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## **HomeWords Program – Fall Essay Winners**

*Innovative educational program that teaches high school students the basics on credit, renting and homeownership.*

Tucson, Ariz. – (February 1, 2008) – Cholla High School Students participated in the Tucson Association of REALTORS® HomeWords program this past fall. Students submitted essays on what they learned during the program and winners received cash prizes based on what they learned:

First Place: Ashley Nagengast  
Second Place: Anisa Vargas  
Erika Laurence

Third Place: Angela LeZazueta  
Araceli Laborin  
Adrinna Rodriguez  
Michael Durazo  
Marissa Orozco

In partnership with Newspapers in Education, The Tucson Association of REALTORS®' HomeWords program is designed to help high school students learn about crucial topics that are absent in the average high school curriculum, including credit basics, how to be a renter and, eventually, a homeowner and other money management issues. Teachers in the program receive newspapers and teaching materials with lessons plans for the school year.

"There is a fundamental gap in the average high school curriculum," said Judy Lowe, a REALTOR® and chair of the Tucson Association of REALTORS®' Housing Opportunities Committee. "Where are our students learning key life lessons like how to manage their credit or rent an apartment? This program fills that gap."

Other area high schools interested in joining the program should contact Annalisa Moreno at (520) 382-8789.

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*The Tucson Association of REALTORS® is the largest trade association in Southern Arizona, representing the interests of over 6,700 professionals in the real estate industry. REALTOR® is a collective membership mark that may only be used by members of the National Association of REALTORS®.*