

2026 THEME: SHAPING OUR FUTURE BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

General Information: The Drug Free Poster Art Contest was created over 30 years ago as an art/calendar contest to involve children, from kindergarten through high school in a program that would promote living a drug free life. In recent years the program has expanded to include elderly/disabled as well as special needs residents living in SAHMA member communities. This program is open to ANY multifamily affordable property owned/managed by a SAHMA member. The art/calendar contest is an activity that not only helps to encourage the health/well-being of our residents, but it also goes a long way toward maintaining a positive perception of your property and community. This NAHMA program is sponsored by SAHMA and other AHMAs throughout the country.

How Submissions are Judged: Entries are judged on the artist's ability to create a submission with the contest theme. While the general purpose of the program is to promote being drug free, the theme for artists to portray on their poster changes each year. This year, the theme is: **Shaping Our Future - Building Stronger Communities Together**. Specifically judges consider: **INTERPRETATION** of the theme; **ORIGINALITY** of submission; **QUALITY**: Is the artwork submission appealing to the eye; **OVERALL ARTISTIC ABILITY**: Does the artwork submission show some degree of creativity and skill for its age group; **REPRODUCTION**: Can artwork be reproduced with reasonable quality and clarity?

2026 CONTEST RULES

CONTEST WINNERS

WINNERS ARE SELECTED FROM ACROSS THE SOUTHEAST WITH A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE RANKING PER CATEGORY.

- Kindergarten - 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade - 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade - 6th Grade
- 7th Grade - 9th Grade
- 10th Grade - 12th Grade
- Elderly / Disabled / Special Needs

FIRST PLACE CATEGORY WINNER

\$400 prize with winner plaque

SECOND PLACE CATEGORY WINNER

\$200 prize with winner plaque

THIRD PLACE CATEGORY WINNER

\$100 prize with winner plaque

WINNING SITE COORDINATORS WILL RECEIVE A \$50 PRIZE

Winning properties will receive a \$100 prize to host a celebration for the community to honor their winner(s).

Winning posters are sent to NAHMA to be included in the National Contest. National winners will be featured in the 2027 NAHMA Calendar and will receive separate prizes as designated by NAHMA.

POSTER SUBMISSIONS DUE

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

to Northeast Georgia Housing
Authority @ 437 S. Pond St,
Toccoa, GA 30577.

706-886-9455

Attention: Resident Services
NEED supplies, applications or more
information contact Resident Services.



***Prize and Plaques will be mailed directly to site coordinators**

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Site Contest Coordinator PLEASE FOLLOW THESE RULES TO PREVENT POSTER DISQUALIFICATION

1. All Contestants submitting artwork **MUST** be a resident of a community that is currently a member of SAHMA.
2. While we encourage community activities to brainstorm the theme and contest rules, **ENTRIES MUST BE CREATED BY THE INDIVIDUAL WITHOUT ASSISTANCE. All submissions must be original.**
3. The five grade categories for **children** are based on the grade level the contestants will have completed by June 2026:
 - Kindergarten - 1st Grade
 - 2nd Grade - 3rd Grade
 - 4th Grade - 6th Grade
 - 7th Grade - 9th Grade
 - 10th Grade - 12th Grade
4. **Elderly** participants are residents 55 and over who live in a SAHMA community. **Disabled** participants are residents of any age who live in a SAHMA community. **Special Needs** participants are residents of any age living in permanent supportive housing or an 811 community. Participants under 18, will be considered with their peers in the grade-level categories.
5. Artwork must be submitted on a 22 in. x 28 in. poster board or heavy art paper (portrait or landscape layouts accepted).
6. Any medium may be used (paint, crayons, colored pencils, collage, etc.) but must be protected against damage.
7. Use this year's theme as the focal point of the poster to convey a positive message.
8. Including the words "AHMA Drug Free Kid" or any other drug free message is **NOT MANDATORY.**
9. Use of cartoon characters, product brands, logos, individual names or property names is not permitted. Do not include the child's, property's, company's or SAHMA's name on the front of the poster
10. A **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM** and **NAHMA RELEASE FORM** must be completed, legible, and attached with tape to the back, upper right-hand side, of each submission. **Incomplete forms will make submissions ineligible. Elderly/Disabled & Special Needs forms do not require age, birthday, school or parent information.**
11. All posters submitted to the SAHMA Office become the property of SAHMA and NAHMA, who have the right to use the art for publicity, publications and advertisements. **POSTERS WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**
12. All entries **MUST** be received by the SAHMA Office no later than **FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026.** Please include a **PROPERTY PARTICIPATION** form in each poster package mailed to the SAHMA Office.
13. Prizes and Plaque will be mailed directly to site coordinators for each winner.
14. Call the SAHMA office at (800) 745-4088 with any questions or concerns.

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Participant Entry Form

This form must be completed, legible and attached to the back, upper right-hand side, of each submission.

****Incomplete forms will make submissions ineligible.****

Elderly, Disabled & Special Needs forms do not require age, birthday, school or parent information.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade to be completed by June 2026: _____

Category Level (select one) *K-1st* *2nd - 3rd* *4th - 6th* *7th - 9th* *10th - 12th*

Elderly/Disabled/Special Needs

School Name: _____

Property Name: _____ **Northeast GA Housing Authority** _____

Participant's Address: _____ *Apt #* _____

City: _____ *State:* _____ *Zip:* _____

Participant's Phone: _____ Parent or Guardian: _____

Property Manager Name: _____

Manager Phone: **706-886-9455** _____ Manager Email: **occupancy@negeorgiahousing.com** _____

Management Company: **Northeast GA Housing Authority** _____

Site Contest Coordinator: **Jessica Purdee** _____

Coordinator Title: **Resident Services** _____ Coordinator Email: **jessica@negeorgiahousing.com** _____

Name of AHMA: **SAHMA** _____

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Property Participantion Form

Please complete the following form indicating how many posters were submitted by your property at this time.

Management Company: Northeast GA Housing Authority

Site Contest Coordinator: Jessica Purdee

Coordinator Title: Resident Services

Coordinator Email: jessica@negeorgiahousing.com

Total Number of Posters Submitted by Property:

Please Indicate Total Number of Posters Submitted



NAHMA

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO PRIZE IN NAHMA POSTER ART CONTEST RELEASE FORM

In accepting the prize in the NAHMA “*Shaping Our Future - Building Stronger Communities Together*” Poster Contest, I hereby represent that I am eligible to receive this prize under the contest rules eligibility.

In consideration of the award of the prize to me, I hereby agree as follows:

1. I hereby transfer and assign to NAHMA/SAHMA all rights, title and interest in my entry in the 2026 “*Shaping Our Future - Building Stronger Communities Together*” Poster Contest including all copyright or other intellectual property rights. My entry shall hereinafter become the sole property of NAHMA/SAHMA and may be used in such publicity, publications and advertisements as NAHMA/SAHMA may see fit.
2. I hereby give NAHMA/SAHMA, its members and/or affiliates the absolute right and permission to use my artwork for publicity purposes and to make reproductions in any media and to copyright in its own name, and/or publish, and/or market, and/or assign such images without compensation.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read this document, and that I understand and agree to its terms.

Recipient's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____
On behalf of recipient

Print Name: _____

** Form must be completed and attached to poster to be eligible to receive winner awards/prizes*