

NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

NAHMANews™

PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTY MANAGERS AND OWNERS

NAHMA Names Stephanie Vazquez Poster Contest Winner

Alexandria, Va., July 10, 2015 Stephanie Vazquez, a 12th-grader from Manati, Puerto Rico, has been named the grand prizewinner in the National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA)'s 29th annual AHMA Drug-Free Kids poster and art contest. Her artwork will appear on the cover of NAHMA's 2016 calendar. Stephanie, 17, 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/disabled residents 55 years or older who live in a community of a NAHMA or a local Affordable Housing Management Association (AHMA) member company; and 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. This year's contest celebrated community spirit with its theme and subtheme, Our Hands Are United: Reach Out and Be a Good Neighbor.

Nearly 5,000 eligible children, elderly/disabled and residents with special needs participated in the nationwide contest. Each child winner of the NAHMA contest receives a \$1,000 educational scholarship from the NAHMA Educational Foundation. A \$1,000 cash award will be made in the name of the elderly/disabled and special needs winners to their community for use in purchasing or funding a project from which all of the community's residents will benefit. All winners are also featured in the 2016 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 2016 Drug-Free Kids calendar and receive a \$100 check. These participants are in addition to those that were selected as national winners.

The original winning artwork will be auctioned at the fall meeting, Oct. 25-27, 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 NAHMA's website, www.nahma.org. The cost is \$5.50, which is a Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Agriculture allowable expense.

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

GRAND PRIZEWINNER

- Stephanie Vazquez, 17, 12th grade, Villas de Manati, Manati, Puerto Rico, Martinal Management Corp., SAHMA

NATIONAL WINNERS

- Jennifer Lauzon, 15, ninth grade, Bay Village, Fall River, MA, First Realty Management, NEAHMA
- Tyshaun Dargbeh, 12, seventh grade, Rochelle Manor Apartments, Durham, NC, Westminster Company, SAHMA
- Winnie Mei, 15, ninth grade, Charlesview Residences, Brighton, MA, Peabody Properties, Inc., NEAHMA
- Bette Shapiro, senior, Ocean Park Villas, Santa Monica, CA, G & K Management Co., Inc., AHMA-PSW
- Kenny Camacho, 46, special needs, Winteringham Village, Toms River, NJ, Interstate Realty Management Company, JAHMA
- Vivianna Salcido, 16, 11th grade, Strathern Park, Sun Valley, CA, Thomas Safran & Associates, AHMA-PSW
- Bianca X. Salcido, 17, 12th grade, Strathern Park, Sun Valley, CA, Thomas Safran & Associates, AHMA-PSW
- Aniyah Taylor, 10, third grade, Winteringham Village, Toms River, NJ, Interstate Realty Management Company, JAHMA
- Herman Ma, 7, second grade, Kukui Tower, Honolulu, HI, EAH Housing, AHMA-NCH
- Michael Mireku, 8, third grade, Stratton Hill Park, Worcester, MA, Corcoran Management Company, NEAHMA
- Madison McElroy, 11, fifth grade, Bay Village, Fall River, MA, First Realty Management, NEAHMA
- Jessica Lauzon, 11, sixth grade, Bay Village, Fall River, MA, First Realty Management, NEAHMA
- Aimee Pugh, 12, sixth grade, Bull Creek Apartments, Columbus, GA, WinnResidential, SAHMA

HONORABLE MENTIONS

- Anna Parrish Hunt, 71, senior, Heritage Place Apartments, McMinnville, OR, Housing

- Authority of Yamhill County, Oregon AHMA
- Jazmin Moreno, 18, 12th grade, Fawn Ridge Apartments, The Woodlands, TX, BSR Trust, AHMA East Texas
 - Tyrah Gary, 9, fourth grade, Beckett Gardens Apartments, Philadelphia, PA, Community Realty Management, PennDel AHMA
 - Angel Valdillez, 18, 11th grade, West End Baptist Manor Apartments, San Antonio, TX, McDougal Property Management, SW-AHMA
 - Elliot Seymour, 15, ninth grade, Council Groves Apartments, Missoula, MT, Tamarack Property Management Co., Rocky AHMA
 - Marte Craig, 18, 11th grade, Southpark Apartments, Columbus, OH, American Apartment Management Company, MAHMA
 - John Nichols, 74, senior, Stonecroft Apartments, Hagerstown, MD, Interstate Realty Management Company, Mid-Atlantic AHMA
 - Louise Atwell, 64, & Dolores Jancay, 70, senior, Cannon House Highrise for the Elderly, Canonsburg, PA, Redevelopment Authority of the County of Washington, PAHMA

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 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 <http://www.nahma.org/about/educational-foundation>.

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