

# News Release

Corporate Communications

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## Wells Fargo names finalists in small business Neighborhood Renovation Program

*Company collaborates with National Urban League; awards up to \$10,000 in renovations, workshops to three Baltimore small businesses*

BALTIMORE, July 1, 2016 – Wells Fargo (NYSE: WFC) today named three finalists in the [Wells Fargo Works for Small Business®: Neighborhood Renovation Program](#), a small business renovation contest which ran from April 15- May 15. The three small business finalists will each receive up to \$10,000 in renovations to their business' interior and/or exterior done in partnership with architectural firm Gensler, along with workshops and training from the Greater Baltimore Urban League Entrepreneurship Center Program. Rebuilding Together Baltimore will oversee the implementation of the renovations. The three finalists were selected by a panel of judges from Wells Fargo, National Urban League, Rebuilding Together Baltimore and Gensler.

From the three finalists, judges will select the best business renovation design, and the winner will be announced on Aug. 1. The winner will receive a reception at their business along with a recognition award. The public will also get to vote for the best renovation design, and the winner of the public vote will be announced on Aug. 6 at the National Urban League's annual conference in Baltimore.

### About the Finalists

- **Cuties on Duty LLC** is a fashion retailer that sells jewelry, clothing, accessories and body care products including soaps and lotions. Located in the Avenue Market, Cuties on Duty has been in business for four years and provides customers with an affordable place to shop for special events. Through the Wells Fargo Works Neighborhood Renovation Program, co-owners Chrystal and Myra Boykins hope to update their current store by organizing inventory and merchandise storage, improve lighting and display cases, and create a space to produce branded products onsite.
- **Celebrate US Gift Baskets and Parties** is a company built on celebrating the lives and occasions of everyone. Celebrate Us captures the milestones and memories of every celebration including birthdays, baby showers, anniversaries and wedding receptions. The company offers all-inclusive packages that

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feature setup, decorations, cleanup, games and a well-crafted custom made gift basket. Families work hard, and Celebrate Us recognizes their hard work by relieving them of the perils of party planning. Through the Wells Fargo Works Neighborhood Renovation Program, owner Lisa Phillips hopes to expand on the amenities and services that Celebrate US offers by improving the space to accommodate larger groups and redecorating the facility with a fresh, updated look.

- **Main Street Hats** specializes in classic and traditional hats and custom neckwear, and has been an anchor business on Greenmount Avenue in the Waverly neighborhood for seven years. Through the Neighborhood Renovation Program, co-owner Clyde Davis-El hopes to maximize the current store space with an updated floor plan, renovate the interior of the business to better showcase the selection of products, and refresh the exterior to complement the historic aesthetic of the neighborhood.

Designed to help improve eligible Baltimore small businesses, Wells Fargo launched the Neighborhood Renovation Program in collaboration with the National Urban League, a civil rights organization dedicated to economic empowerment; Rebuilding Together Baltimore, a premier nonprofit housing organization; and Gensler, a global architecture, design, and planning firm. Gensler will collaborate with the three finalists to provide visual improvements to merchandising and/or physical renovations to the interior or exterior of their businesses. Volunteers managed by Rebuilding Together Baltimore will implement the renovations.

Wells Fargo serves approximately 3 million small business owners across the United States and loans more money to America's small businesses than any other bank (2002-2014 CRA government data). To help more small businesses achieve financial success, in 2014 Wells Fargo introduced Wells Fargo Works for Small Business<sup>®</sup> – a broad initiative to deliver resources, guidance and services for business owners – and a goal to extend \$100 billion in new lending to small businesses by 2018.

## **About Wells Fargo**

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.8 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through 8,700 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet ([wellsfargo.com](http://wellsfargo.com)) and mobile banking, and has offices in 36 countries to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 265,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 30 on Fortune's 2015 rankings of America's largest corporations. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially. Wells Fargo perspectives are also available at [Wells Fargo Blogs](#) and [Wells Fargo Stories](#).