



PRESS RELEASE

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Dr. & Mrs. A.M. ZIKRY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS WINNERS ANNOUNCED AWARDS CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 16TH

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The scholarships were established by Dr. Emad A. Zikry in memory of his beloved parents, Dr. & Mrs. Abdel-Khalik M. Zikry. During the mid 1970s, Dr. & Mrs. Zikry were among the pioneers in establishing the Islamic Society of Greater Kansas City. Dr. A.M. Zikry was a scholar, teacher, guide, mentor to the community and among the first *Jumuah Khateeb* (Friday prayer sermon leader).

Dr. & Mrs. A.M. Zikry Memorial Scholarships were offered to deserving Muslim students from the Kansas City area pursuing post-secondary education. The Shawnee Mission Islamic Education Center (SMIEC) was entrusted with the implementation and administration of the scholarships.

SMIEC developed the procedure and eligibility criteria for the Dr. & Mrs. A.M. Zikry Memorial Scholarships and issued a call for applications in September. A panel of three judges was selected to rank the applicants, based on which three Muslim students from the area have been selected for the awards:

First Place (\$1,000) Miss Farheen Baig, pursuing an MD degree at UMKC;

Second Place (\$1,000) Mr. Yousef Hammouda, majoring in Accounting and Information Systems at KU, and

Third Place (\$500) Mr. Mario Avila, a Business major with emphasis in Management at UMKC.

The Scholarships Awards Ceremony will be held 3:15-4:45 PM on Sunday, November 16, 2014 at the Ramada Inn, 7240 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Overland Park, KS 66202. The event is free. The public is invited to meet and greet the scholarship winners and to celebrate the legacy of Dr. & Mrs. A.M. Zikry.

Prof. Syed E. Hasan, SMIEC board member, stated "The Dr. & Mrs. A.M. Zikry Memorial Scholarships represent a landmark event in the history of Kansas City Muslims that are expected to be offered again for the 2015-16 and future years." Dr. Hasan also added "SMIEC, on behalf of the entire Kansas City Muslim Community, extends its heartfelt thanks to Dr. Emad Zikry and prays that Allah Almighty rewards his parents with a place in the Paradise for their dedicated service to His cause."