TOP TEENS OF AMERICA

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

THE VOICE

SPRING / SUMMER EDITION
2020

Sponsored by
TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

▪ TABLE OF CONTENT ▪

CONTENT **PAGE**

Newsletter Editor & Committee 3

National Officers / Committee Chairs 4

Top Teen History 5

Greetings ..... 6 - 12

Class of 2020 Graduating Seniors ..... 13 - 35

Teen Spotlights ..... 36 – 78

Literacy Corner ..... 79 - 81

Financial Tips 82

Etiquette On the Move 83

Area TTA Advisors, Presidents & News ..... 84 – 107

To Make You Laugh 108

Thought of the Month / Chaplain's Corner 109

Healthy Tips For Teens 110

Fundraising Ideas / Scholarships 111

TTA Membership Drive 112

Awards Recognition ..... 113 – 117

Did You Know? 118

Summer Dates To Remember ..... 119 – 122

▪ Message from the Editor ▪

My name is Faith Chambers and I am a second generation Top Teen and the granddaughter of a Top Lady (Joanne Lewis) and Lord (Clarence Lewis). I am honored to serve as your TTA National Editor of "The Voice." As a Top Teen, I would like to exercise my "editor's liberty" by supporting fellow Teens and sharing with you some of my positive experiences. Through participation and attending Top Teen Conferences, I have cultivated close friendships. Let's face it… this COVID 19 quarantine has been extremely difficult and my fellow Top Teens have bonded even tighter through adversity. On any given night, I am face timing, texting, and talking on the phone to other Top Teens, as we anticipate seeing each other at upcoming conferences. Also, this is my brother's first year in Top Teens and I am paving the way for him to get active immediately and start considering leadership roles. As you read through this edition of The Voice, I hope you will be inspired by the works, accomplishments, volunteerism, and resilience within our organization, even during a time of world-wide crisis. This amazing organization continues to positively impact the lives of so many and I am proud to be a part of that movement.

Teen Faith Alexandria Chambers
Dayton Chapter President
TTA National Corresponding Secretary
TTA National Editor of "The Voice"

TTA Newsletter Committee Members

National Asst. TTA Director: Lady Vickie Henry Hughes
National TTA President: Teen Amari Venzor
TTA Newsletter Chair: Teen Amber Campbell
Editor of "The Voice:" Teen Faith Chambers
Editor of "The Crown:" Teen Bryson Baggett
National TTA Historian: Teen Makai Snell
Area I: Teen Jaydon Senegal
Area II: Teen Jamie Davis
Area III: Teen Cassidy Casanova
Area IV: Teen Reagan Collins
Area V: Teen Naja Stokes
Area VI: Teen Quinn Gordon-Freel

▪ TTA & TLOD National Officers ▪

Top Teens of America

Teen Amari Venzor	National TTA President
Teen Quiana Morris	National TTA 1st Vice President
Teen Amber Campbell	National TTA 2nd Vice President
Teen Shania Adkisson	National TTA Recording Secretary
Teen Madisyn Starks	National TTA Assistant Recording Secretary
Teen Faith Chambers	National TTA Corresponding Secretary
Teen Ashton Bryant Parker	National TTA Financial Secretary
Teen David Range	National TTA Asst Financial Secretary
Teen Stephen Smith	National TTA Treasurer
Teen Makai Snell	National TTA Historian
Teen Faith Chambers	National Editor of the Voice
Teen Zakiah Carpenter	National TTA Chaplain
Teen Jasmin Forbes	National TTA Parliamentarian
Teen Stephawn Easley	National Sergeant-at-Arms
Teen Disuuri Suidi	National Director of Operations

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

Lady Sharon J Beard	National President
Lady Eddie Lee Marsh	National 1st Vice President
Lady Jacqueline Wilcher	National 2nd Vice President
Lady DiAnn Robinson	National Recording Secretary
Lady Rhonda Harris	National Corresponding Secretary
Lady Cheryl Williams	National Financial Secretary
Lady Versonya DuPont	National Treasurer
Lady Betty Edwards	National Asst Financial Secretary
Lady Kendra Gillespie	National TTA Director
Lady Vickie Henry Hughes	National Asst TTA Director
Lady Alice Grigsby	National Historian
Lady Regina Dickson	National Editor of the Crown
Lady Valencia Edner	National Chaplain
Lady Guessippinna Bonner	National Parliamentarian
Lady Lisa Charles-Jordan	National Sergeant-at-Arms
Lady Yolande Bankston	National Director of Operations
Lady Annie Mouton	National Area I Director
Lady Sandra Clark	National Area II Director
Lady Stephanie Dunn	National Area III Director
Lady Adrienne Boner	National Area IV Director
Lady Roxyanne Burrus	National Area V Director
Lady Wanda Beauman	National Area VI Director
Lady Sandra Jeffery	National Executive Asst to the President

▪ TTA & TLOD National Committee Chairs ▪

Teen Akira Brown	Senior Citizens Chair
Teen Alaina Randolph	Status of Women Chair
Teen Dawn Earls	Beautification Chair
Teen Jadyn McCoy	Community Partnership Chair
Teen Quiana Morris	Program of Work Chair
Teen Amber Campbell	Project Chair
Teen Jasmine Forbes	ByLaws Chair
Teen Stephen Smith	Finance Chair
Teen Taylor Goar Johnson	Membership Chair
Teen Bryson Baggett	Public Relations/ Information Chair
Teen Storm Hyden	Awards Chair
Teen Paige Allen	March of Dimes Chair
Teen Kalyssa Gillespie	National Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Chair
TBD	Recommendation Chair
TBD	Resolution Chair
Teen Jamie Davis	TTA National NAACP Chair
Teen Brooke Brinson	TTA National NCNW Chair
Teen Zoe Spillman	TTA UNCF Chair
Teen Journee Morgan	TTA National St. Jude's Chair
Teen Madison Conerly	TTA TLOD Literacy Chair
Teen Jaden Foreman	TTA Nominating Committee Chair

