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Nursing Home Artists Honored in 2016 Annual Calendar

Proceeds from 2016 "Art from the Heart" Calendar Help Improve Quality of Life in New York State's Long Term Care Facilities

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ALBANY, NY – Art is a powerful medium of expression. Particularly for the aging, it can present an opportunity to open up to outsiders what may be a lifetime of inspirational images never before shared. Thirteen artists who happen to be residents of New York State skilled nursing and assisted living facilities translated visions from their hearts and minds into winning entries of a juried art contest, now featured in a 2016 calendar, "Art from the Heart."

The annual calendar is the result of an art contest launched in 2004 by the Foundation for Quality Care, Inc., the New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA) and the New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL). Residents of more than 300 NYSHFA/NYSCAL member skilled nursing and assisted living facilities around the state were invited to submit artwork.

Proceeds from the calendar will help improve the quality of life for long term care residents at facilities across New York.

Each NYSHFA/NYSCAL member was encouraged to hold their own art contest and was invited to submit up to two pieces of original artwork by their residents. The response was overwhelming, with more than 85 pieces submitted from across New York state. The judges included representatives from the New York State Museum and the Sorelle Gallery in Albany.

Ranging in age from 37 to 102, the different backgrounds of the artists who submitted work creates a unique blend of artistic styles. Some are professional artists who have been drawing and painting their entire lives, while others discovered their talents after moving into a long term care facility where they began taking art classes.

"Our residents have shared such rich stories through their artwork," said Richard S. Patterson, Jr., executive director of the Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. "The 'Art from the Heart' calendar provides a forum for these talented and interesting individuals to shine."

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The 2016 "Art from the Heart" calendar can be purchased for \$12 by visiting www.thefqc.org and www.nyshfa.org. The websites also include images from the "Art from the Heart" calendar.

Proceeds from the calendar benefit the Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. a non-profit, grant-supported organization that focuses on improving the quality of care and quality of life in New York State nursing homes.

Photos of Artwork and Artists Available

This Year's "Art from the Heart" Art Contest Winners

- Angela Barricelli, Sands Point Center for Health & Rehab, Port Washington
- Chen Chang, The Phoenix Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, Brooklyn
- Maria Giorlando, St. James Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center, St. James
- Robert Law, Whittier Place, Ghent
- Roslyn Lieberman, Maple Pointe at Rockville Centre Assisted Living, Rockville
- Bob Minwell, Newark Manor Nursing Home, Newark
- John Morganello, Absolut Ctr for N & R at Houghton LLC, Houghton
- Beverly Northrop, Elm Manor Nursing Home, Canandaigua
- Betty Oakes, Whittier Place, Ghent
- Linda Ostrander, Wingate at Beacon, Beacon
- Betty Porcaro, Golden Hill Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Kingston
- Jean Pysnik, Focus Rehabilitation & Nursing Center at Otsego, Cooperstown
- Frantz Souffrant, Crown Nursing & Rehab Center, Brooklyn

The Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. is a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA)/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL), a statewide membership organization of more than 300 licensed skilled nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership is diversified and represents individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. Members take care of more than 50,000 ill, aged and infirm New Yorkers. Members of NYSHFA/NYSCAL are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of all residents.