MINI U.S. Press Information



For Release: January 28, 2014

Contact: Nathalie Bauters MINI Communications Manager 201-930-3166 nathalie.bauters@miniusa.com

> Rob Duda Peppercomm 908-347-1243 rduda@peppercomm.com

MINI USA SELECTS FINALISTS FOR "FINAL TEST TEST DRIVES"

Ten current and past owners to live out their fantasy test drive in the new MINI

- Contest asked owners to submit how they would test drive the new MINI
- Ten winners will now live out their test drive experience and design a brand new "MINI Originals" package
- MINI community will vote on their favorite and the winning package will be available for order on MINIUSA.com and at select dealerships

Woodcliff Lake, NJ – January 28, 2014... The results are in! MINI USA has selected ten finalists, including one "Fan Favorite" voted on by the MINI community, to live out their <u>Final Test Test Drive</u>. Past and present MINI owners dreamed up and submitted photos and videos of their dream test drive as part of the contest to launch the new MINI Hardtop.

MINI USA Mailing address

PO Box 1227 Westwood, NJ 07675-1227

Office address 300 Chestnut Ridge Road Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677-7731

> Telephone (201) 930-3166

Fax (201) **307-3607**

> Internet MINIUSA.com

Printed on Recycled Paper

In their submissions, past and present owners were asked to highlight what features of the new MINI Hardtop they are most revved up about testing before the third generation of the iconic MINI arrives at dealerships in the spring.

And the winners are:

- Brian and Michelle Colvard Houston, TX (People's Choice)
- Alex Coyle Virginia Beach, VA
- Ryan George Evington, VA
- Thomas Grinton, Chicago, IL
- Holly Holmes Houston, TX
- Thomas Lhamon Flat Rock, MI
- Adrienne Ray Methuen, MA
- Chris Revelle Atlanta, GA

- Rebecca Smith Chicago, IL
- Ann Yueh Corona, CA

These 10 finalists will each have the experience of a lifetime when MINI USA makes their test drive come to life this February. The test drives will also be captured on video and shared with the MINI community at a later date.

Each Final Test Test Drive finalist will also have the opportunity to work with an illustrator to create a brand new "MINI Originals" package. The MINI community will then vote on the designs and one lucky winner's package will be available for order on MINIUSA.com and at select dealerships across the country.

"We gave the MINI community the unique opportunity to experience the new MINI Hardtop however they wanted, and to test whatever features were most exciting to them," said Tom Salkowsky, Department Head, MINI USA Marketing. "The response has been overwhelming and it was amazing to see how creative our community was in their submissions. We can't wait to see the custom designs they will turn out next month."

Over 800 entries were received during the 25-day submission phase. Friends and fans then had the opportunity to view each submission and vote for their favorite. MINI USA received over 11,000 votes in less than four days. The fan favorite automatically received a spot among the top ten finalists. The remaining winners were selected by members of the MINI USA product and marketing teams.

To view the top ten Final Test Test Drives finalists and their entries visit <u>www.MINIFTTD.com</u>.

About MINI in the US

MINI is an independent brand of the BMW Group. In the United States, MINI USA operates as a business unit of BMW of North America, LLC, located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey and includes the marketing and sales organizations for the MINI brand. The MINI USA sales organization is represented in the U.S. through a network of 119 MINI passenger car dealers in 38 states. MINI USA began selling vehicles in the U.S. in 2002 with the introduction of the MINI Cooper and MINI Cooper S Hardtops. Since then, the MINI Brand in the U.S. has grown to encompass a model range of seven unique vehicles.

Journalist notes: Media information about MINI and its products is available to journalists on-line at <u>www.miniusanews.com</u>.

Consumer information about MINI products is available via the internet at: <u>www.MINIUSA.com</u>.