Lady Margaret Rogers	Senior Citizens Chair
Lady Rosalyn Lewis	Status of Women Chair
Lady Nicole Williams	Beautification Chair
Lady Annetra Piper	Community Partnership Chair
Lady Eddie Lee Marsh	Program of Work Chair
Lady Jacqueline Wilcher	Project Chair
Lady Guissippina Bonner	ByLaws Chair
Lady Versonaya DuPont	Finance Chair
Lady Mary Hunter	Membership Chair
Lady Latricia Woods	Public Relations/ Information Chair
Lady Deloris Hall	Awards Chair
Lady Kym Elder	March of Dimes Chair
Lady Tracy Reed	National Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Chair
Lady Mary Louise Batiste	Recommendation Chair
Lady Marsha Wells	Resolution Chair
Lady Stephanie Owens	National NAACP Chair
Lady Mollie Williams	National NCNW Chair
Lady Yolanda Austin	UNCF Chair
Lady Marvis Merritt	National St. Jude's Chair
Lady Beverly Byrd	TLOD Literacy Chair
Lady Mary Leach Davis	Nominating Committee Chair

▪ Top Teens of America History ▪

In 1964, the eight founders of Top Ladies of Distinction (TLOD) Inc.'s primary objective was to help alleviate the moral and social problems engulfing the youth in our communities. This was done via a youth organization. In 1968, while meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, the membership of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. decided that the group should have an official name. Lady Cordelia Mackey, President of the Texarkana Twin City Chapter, suggested the name of **Top Teens of America**. The name was adopted.

In 1969, there was a need to form a Top Teens of America group in each chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction. A committee was appointed and resultantly, the first National Top Teens of America convention was organized.

The Houston Chapter of Top Ladies and Top Teens hosted a meeting to organize the National Top Teens. Teen representatives from all Top Teens of America chapters were in attendance. Under the guidance of the first National Director of Top Teens of America, Lady Willie Lee Glass, the first National Convention of Top Teens of America was held in Houston, Texas in 1969. Over 300 Top Teens were in attendance.

Top Teen Harnell Price of the Rose City Chapter, Tyler, Texas, was elected as the first National TTA President. At this convention, the purposes of TTA were defined.

The TTA projects have expanded over the years to include:

- Participation in the NAACP
- Sickle Cell Disease Awareness
- Participation in the UNCF
- March of Dimes
- Participation in NCNW
- Mentoring Program/TLC
- Participation in the TLOD Literacy Program

In 1983, the TTA program was further expanded to include a collaborative project with the National Foundation March of Dimes. The program was known as Teens Outreach Program and Service (TOPS), a peer education program, designed to inform our teens about drugs, alcohol abuse, sexually transmitted disease and birth defects through workshops, seminars and conferences. Parents were encouraged to participate. TOPS through education has also enabled youth to make critical decisions regarding their lives.

In 1996, the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation and Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. extended its youth peer education through a newly developed program known as Healthy Choices: Your Future and You. A TTA/MOD guide was written and circulated to all TLOD chapters to assist them with implementation of this health conference program. The major purpose of this program focuses on leadership development, critical decision making, adolescent health issues, and the support of Walk America.

The "Me and My Mentor" program was initiated in 1995. Every Top Lady was encouraged to personally touch the lives of Top Teens through one-on-one nurturing and the development of relationships that foster mutual trust and respect.

Since 1968, thousands of youth in secondary schools, nationally and internationally, have benefited from membership in Top Teens of America.

▪ Greetings | National TTA President ▪

Greetings!

As the National TTA President, I would like to welcome you to the 2020 Spring/Summer edition of The Voice, our National Top Teens of America Newsletter. Top Teens of America is an illustrious organization with a deep history spanning over five decades of achievement, accomplishment and acclamation. Our newsletter provides us with a "voice" to capture historic TTA moments – where we as Teens have an opportunity to tell our story. As Drake and Future would say, "What a Time to Be Alive!"

As you read highlights from our Areas and learn about the Class of 2020, reflect on the mission and values of our National TTA Program of Work, ExCEL (Excellence through Culture, Education and Leadership), which serves as a source of guidance and encouragement for each of us to be the best version of ourselves. As stated in Matthew 5:16, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." In Top Teens of America, we will always remember to be beacons of light and strive for excellence in school, during work, at home and in our everyday lives.

Thank you to all the Top Teens throughout the country for your hard work in your chapters, and in your communities. As we face uncertain times, I get excited when I see all the progress we've made. From Areas 1 to 6, we continue to uphold our motto, "Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow." Enjoy this edition of *The Voice* and continue to be the best YOU that only YOU can be!

Yours in Service,

Teen Amari Venzor

National TTA President

▪ Greetings | National TLOD President ▪

Dear Members of Top Teens of America,

We started off this extraordinary year in the life of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.; the parent organization of Top Teens of America, with a robust economy, a bright economic future and working to fulfill the mission of our glorious organization.

In the space of a few weeks, we experienced the COVID-19 pandemic, saw the hard braking of the economy as health and safety measures were implemented and have witnessed the largest government stimulus package ever. Government, the business community, social service agencies and health care providers are working hard to respond to the pandemic, care for our community and restart our economy.

In these difficult times, we continue to spotlight the amazing accomplishments of Top Teens of America. Their "can do" spirit teaches the Top Teens to step forward within their own various communities and rise to the challenge. And still, they rise!

