



Nursing Home and Assisted Living Artists Honored in 2023 Annual Calendar

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 7, 2022

Contact: Stephen Hanse, 518-312-9777

ALBANY, NY – Art is a powerful medium of expression. Particularly for the aging, it can present an opportunity to open to members of the community 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 2023 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 400 NYSHFA | NYSCAL member skilled nursing and assisted living facilities around the state were invited to submit photographs of their artwork online.

The response by residents was overwhelming, with more than 80 art pieces submitted from across New York state. The judges included local artists and representatives from the New York State Museum in Albany.

Ranging in age from 54 to 95, 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 Jackie Pappalardi, RN, BSN, 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.”

Proceeds from the “Art from the Heart” calendar will benefit **the Foundation for Quality Care’s James D. Durante and Ruth E. Stafford Nurse Scholarship Program**. This Scholarship Program was established to provide financial support to incumbent employees of NYSHFA | NYSCAL member facilities who are also nursing students pursuing careers in long term care. **Help us to support long term care nurses by ordering calendars today!** Calendars may be ordered via the NYSHFA/NYSCAL website at www.nyshfa-nyscal.org.

- more -

*****Photos of Artwork and Artists Available*****

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

- **Howard Barnes**, Five Towns Premier Rehab. & Nursing Center, Woodmere, NY
- **Margaret Field**, Boro Park Center for Rehab. & Healthcare, Brooklyn, NY
- **Linda Fisher**, The Gardens by Morningstar, Oswego, NY
- **Joan Franks**, Somerset Gardens, Plainview, NY
- **Mary Ann Harris**, ElderWood at Williamsville, Williamsville, NY
- **Jose Gil Mieses**, Laconia Nursing Home, Bronx, NY
- **Nancy Ortiz**, Golden Gate Rehab & Health Care Center, Staten Island, NY
- **Sam Picardi**, Kings Adult Care Center, Brooklyn, NY
- **Leonard Starzynski**, NYS Veterans Home At Oxford, Oxford, NY
- **Harvey Stoneburner**, Hopkins Center for Rehab & Healthcare, Brooklyn, NY
- **Miguel Velezquez**, Grand Manor Nursing & Rehab Center, Bronx, NY
- **Maria Zuluaga**, Eger Harbor House Inc., Staten Island, NY
- **Communtiy of Residents from Salem Hills Rehab & Nursing Center**, Purdys, NY

###

The Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. is a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL), a statewide membership organization of 450 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 73,000 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.

- 30 -