

## PRESS RELEASE: 2012 WORDS MAKE PEOPLE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

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The ink of the scholar is more valuable than the blood of the martyr.—The Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him) Keep G-d first and success is guaranteed.— Albertha Aamina Sabree

**NATIONAL** — FAMACO Publishers and the Words Make People (WMP) National Scholarship Committee announce the selection of Albertha Aamina Sabree as the 2012 recipient of the Words Make People Literary Excellence and Scholarship Award.

Founded regionally in 2006, the now national scholarship is established in honor of American Muslim leader, humanitarian, and religious scholar, the late Honorable Imam Dr. W. Deen Mohammed. Imam Mohammed inherited the struggle for dignity and economic justice through the African American saga and Islamic influence woven into the history of American Blacks both before and after slavery. He led



Albertha Aamina Sabree 2012 WMP Scholarship Recipient

millions of Americans to true Islam, dispelling false notions of race and religion to make his Community a new world leader for the proper understanding and practice of Al-Islam. Part of the Imam's legacy was his ability to inspire through the power of the written and spoken word; he stressed the important role that language and words whether in Scripture, higher education, or common communication, play in shaping critical thought and subsequent social, cultural, political, intellectual and moral expression.

The Scholarship is open to college bound graduating high school seniors, graduate and undergraduate college students of all faiths and is merit-based with the goal of helping a deserving student, encouraging excellence in

education and advancing an American Legacy of Leadership. Applicants must have demonstrated interest in the power of written communication and appreciation for the historical or current effect of written communication on people at a local, national or global level.

This year's recipient typifies the faith-based scholarship, leadership, and character excellence the WMP Scholarship seeks to recognize, support, and inspire in our future leaders. Albertha Sabree is a rising sophomore at Agnes Scott College in Decatur Georgia. With a curriculum that includes calculus, writing as a craft, and biology, Ms. Sabree completed her freshman year with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. and ranks number one in her class. The Dean's List honoree is a member of Agnes Scott's Muslim Student Association (MSA), Generating Excellence in Math and Science Program (GEMS), and the Infinity Math Club. She is a talented writer with sterling accolades from St. Agnes College Faculty and the Atlanta Youth Writer's Camp who recognized her achievement in literature, research and journalistic composition. Among her noted research essays are: *The Role of Faith in the African-American Struggle*,

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Perceptions of the American Dream during the Economic Challenges of the 21st Century: The American Dream vs. The American Reality, and expository analysis on the meaning of Words Make People (Click Scholarships at www.famacopublishers.com to read the award winning essay). Her family and local Atlanta community know her as both a scholar and dedicated worker. She balances a full course load with a commitment to civic responsibilities and work. Ms. Sabree is a 2011 W.D. Mohammed High School graduate and class valedictorian. She tutors college and high school students in mathematics, works in the Office of Enrollment Services for St. Agnes Scott College, and volunteers with the Academy for Future Teacher's Program, Mind Kataylst Program (Rock Chapel Elementary), Hands on Atlanta (Mohammed Schools), Hosea Feed the Hungry and the DESA Elementary School Internship Program. She is a staunch supporter of the Leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed (ra) and is honored to have had the privilege of providing administrative support services to his office in 2008 for which she received his personal acknowledgment. She has formally led studies for elementary school students on the life and legacy of Imam Mohammed.

Among Ms. Sabree's achievements and awards are: The 2012 St. Agnes Scott Departmental Mathematics Award, the 2011 Atlanta Journal Cup Award, the Atlanta Youth Writers Certificate of Achievement. She attributes her success *"first and foremost to faith in G-d and next to the continued support of family who instilled in her a fear of G-d and a love of Al-Islam. Without these tools in my life, success wouldn't have been possible."* 

Ms. Sabree will receive \$1,000 in scholarship funds, a certificate of achievement, and congratulatory gifts including the *Noble Qur'an*, *Genesis of New American Leadership*, and *Remake the World Calendar: Tribute to the Leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed* (courtesy of FAMACO Publishers); *Realities of Submission*, courtesy of Umm Zakiyah, Al Walaa Publications, and Rasheed Mateen and Associates; *Muslims in African History: Correcting the Record and Exposing the Clandestine Disinformation Campaign Against Islam*, courtesy of Ameen Yasir Mohammed; and *Glow With Ramadan All Year Long!: How to Achieve Greater Health, Energy & Vibrancy During and After the Fast*, courtesy of Laila Qadira Yamini and Booktango.

Mukhtar Muhammad, chair of the Scholarship Committee and vice president for FAMACO Publishers states, "Imam Mohammed's mission and work, emphasizing religious scholarship, education, economic development, and the promotion of universal human excellence live on and continue to transpose a legacy of leadership onto the world stage...Sister Sabree is evidence of that. Many recall the Imam's proclamations, "Man means mind," "Words make people," and "Remake the World." Our leader was not simply looking to inspire adherents, he was seeking to inspire his Community to become students of religion, to be critical free thinkers firmly established upon the foundation of the Holy Qur'an, the Life of Muhammed The Prophet (Peace be upon him), and the best of all knowledge G-d has blessed mankind to benefit from. The work we are accomplishing through our partnerships is designed to preserve, share and advance Imam Mohammed's legacy as a balanced educator respecting Revealed Scripture as the foundation for man's intellectual and material development. The Imam was an advocate for education...our advocacy represents a natural progression toward institutionalizing his work. We need students who can think critically and then put pen to paper to inspire the highest level of introspection and performance into the 21st century and beyond—that's what the Words Make People scholarship is all about...investing in tomorrow's leaders today for a brighter future." May G-d continue blessing Ms.

Sabree with success in her academic and professional pursuits and in her family, civic, and community life. We look forward to her future scholarship and leadership contributions.

We acknowledge with grateful appreciation the members of the National Scholarship Committee including Dr. Aisha Kareem, Mukhtar Muhammad, Dr. Zakiyyah Muhammad, Dr. Jawairriya Abdallah-Shahid, Imam Rashad Shahid and it's newest member Imam Dr. Zayd Abdul-Karim; a special thank you to our fiduciary partner, Masjid An Nur Minneapolis and Imam Makram El-Amin and the superb staff who administered the collection, accounting and disbursement of funds that provided the Scholarship program an impressive 97.4% charitable donation efficiency based on American Institute of Philanthropy (AIP)\* standards; the following contributors, supporters, and National Parade of Logos: Imam Bilal Yasin El-Amin of El-Amin Business Services, Linda Poole, Arlene El-Amin, Uqdah Enterprises, Words Make People Publishing, American Muslim 360, New Mind Productions, A New Day for Islam in America, UmmahStream World TV, Muslim Journal, YOU R A Creator, Masjid Al-Mu'minun (Memphis), CMECCA, Masjid Waarith ud Deen at Waris C.R.D.C., Modern Day Achievers, Islamic Theater, Station IWDM, RRM Enterprises, Baitul Salaam Network, Inc., Sabree Environmental & Construction, Inc., Cedar Grove Corporation, K.R. Abdullah & Associates, Community Life Forward, Muslim American Media Alliance (M.A.M.A.), Islamic Cultural Preservation and Information Council (ICPIC) and Shabazz Cola. Thank you to the many facebook supporters and twitter followers who adopted the WMP Scholarship as a cause.

You can support, apply next year, and learn more at <u>www.Scholarships.famacopublishers.com</u> and <u>www.causes.com/WMPScholarship</u>.

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\* Efficiency level means: 97.4 cents of every dollar went directly to the Scholarship recipient. FPLLC and WMP Scholarship are not affiliated with AIP.

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