While there have been many changes in the world, Top Teens of America and our communities will remain strong, resilient and visionary. Please peruse this 1st edition of the TTA Voice, written, edited and published by the Top Teens. Difficult days and challenging times are in front of us; but we will meet those challenges and remain the "can do" organization we are. We can do this together.

Lady Sharon J. Beard

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
National President

Greetings Top Teens

I am full of joy to extend heartfelt greetings for the 2020 first publication of the "Voice." The name "Voice" signifies our belief in the value of sponsoring Top Teens of America. We hear you and your voice is acknowledged. It is our charge as Top Ladies to encourage and mentor Top Teens through our structured programs and projects thereby promoting your development of cultural, moral, economic, social and educational qualities.

The "Voice" is your platform to showcase your creative talents, voice your concerns, develop leadership skills, impact your community positively, network with other Teens, and become a beacon of light for others to see.

Remember, as stated in Proverbs 15:23 – " A word spoken in due season, how good it is." This is your season and your voice; let your "Voice" speak courage and wisdom through these experiences that will be forever embedded in your lives.

Yours in Service,

Lady Eddie Lee Marsh

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
National 1st Vice President

Congratulations to the Top Teens of America on the publication of the "The Voice." You have done a phenomenal job with your creativity on this issue that truly embrace the TTA motto of "Participation is Our Foundation as Leaders of Tomorrow." I also offer my congratulations to our graduating seniors and salute your accomplishments. While I recognize that this pandemic is not the way you envisioned your senior year, you are living through an historic and unprecedented time. Please be encouraged that the "BEST is Yet to Come!" I pray for your continued success in the future as you begin your journey into adulthood.

To all members of Top Teens of America, your health and safety is paramount to us. While missing your friends and extra curriculum activities is not fun, it's important to remember that this will not last forever! Think about the things that you can control and take this opportunity to spend time with your family while you take care of your health. You will also have something to share with your children someday when they start complaining about "not having anywhere to go!"

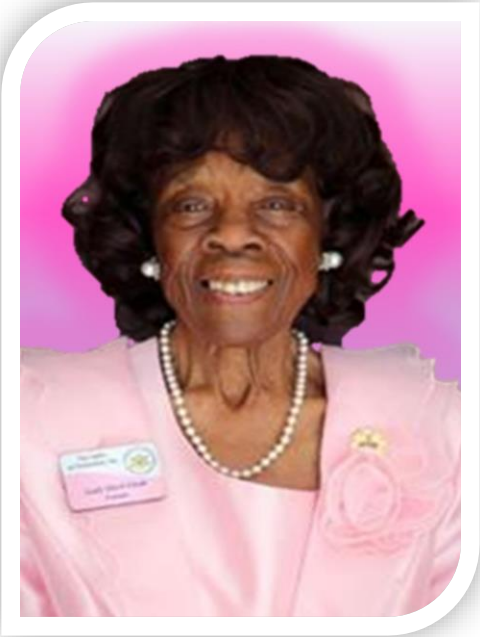
God is a Great God and can do anything but fail. Therefore, no matter the circumstance, we Top Ladies and Top Teens will continue our service to the community with joy, excitement, and zeal aligning to our National Theme of "Celebrating our Legacy: Transforming Lives and Making a Difference One Teen, One Lady and One Community at a Time (TLC)!"

Yours in service,

Lady Jacqueline L. Wilcher

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
National 2nd Vice President

▪ Greetings | TLOD Founder ▪



Greetings To My Beloved Top Teens:

It is indeed an honor to recognize all teens who contributed to their teen focused newsletter "The Voice."

Congratulations to all graduating seniors – Class of 2020. We are so proud of you and know that you will enter the next phase of your life with precious memories of your positive experiences as a "Top Teen."

Top Teens have always been near and dear to my heart. As you continue your journey throughout life, always remember the "Top Teens" motto, "Participation is Our Foundation as Leaders of Tomorrow." Remain active in serving in our communities and continue to excel in life's adventures.

In the spirit of Abundant Love,

Lady Ozell M. Dean

Founder

▪ Greetings | National Top Teens Director ▪

Dear Teens, Ladies and Lords,

It is with great enthusiasm and excitement that I extend greetings to the entire TLOD family! As we usher in our new administration under the leadership of Lady Sharon Beard and Teen Amari Venzor, our National Presidents, let us be reminded of this administration's theme, "Celebrating our Legacy: Transforming Lives and Making a Difference...One Teen, One Lady and One Community at a Time (TLC)." Transformation begins with a shared vision – and a collective voice. The Voice allows our Teens to not only express themselves, but to showcase how their actions have truly made a difference in their communities.

ExCEL (Excellence through Culture, Education and Leadership), our National TTA Program of Work, provides our Teens a platform to explore, grow, and thrive. Our goal is to promote a unified TLOD/TTA culture and foster a collaborative environment to help our Teens achieve success in all that they do. We are in this journey together, striving for ExCELLENCE each step of the way.

Top Teens, you are the crowned jewels of our organization. You are our pride and joy. Remember the TTA motto, "Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow." During these uncertain times, be encouraged, and let God guide your steps. Let's raise our voices together to stay connected and engaged with the communities we serve, and with each other.

Thank you for all that you do!

Yours in service,

Lady Kendra

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
National Top Teens Director

Greetings:

Hello to all Top Teens of America and distinguished Top Teens Advisors. It is indeed a pleasure to serve as our National Assistant Top Teens Director. I have always enjoyed working with dedicated teens who are willing to serve in their communities.

I would like to congratulate our graduating seniors across the nation. We know that you will leave your incredible mark on all endeavors you seek.

