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AOBA to Present Eight Students from Prince George's County with Scholarships to Prince George's County Community College

Washington, DC - At the 13th Annual AOBA Scholarship Awards Ceremony to be held Oct.16, eight lucky students will receive scholarships, valued up to \$6000, to pay for their tuition at Prince George's County Community College (PGCC) for a two-year period. This year's program will include remarks by Maryland's newest U.S. Representative, Donna F. Edwards (D), who faces Republican Peter James in the November election. In June, Congresswoman Edwards was sworn in to represent Maryland's 4th Congressional District, becoming the first African-American female representative from Maryland.

In addition to paid tuition, the AOBA scholars are offered the opportunity to participate in an academic and career preparation program, with emphasis on leadership and community service. They are also provided with educational seminars, mentoring programs, academic and career counseling, and have the chance to interact with executives in the apartment and building industry.

Recipients of scholarships from AOBA are: Prince George's Community College students *Christianah A. Adewuyi* of Lanham, *Nusirat Balogun* of Mount Rainier, *Redeat Berhanu* of Laurel, *Adaku L. Ihekweme* of Upper Marlboro, *Isha Kamara* of Landover and *Tenika Phillips* of Suitland. Other scholarship winners are Central High School student *Even Reeves* of Upper Marlboro and Parkdale High School student *Syeda Silkandar* of Lanham.

After completing the two-year PGCC curriculum, AOBA scholars may apply for a scholarship, provided by Southern Management Corporation, to attend American University.

Since its inception in 1996, the AOBA Scholarship program has provided financial, mentoring and internship support to 87 Prince George's County students. Most of these students have successfully completed two years of study at PGCC, and many AOBA Scholars are currently employed by AOBA member firms.

"This program is continuing to make a real difference in Prince George's County. Since 1996, AOBA sponsors have volunteered countless hours and donated over \$517,000 to support our young and talented student scholars," said Rich Sockol, Derick Associates, Inc., who served as Chair of AOBA's "ACT" Scholarship Committee. ##

The leading membership organization representing commercial and multi-family residential real estate in the Washington metropolitan area, AOBA is the local affiliate of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) and the National Apartment Association. More at www.aoba-metro.org