern for resident well-being extending beyond affordable, well-managed housing. We thank NAHMA members for this commitment and are pleased to join members in support of the calendar project."

The theme for the calendar, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, is "Believe to Succeed," with a sub-theme of "Find Good Role Models." From the many entries NAHMA received, it's clear that children (and senior citizens who care about children) find plenty to believe in and have strong role models they look up to. Like all children, those who live in affordable housing communities first have to believe they can succeed. Then it helps to have mentors and role models who can illuminate a positive path to happiness and success in life.

This year's grand-prize winner is Jarrod Evans, age 18, of Worcester, Mass. In addition to his scholarship, Jarrod will be honored at the NAHMA Fall Meeting October 15-17, 2006, in Washington, DC.

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Calendars can be ordered from NAHMA's website at www.nahma.org. Because of its strong anti-drug message, the calendar is an allowable project expense for managers of housing subsidized by HUD and the Department of Agriculture. Tax credit properties that purchase calendars benefit twofold: by supporting the drug-free message and their own commitment to social services, while potentially obtaining more points in the funding-allocation process.

Grand-Prize Winner:

Name: Jarrod Evans
Age: 18
City/State: Worcester, MA
Property: Mountain Village Apartments
Management Company: First Realty Management Corp.
AHMA: NEAHMA

Jarrod's artwork was inspired by his wanting the world to know that anyone can be a positive role model. Jarrod enjoys writing and listening to music. He aspires to be a graphic artist. His message to other youths about drugs is simple: "Drugs will lead you nowhere."

National Winners:

Name: Adriana Carrillo
Age: 13
City/State: Laredo, TX
Property: Laredo Manor Apartments
Management Company: Wedge Management
AHMA: SWAHMA

Adriana's artwork came about because she wanted people to see what can happen to them if they do drugs. She stays out of harm's way by playing basketball and soccer, and by being on the computer a lot. She would like to be a lawyer when she grows up. Adriana's role model is her grandmother, "because I live with her, and she's the best grandma in the world."

Name: Hakop Davtian
Age: 13
City/State: Sun Valley, CA
Property: Strathern Park Apartments
Management Company: Thomas Safran & Associates
AHMA: AHMA PSW

What motivated Hakop's artwork is "what is going on in the world today, with the terrorism and our troops." This also fuels his desire to become a Navy officer one day. Hakop enjoys playing sports, rock climbing and reading. He asks other youth, "If you know drugs are bad for you, why would you think of trying them?"

Name: Judy Eriksen
Age: Senior
City/State: Riverside, CA
Property: Santa Fe Apartments
Management Company: RPK Development Corp.
AHMA: AHMA PSW

Drugs took over the life of Judy's "bright, funny and loving" son. "He changed from being himself," she said and strongly urges young people to "never let someone tempt your future, your life, your being! Find good – only good – role models!" Judy enjoys painting murals, reading and laughing out loud. She said she appreciates participating in the poster contest each year because it "helps to heal the pain drugs have dealt our family."

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Name: Susanna Fang
Age: 16
City/State: Honolulu, HI
Property: Kukui Tower
Management Company: EAH, Inc.
AHMA: AHMA NCNH

Susanna found great role models last year in two math teachers who “were smart, enjoyed their job, and did everything they could to help their students.” Her hobbies are “shooting for air riflery, driving RC drift cars, and hanging out with my friends.” She’s not sure yet but thinks she wants to be an automotive engineer when she grows up. “Don’t start drugs,” she warns. “They destroy you and everyone around you ... and there’s nothing you can do about it.”

Name: Markim Felix
Age: 12
City/State: Toms River, NJ
Property: Winteringham Village
Management Company: Interstate Realty Management Co.
AHMA: JAHMA

Markim’s poster illustrates his belief that “all countries should be together without fighting and starting wars.” Among his hobbies are drawing and skating, and he hopes to be a cartoonist or an architect when he grows up. His message about drugs is “never use them, because all it does is hurt you and the family and friends around you.”

Name: I-Kirra Felix
Age: 10
City/State: Toms River, NJ
Property: Winteringham Village
Management Company: Interstate Realty Management Co.
AHMA: JAHMA

I-Kirra’s interest in helping people inspired her drawing and is leading her toward a career as a doctor or a nurse. Her hobbies are singing, skating and “hanging with friends.” Her message about drugs is “don’t use drugs because God does not want you to use them. It will also hurt you and your family.”