Top Teens Advisors across the country have implemented creative and innovative ways for teens to communicate with each other and engage in virtual dialogue. The COVID – 19 pandemic has forced all of us to "think outside the box." With our outstanding leadership on all levels – chapter, area and national, we are determined to remain "Tops In Service."

Yours in Service,

Lady Vickie Henry Hughes

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
National Assistant Top Teens Director

PRESENTING

The Top Teens of America

Graduating Class of 2020

Area I

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

BEAUMONT CHAPTER

Teen Alton Avery, II
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Caleb Bobs
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Kaleb Brachett
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Joshua Buxie
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Whitney Gilmore
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Rylan Henson
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Da'lacia Jackson
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Kynnedi Jackson
Beaumont Chapter

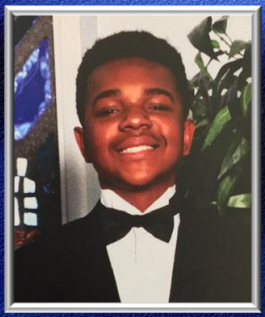
Teen Korrie Jolivet
Beaumont Chapter

Teen Tiana Linson
Beaumont Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Robert Anderson
Teen Malik Byrd
Teen Nancy Smith
Beaumont Chapter

DALLAS CHAPTER

Teen Makayla Anderson
Dallas Chapter

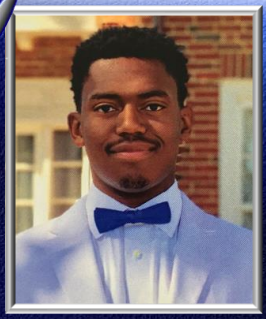

Teen Alexander Ibe
Dallas Chapter

Teen Madison Johnson
Dallas Chapter

Area I

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020



Teen Alfred Lintz, III
Dallas Chapter

Teen Hannah Selders
Dallas Chapter

Teen Ashlyn Simmons
Dallas Chapter

Teen Zuri Williams
Dallas Chapter

Teen Kira D. Willis
Dallas Chapter

EL PASO CHAPTER

Teen Jaylin Gilley
El Paso Chapter

HUMBLE INTERCON-TINENTAL CHAPTER

Teen Kayla Adkins
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Katrae Berry
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Amyah Gabriel
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Kaitlan Gray
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Kiersten Joe
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Hannah Rubin
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Joshua Sam
Humble IC Chapter

Teen Reginald Stephens
Humble IC Chapter

Area I

▪ Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Chiquita Thompson
Humble IC Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Maddyson Barron
Teen Logan Goodman

Humble IC Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Sidney Jones
Teen Jahi Walker

Humble IC Chapter

LAKE HOUSTON CHAPTER

Teen Jadon Elmore
Lake Houston Chapter

Teen Rebecca Jackson
Lake Houston Chapter

Teen Dylan Mitchison
Lake Houston Chapter

LUFKIN CHAPTER

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Shalyn Hadnot
Teen Precious Humphries

Lufkin Chapter

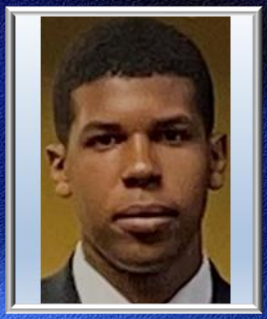
NOT SHOWN:
Teen Kaelin Morris

Lufkin Chapter

NONPAREIL CHAPTER

Teen Kaitlin Mars
Nonpareil Chapter

Teen Tristan Matthew
Nonpareil Chapter



Teen Dominic Morgan
Nonpareil Chapter

Teen Julian Sam - Marcelle
Nonpareil Chapter

PORT ARTHUR CHAPTER

Area I

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Frazier Gilmore
Port Arthur Chapter

Teen My'Reaka Maxwell
Port Arthur Chapter

Teen Taylor Getwood
Port Arthur Chapter

PRAIRIE VIEW CHAPTER

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Keshawn Hawkins
Teen Shira Patton
Teen Shakalia Simons

Prairie View Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Ayeshia Smith
Teen Jarius Turner

Prairie View Chapter

ROSE CITY CHAPTER

Teen Javion Caffey
Rose City Chapter

Teen Kimaja Nauls
Rose City Chapter

SAN ANTONIO METRO-POLITAN CHAPTER

Teen Arianna Clark
San Antonio Metro Chapter

SPRING-CYPRESS CHAPTER

Teen Bianca Madison Davis
Spring-Cypress Chapter

Teen Jalene Evans
Spring-Cypress Chapter

Teen Bryan McKinney
Spring-Cypress Chapter

Teen Kolby Phillips
Spring-Cypress Chapter

Area I

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Jalen Taylor
Spring-Cypress Chapter

Teen Madison Williams
Spring-Cypress Chapter

SUBURBAN BAYOU CHAPTER

Teen Bria Booker
Suburban Bayou Chapter

Teen Baron Bradley II
Suburban Bayou Chapter

Teen Lauren Collier
Suburban Bayou Chapter

Teen Kayla Jarvis
Suburban Bayou Chapter

Teen Bryce Robinson
Suburban Bayou Chapter

SUGAR VALLEY CHAPTER

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Brayan Baker
Teen Kaitlyn Broussard
Teen Lean Clemons

Sugar Valley Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen India Crook
Teen Kacie Dunbar
Teen Zoe Essia
Teen Donal Givens

Sugar Valley Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Caleb Howard
Teen Eric Mays
Teen Nigel McKinney

Sugar Valley Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Brandon Shackelford
Teen Carli Smith

