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PRESS RELEASE: 2014 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)

NATIONAL— FAMACO Publishers and the Words Make People (WMP) National Scholarship Committee congratulate Moufatih Abbas Muhammad, the 2014 recipient of the Words Make People Literary Excellence and Scholarship Award.

The Words Make People Literary Excellence & Scholarship Award is a national scholarship 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



Moufatih Abbas Muhammad
2014 WMP
Scholarship Recipient

after slavery. He led 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. Moufatih Muhammad is a college-bound 2014 honor graduate of the Clara Muhammad High School of Corona, Queens, New York. Graduating with a 3.8 GPA, Moufatih is a member of the Honor Roll Society and served as Student Council Treasurer and President of the Culture and Leadership Team, and the Adab Team for student mentoring. He gives back to his community as a tutor with the Kumon Learning Center for assistance in math which happens to be his favorite subject, and he loves volunteering in his local masjid helping senior pioneers.

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Moufatih served as a member of the Business Cluster and Debate Teams; a Clara Muhammad Ambassador, culture and leadership, math, science, Islamic studies fair and panel discussion member; fundraising public speaker and Al-Shams Magazine editor, Sergeant-of-Arms, Student Council bookkeeper, religious services leader for Clara Muhammad Schools in Corona-Queens and at Masjid Ali K. Muslim in Newark. He is also recipient of several Microsoft Office Specialist proficiency awards, the Citizenship, Father, Son, Men, and Boys Certificate of Excellence Award, and the Kumon of North America Diligence and Spirit Awards.

Moufatih balances his academic, civic and faith-based devotions with hobbies that include basketball, football, chess, skateboarding, and production of video game tutorials. From being recognized for his outstanding commitment to leadership, community service, and volunteerism; to receiving the President's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Moufatih is well equipped to excel at the Fairleigh Dickinson University's Silberman College of Business; his goal: to major in both marketing and accounting, followed by grad school and entrepreneurship...all with the vision of helping advance the model community life in the area of business development.

And like other high achieving recipients of the WMP Scholarship Award, Moufatih readily admits he didn't accumulate all the accolades to his credit on his own; his training crosses at least two Muslim communities. He credits his parents, Mustawa and Areeb Muhammad who instilled in him a commitment to strong faith and a discipline for academic excellence. From his home school he entered the Clara Muhammad School of Newark, New Jersey through the 9th grade and then onto Corona-Queens' Clara Muhammad School where under the watchful eye of Principal Shirley Dye and his instructors, he matriculated as an honor graduate. Moufatih states: *"The Clara Muhammad School taught me about open mindedness and to love a righteous cause."*

Following the Eid-ul-Fitr announcement of his selection for the award, Moufatih received \$1,000 in scholarship funds, a certificate of distinguished achievement, and congratulatory gifts including the *Noble Qur'an*, *Genesis of New American Leadership*, *Remake the World Calendar: Tribute to the Leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed*, and *Imam Mikal Saahir's By Winter and Summer* (courtesy of FAMACO Publishers).

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...Moufatih Muhammad is a sterling example of that leadership legacy."

"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 (S), 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 Brother Moufatih with success in his academic and professional pursuits and in his family, civic, and community life. We look forward to his 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 Imam Dr. Zayd Abdul-Karim; a special thank you to our fiduciary partner, Masjid An Nur Minneapolis and Imam Makram El-Amin and Arlene El-Amin and staff who administered the collection, accounting and disbursement of funds that provided the Scholarship program an impressive 97.5% charitable donation efficiency based on American Institute of Philanthropy (AIP)* standards; the following contributors, supporters, and National Parade of Logos: Farrand Logan, Ahmad Salahuddin, Arlene El-Amin, Mu Octavis Taalib, and Rasheedah L. Nasir; 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 have adopted the WMP Scholarship as a cause.

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

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* Efficiency level means: 97.5 cents of every dollar went directly to the Scholarship recipient. FPLLC and WMP Scholarship are not affiliated with AIP.

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