Name: Evelyn Gutierrez
Age: 17
City/State: San Marcos, CA
Property: Mariposa Apartments
Management Company: Solari Enterprises
AHMA: AHMA PSW

The motivation behind Evelyn’s drawing is to “let other youth know that there is a path to success. You just have to find your way to it. There are a whole lot of options to a great future if you make the right choices.” Evelyn hopes her path leads to becoming a psychologist so that she can “help kids who have been abandoned by their parents or feel like there’s no future for them.” Her hobbies are attending church, singing in the choir, playing basketball, drawing, and helping her three younger brothers with their homework.

Name: Rico Hatten
Age: 15
City/State: Kosciusko, MS
Property: Cannonade Apartments
Management Company: Interstate Realty Management Co.
AHMA: SAHMA

Rico’s picture was designed “to tell kids that they can be anything they want to be in life.” He hopes to become an investigator one day. Rico enjoys drawing and playing games. His anti-drug message to other youth is simple: “Just don’t do them. And be positive about your future.”

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Name: Julian Landeros
Age: 9
City/State: San Antonio, TX
Property: West Durango Plaza Apartments
Management Company: Wedge Management
AHMA: SWAHMA

Julian's drawing was inspired by his love of sports, including wrestling. He wants to be an artist or be "in the big-time sports leagues" when he grows up. His role model is San Antonio Spurs basketball player Manu Ginobili, because he has been told he looks like him. A family member incarcerated on drug-related charges convinced Julian that "drugs hurt you, not help you."

Name: Deniece McGavin
Age: Senior
City/State: San Bernardino, CA
Property: Arrowhead Vista Apartments
Management Company: SK Management
AHMA: AHMA PSW

Deniece's artwork was motivated by "my manager" who has a disability yet works as if it doesn't exist. "That's a great role model," she said. Deniece enjoys art, crossword puzzles, reading and playing games. Her goal is to continue to be a person about whom people remark, "She has integrity." Her message to youth is that "There are so many other tools you can learn to help you deal with insecurity and fear. Drugs and alcohol are only a temporary solution, and you never get a chance to grow up and enjoy life, joyous and free."

Name: Carol Matthews
Age: Senior
City/State: Sacramento, CA
Property: St. Francis Manor
Management Company: Eugene Burger Property Management
AHMA: AHMA NCNH

Carol's inspiration for her artwork was to "protect the children, letting them find good role models, starting at a very young age." She enjoys drawing, reading and helping others and will never stop aspiring to be "a good American." Her message to youth: "There is no hope with dope."

Name: Darianna Rios-Pedraza
Age: 6
City/State: Laredo, TX
Property: Laredo Manor Apartments
Management Company: Wedge Management
AHMA: SWAHMA

Darianna loves to dance and loves ballerinas, and that is what inspired her artwork. She also likes to play with a computer, paint, play outside, watch TV, and dance and sing. She wants to be "a super star!" when she grows up. As far as drugs go, her advice is simply "don't do drugs. It is very bad for your health!"

Name: Jonathan Tucker
Age: 12
City/State: Missoula, MT
Property: Council Groves Apartments
Management Company: Tamarack Property Management Co.
AHMA: Rocky AHMA

Jonathan's mom is an anthropologist and he wants to work with her when he grows up. "She has always been my role model," he says. "I believe together, we can change the world." Jonathan enjoys drawing, painting, photography and video games. His advice to other youth: "You can do anything if you believe in yourself."

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Honorable Mentions:

- Yisell Delgado, Age 11, Jersey City, NJ, Montgomery Management, JAHMA
- Serena Fang, Age 14, Honolulu, HI, EAH, Inc., AHMA NCNH
- Shea Henne, Age 6, Murrieta, CA, Solari Enterprises, AHMA PSW
- Ashley Johnson, Age 8, The Woodlands, TX, LBK Management Services, AHMA East Texas
- Amber Lopez, Age 12, Corpus Christi, TX, Capstone Real Estate Services, SWAHMA
- Theodious Miller, Jr., Age 9, Talladega, AL, Rental Property Management, SAHMA
- Gregory Moore, Age 14, Worcester, MA, First Realty Management, NEAHMA
- Fartan Muhidin, Age 7, Columbus, OH, American Apartment Management, MAHMA
- Sarah Tucker, Age 13, Missoula, MT, Tamarack Property Management Co., Rocky AHMA
- Katherine Ulmer, Age 8, Williamsport, PA, Interstate Realty Management Co., PennDel AHMA

Calendars may be ordered by calling (703) 683-8630 or ordering from NAHMA's website at www.nahma.org. Calendars cost \$5.50 each.

NAHMA is the leading advocate for 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 affordable housing, is a vital resource for technical education and information, fosters strategic relations between government and industry and recognizes those who exemplify the best in affordable housing. Founded in 1990, NAHMA's membership today includes the industry's most distinguished multifamily management companies and owners.

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