Sugar Valley Chapter

Congratulations

Area II

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

DALE CITY CHAPTER

Teen Jordyn Strange
Dale City Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Joselyn Jones
Teen Josiah Jones
Teen Jana Riley
Teen Keisharia Watts

Dale City Chapter

HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER

Teen Amari Whittaker
Hampton Roads Chapter

Teen Taylor McCoy
Hampton Roads Chapter

HAYMARKET-GAINESVILLE CHAPTER

Teen Phallyn Dingle
Haymarket-GV Chapter

Teen Kiana Mitchell
Haymarket-GV Chapter

Teen Safyque xRichardson
Haymarket-GV Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Michael Kinsel
Teen Sallyse xRichardson

Haymarket-GV Chapter

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER

Teen Chade' Herring
Montgomery County Chapter

PATUXENT RIVER CHAPTER

Teen Jania Pemberton
Patuxent River Chapter

Teen Kennedy Ridley
Patuxent River Chapter

Area II

▪ Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow ▪

CLASS OF 2020

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CHAPTER

Teen Kendall Andrews
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Kamerin Collins
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Madison Crimes
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Anisa Fulwood
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Marcus Garvin
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Carrington Jones
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Lola Odotula
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Mia Offutt
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Tertius Pierre
Prince GC Chapter

Teen Muhammed Zaid
Prince GC Chapter

SOUTHERN MARYLAND CHAPTER

Teen Kayla Berry
Southern MD Chapter

Teen Isabella Corradi
Southern MD Chapter

Teen LaMaree James
Southern MD Chapter

Teen Janae Talley
Southern MD Chapter

Area II

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

Teen Olivea Varlas
Southern MD Chapter

TRENTON CHAPTER

Teen Ciera Diggs
Trenton Chapter

CLASS OF 2020

Congratulations Teens

Area III

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

CARDINAL CHAPTER

Teen Rashod Austin
Cardinal Chapter

Teen Kristian Johnson
Cardinal Chapter

Teen Cydney Perkins
Cardinal Chapter

CONFLUENCE CHAPTER

Teen Alexis Carrasquillo
Confluence Chapter

Teen Lily-Anna Harris
Confluence Chapter

Teen Alexis Kemp
Confluence Chapter

EVERGREEN PARK CHICAGO CHAPTER

Teen Andre Bennett
Evergreen PC Chapter

Teen Rhayna Berryhill
Evergreen PC Chapter

Teen Autumn Caldwell
Evergreen PC Chapter

Teen Imani Joseph
Evergreen PC Chapter

Teen Zachary Matthews
Evergreen PC Chapter

Teen Akela Whit
Evergreen PC Chapter

LINCOLN PARK CHICAGO CHAPTER

Area III

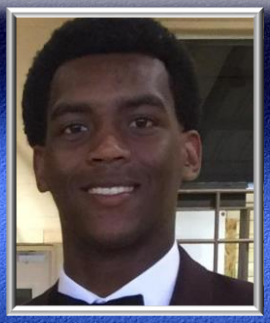
▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Cydnee Dotson
Lincoln PC Chapter

Teen Jacksyn-Symone Sallay
Lincoln PC Chapter

Teen Jordan Martin
Lincoln PC Chapter



Teen Jared Sullivan
Lincoln PC Chapter

MIDWAY CHICAGO CHAPTER

Eric Clopton Jr.
Midway Chicago Chapter

Simone Graham
Midway Chicago Chapter

Ramaya Johnson
Midway Chicago Chapter

Khaliya Muhammad
Midway Chicago Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Justin Threatt

Midway Chicago Chapter

MILWAUKEE CHAPTER

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Acia Clark
Teen Gabriel Folds
Teen Cameron Givens

Milwaukee Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Treyvon Hamberlin
Teen Timmeya Kinzey

Milwaukee Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Robert Levy Jr

Milwaukee Chapter

SOUTH SUBURBAN CHICAGO CHAPTER

Teen Erin Everett
South SC Chapter

Area III

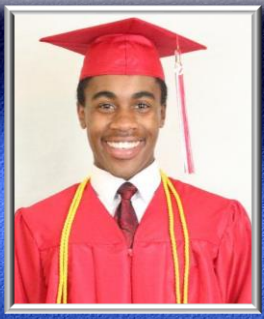
▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Jaylen Greene
South SC Chapter

Teen Zora Hunter
South SC Chapter

Teen Jaylah Rather
South SC Chapter



Teen John Russell
South SC Chapter

Teen Karli Thomas
South SC Chapter

Teen Jeremy Wesley
South SC Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Arianna Brown
Teen Ania Staples

South SC Chapter

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

NOT SHOWN:

Teen Katelyn Peters

St. Louis Chapter

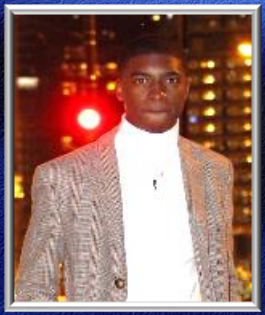
WILL COUNTY BLACK DIAMOND CHAPTER

Teen Javari Alderson
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Chiquerra Brown
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Braxton Davis
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Dominic Ford
Will County BD Chapter

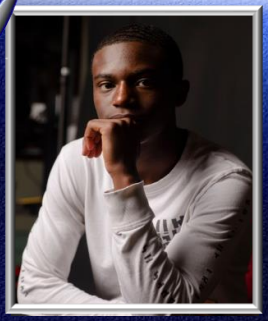


Teen Tremaine Gardner, Jr.
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Dion Giddens
Will County BD Chapter

Area III

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪



Teen Matthew Halliman
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Areion Johnson
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Asia McLemore
Will County BD Chapter

