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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BIDEAWEE ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF ITS 8th ANNUAL
LOVE YOUR PET ART CONTEST**

Westhampton, NY, March 2, 2016 – Bideawee Inc. announces the winners of its *Love Your Pet Art Contest*. Young artists from more than 30 schools throughout Long Island in grades 1-12 participated in the annual event by expressing artistic talent to convey their love for animals. Winners were selected by public vote of those who attended the Art Expo exhibition of submitted artwork held at the Bideawee Westhampton Campus from February 6 – 12, 2016.

More than 500 area students submitted artwork in various mediums, including drawings, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Bideawee received 300 art entries from students in grades 1 through 8. More than 200 high school students in grades 9 to 12 submitted photography images of people and their pets. Students were encouraged to share their artistic entries directly with Bideawee, while many teachers at Long Island schools submitted art work created by their entire class for display at the Art Expo.

Bideawee *Love Your Pet* contest winners are:

Elementary School (1-2 and 3-4)

- Abigail Bigora, Remsenberg-Speonk Elementary School, Grade 2
- Valeria Nazaretski, East Moriches Elementary School, Grade 3

Middle School (5-6 and 7-8)

- Chloe Keil, James H. Boyd Intermediate School, (Huntington), Grade 5
- Michelle Kryl, Westhampton Beach Middle School, Grade 8

High School (9-12)

- Emma Hargraves, Westhampton Beach High School, Grade 9

Bideawee has selected the drawing submissions by Michelle Kryl of a huggable puppy and Rhianna Eppler of her beautiful cat to appear on Mailing Labels that will be delivered to its more than 30,000 supporters. (attached image)

About Bideawee:

Bideawee, which means "stay awhile," in Scottish, is one of the country's oldest and most respected animal welfare and pet adoption organizations. Founded in 1903, Bideawee has been cultivating and supporting the life-long relationships between pets and the people that love them for more than 100 years. Bideawee provides an array of high touch services including adoption centers, animal hospitals, pet therapy programs, and pet memorial parks that serve pets and pet lovers on their lifelong journey together. Bideawee is a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 humane animal organization and 100% of Bideawee's funding comes from private sources. Bideawee operates one facility in New York City and two on Long Island, one in Wantagh, and one in Westhampton. For more information visit: www.bideawee.org.

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