Teen Dennis Williams
Will County BD Chapter

CLASS OF 2020

Congratulations Teens

Area IV

▪ Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow ▪

CLASS OF 2020

AUGUSTA CHAPTER

Teen Kellsi Bryant
Augusta Chapter

Teen Karla Thomas
Augusta Chapter

Teen Skylar Walters
Augusta Chapter

BIRMING-HAM CHAPTER

Teen Zanya Scott
Birmingham Chapter

BRYAN LIBERTY CHAPTER

Teen Khalea Sapp Brown
Bryan Liberty Chapter

COCOA BREVARD CHAPTER

Teen Takirra Hawkins
Cocoa Brevard Chapter

Teen Daylyn Randolph
Cocoa Brevard Chapter

Teen Sequoia Wade
Cocoa Brevard Chapter

EFFINGHAM CHAPTER

Teen Anthony Bowman
Effingham Chapter

Teen Yasmin Devore
Effingham Chapter

Teen Ariyah Johnson
Effingham Chapter

Area IV

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Shabrea Wallace
Effingham Chapter

Teen TaKara Wallace
Effingham Chapter

FLORENCE CHAPTER

Teen Halle Imanue Bruns
Florence Chapter

Teen Shontasia Sarah Davis
Florence Chapter

Teen Kayla Bryana Smith
Florence Chapter

GUILFORD COUNTY CHAPTER

Teen Reginald Hardy
Guilford County Chapter

Teen Makiya Palmer
Guilford County Chapter

Teen Jamison Wilson
Guilford County Chapter

JACKSON CHAPTER

Teen Nathan A. Lumas
Jackson Chapter

Teen Dominic Phillips
Jackson Chapter

Teen Allenton Thorpe
Jackson Chapter

MIAMI CHAPTER

3 GRADUATES SHOWN ON PAGE 31

Miami Chapter

Area IV

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

NEWROCK CHAPTER

Teen John Brown IV
NewRock Chapter

Teen Keishawn Lacrette
NewRock Chapter

Teen Jacoby Lawson
NewRock Chapter

Teen Adrianna McLeod
NewRock Chapter

Teen Mya Wilson
NewRock Chapter

NORTH ATLANTA CHAPTER

Teen Neriyan Brown
North Atlanta Chapter

QUEEN CITY CHAPTER

Teen Maurice Clarke
Queen City Chapter

RALEIGH CHAPTER

Teen Amber Coleman
Raleigh Chapter

Teen Autumn Coleman
Raleigh Chapter

Teen Khysawn Kenard Johnson
Raleigh Chapter

Teen Kayla Melvin
Raleigh Chapter

Teen Breya Robinson
Raleigh Chapter

Area IV

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Alicia Yodlowsky
Raleigh Chapter

SAVANNAH CHAPTER

Teen Zoé Bailey
Savannah Chapter

Teen Danaaja Davis
Savannah Chapter

Teen Devonte Delegal
Savannah Chapter

Teen TaShaun Glover
Savannah Chapter

Teen William Glover
Savannah Chapter

Teen Kyra Harris
Savannah Chapter

Teen Janieya Houston
Savannah Chapter

Teen Nate Moon
Savannah Chapter

Teen Kristian Price
Savannah Chapter

Teen Julia Roland
Savannah Chapter

Teen Chloe Screen
Savannah Chapter

Teen Makayla Smoak
Savannah Chapter

Teen Alexis Wright
Savannah Chapter

TIPTON COUNTY CHAPTER

Area IV

▪ Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Farraday Johnson
Tipton County Chapter

Teen Javion Lightfoot
Tipton County Chapter

NOT SHOWN:

Teen Destiny Smith

Tipton County Chapter

WENDELL CHAPTER

Teen Joiden Boddie
Wendell Chapter

Teen Zachary Dobbin
Wendell Chapter

Teen Camille High
Wendell Chapter

Teen Danielle Rogers
Wendell Chapter

WINSTON-SALEM CHAPTER

Teen Jaden Baldwin
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Trinity Barr
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Najashi Belcher
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Aria Bryson
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Maurice Cager
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Aaliyah Foskey
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Jordynn Foster
Winston-Salem Chapter

Area IV

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Gregory E. Gordon
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Brania Higgs
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Joshua McCravey
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen LaShayla Stephens
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Ryann Stephens
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen Jhanee' Welch
Winston-Salem Chapter

AREA IV

Teen Leah Edwards
Effingham Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Nyle Gaines
Teen Michaela Gaithings
Teen Zariah Greene

Raleigh Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Jaelyn Jones
Teen William Lee
Teen Meisha Mumford

Raleigh Chapter

NOT SHOWN:
Teen Christian Powell
Teen David Mathias Williams

Raleigh Chapter

Teen Gabrielle Darbeau
Miami Chapter

Teen Kendall Gaines
Miami Chapter

Teen Kaziyah Hall
Miami Chapter

Area V

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

CINCINNATI CHAPTER

Teen Etana Duling
Cincinnati Chapter

COLUMBUS CHAPTER

Teen Kierra Ruffin
Columbus Chapter

DETROIT CHAPTER

Teen Victor Jackson
Detroit Chapter

Teen Marcellus Metcalf
Detroit Chapter

Teen Tye Moore
Detroit Chapter

GREATER CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Teen Camarieon Jones
Greater Cleveland Chapter

Teen Kennady Robinson
Greater Cleveland Chapter

Teen Bryson Simpson
Greater Cleveland Chapter

INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER

Teen Xavier Goodson
Indianapolis Chapter

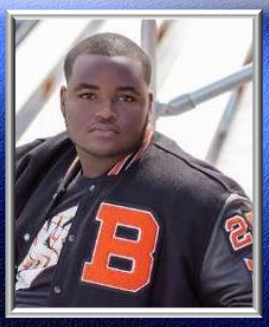
Teen Chandler Mcgruder
Indianapolis Chapter

Teen Kaleb Sherrell
Indianapolis Chapter

Area V

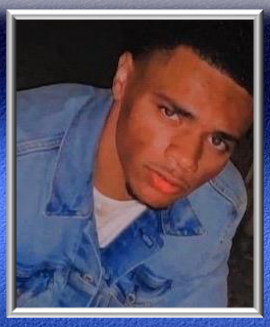
▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

MICHIGAN METRO CHAPTER



Teen Jason Johnson
Michigan Metro Chapter

Teen Keyon Morris
Michigan Metro Chapter



Teen Mitchell Quinn
Michigan Metro Chapter

CLASS OF 2020

Congratulations Teens

Area VI

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

CARSON CHAPTER

Teen Crystal Anderson
Carson Chapter

Teen Nyla Modeliste
Carson Chapter

CITY OF ANGELS CHAPTER

Teen Nya Johnson
City of Angels Chapter

HUB CITY CHAPTER

Teen James Smith
Hub City Chapter

Teen Hadiyah Watson
Hub City Chapter

INGLEWOOD CHAPTER

Teen Rashad Britt
Inglewood Chapter

Teen Achanti Dixon
Inglewood Chapter

Teen Christopher McCreary
Inglewood Chapter

Teen Chloe Porter
Inglewood Chapter

LADERA HEIGHTS CHAPTER

Teen Mya Afflalo
Ladera Heights Chapter

Teen Kingsley Ekejiuba
Ladera Heights Chapter

Area VI

▪ *Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow* ▪

CLASS OF 2020

Teen Alayah Johnson
Ladera Heights Chapter

Teen Leilani Nichols
Ladera Heights Chapter

MOUNTAIN WEST CHAPTER

Teen Branden T. Crawford
Mountain West Chapter

STARLIGHT CHAPTER

Teen Casiana Lucero
Starlight Chapter

Teen Sullivan Thomas
Starlight Chapter

Teen Jayden Williams
Starlight Chapter

Congratulations Teens

TEEN SPOTLIGHT

▪ Teen Spotlight Area I ▪

Beaumont Chapter

Teen Kynnedi Jackson

Hello my name is Teen Kynnedi Sharee Jackson, I am the Student Body President at Beaumont United High School. I will be graduating in the top 4% of my class. I am a member of the National Honor Society Timberwolf Network, Key Club, District CTE Advisory Council, Beaumont Gift of Life Youth Council, Superintendant's Leadership Council, President of the NAACP Youth Chapter; Top Teens of America Beaumont Chapter; Phi Delta Kappa Xinos, past president of Delta Gems- Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. and I am a Neches River Festival Princess. I was crowned the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Alpha Omega Omega chapter Emeralds of Excellence Scholarship winner. I attend Mount Calvary Baptist Church where I am a member of the Usher Board and Youth Choir. Throughout my high school years, I have earned over 5, 000 Community Service hours. During Tropical Storm Imelda I created Operation Restoration and B.A.B.E.S. (Black and Brilliant Educated Scholars). I have been accepted into 30 plus Colleges and Universities. I am attending Southern University majoring in Biology focus in Forensic Investigations. My hobbies are cooking and helping others. My proudest moment is being crowned Beaumont United's Homecoming Queen. I have been told I have a smile that will brightens the sky, a personality that's full of love and a heart of pure gold...I am So Proud to be a 2020 Graduate I am also Very Proud and Excited to Annouce that I am a 2020 Coca Cola Scholar.....Nothing but God's Grace, Mercy, and Favor!!

Alton Avery, II

Hello, my name is Alton Avery, II. I am a 2020 honor graduate senior at Beaumont United High School. I participated in Student council for three years, homecoming court for three years and, a varsity cheerleader for three years. I am a 2x UCA All-America cheerleader. I hve been accepted to over 15 schools. I am attending Lamar University on scholarship to major in Dance/Theater. I was the 2019-2020 Mr. Top Teen of Beaumont Chapter, former 1st Vice President and chapter community partnerships chair and Area Status of Women chair. I have traveled to Area 1 and SynLod as a delegate. I won the 2020 Area 1 performing arts competition. In 2019 I was on the SynLod winning Black History Bowl team. I participate in the media, worship arts, children church ministry assistant teacher at Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church. I am currently 1st vice president of NAACP Youth Council Beaumont Chapter and Beaumont Kappa League. An award winning dancer, I am the principal dancer for the Revelation dance company as well as the Mariposa School of Dance. I have been a guest artist for the Woodlands Ballet for 2 years for their Nutcracker production. I have attended Debbie Allen Dance Academy's Summer intensive training for two years. Throughout my high school years, I have received over 4,000 community service hours. I will be a 2020 escort Neches River Festival. Ever since I was inducted into Top Teens of America, I established a long lasting line of connections and learning. I used to be very shy but once I joined Top Teens, my personality took a huge turnaround. With my parents' teachings, my village supporters, and the wonderful organization of Top Ladies of Distinction and Top Teens of America – Beaumont Chapter, , I have become a strong Black male ready to reach my goals. My experiences in Top Teens of America has help mold me into who I am today.

El Paso Chapter

Teen Lauren Owens

The El Paso Chapter female teen spotlight is Teen Lauren Owens. Teen Lauren is a five-year active member of the El Paso Chapter. Her duties as chapter president and charter member keep her busy but she also dedicates time to volunteer in her community. Lauren is a member of the Montwood Church of Christ Food Panty Ministry which distributes food and clothing to 200 families each month. Every third Thursday of each month, Lauren helps to assemble bags of non-perishable food stuff including canned goods and bags and boxes of pasta. Then, on the third Saturday of each month, she helps distribute the bags assisting those in need with carrying the bags to their vehicles or collecting information from the families. Lauren also teaches Sunday school and Kids for Christ for children ages 3 to 9. As a member of the Youth Ministry, Lauren, and the other church youth volunteer at the El Paso Food Bank and the local women and children shelters around the city.

Humble Intercontinental Chapter

Teen Courtnie Rawlins

Throughout my life, I have always had a love for helping others. The different organizations that I am apart of help me to fulfill this love. I enjoy working in my community doing anything I can to educate and help others around me. In my neighborhood, I enjoy helping at our annual neighbor nights out, easter egg hunt and everything else that we host. I also enjoy having playtime every day after school along with weekends with my furry animals. Having fun with my dogs has become one of many things I look forward to each day. I always appreciate the different people that God puts in my pathway. In my future, I look forward to practicing medicine and giving back to my community all at the same time.

Teen Kameron Kincheon

I am Kameron Kincheon and this is me. I was an internet baby, my mom and dad met online, fell in love, and decided to have me. On June 12, 2008, my mother Linda Davis passed away from a brain aneurysm. As a 5 year old, I knew she wasn't coming back but I didn't understand why she left me so early. From that point on it was just my dad and I. The next year I ended up playing the game I love to this day— football. It's been a journey and I owe much of my success to my dad because of the time, money, and headaches spent dealing with me. I have always made good grades and once my dad saw that I was able to achieve those grades, he pushed me to ALWAYS work for them. Soon I started tutoring kids. Sharing knowledge because I was able to understand the work doesn't have a price tag, so charging people for it doesn't even come to mind. I took part in several block cleanups in Settegast Heights, where I was involved in picking up trash with residents that live in the area. When time allows I go up to the Rehab Center in Humble and sit with patients just so they can have company to talk to and enjoy while going through their treatments. All of the community service opportunities, people I've met and other factors in my life have made me who I am today.

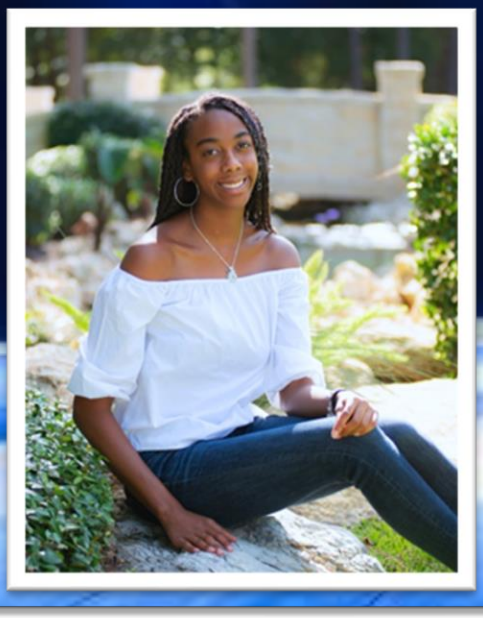
Lake Houston Chapter

Teen Rebecca Jackson

I am Teen Rebecca Jackson, a seventeen-year-old senior at Oak Ridge High. I enjoy swimming competitively and playing water polo as a goalie for a USA Club Team. Swimming has become my sport of choice since I was 6-years-old. I hold several records, and I am the recipient of over 45 medals and trophies.

My pastime is spent baking sweets, painting, and hanging out with friends. I have been an active member of the National Charity League (NCL) for six years, and I have served a total of 519 community service hours with them. My favorite volunteer activities include: the Angel Reach-Always Pursue, the Food Pantry at Interfaith, and Veggie Village. Additionally, I volunteer for a wide range of ministries at Impact Church. As the Youth Student Leadership Team President, I assist in the children's nursery, Vacation Bible School, and provide and prepare care packages to distribute to the homeless in Houston.

I have a passion for helping others and working with children. My future goals are to pursue a career in healthcare and become a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. I want to work with and provide necessary aid to children in high-risk communities. Even though I have been accepted to several colleges, my journey to reach my lifelong goal will begin in September 2020 when I enroll into the University of Texas at Arlington to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

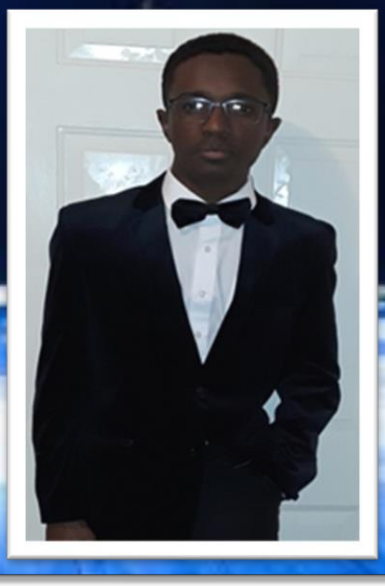


Teen Jadon Elmore

I am Jadon Michael Elmore, a seventeen-year-old Senior at CE King High School. As a typical teenager, I spend much of my time on my phone or laptop researching, studying and dreaming about tomorrow. Additionally, I spend countless hours volunteering at the Houston Food Bank (HFB), PEARL Program, Kashmere Kares (KK) and Blue Buddy (BB). With HFB, I helped sort and pack food, assemble boxes and load food into cars at various sites.

I am proud of the groups I support through volunteerism. Bi-weekly, I can be found assisting senior citizens with daily chores in their homes while listening to them reminisce about how the world has changed. For the past four years, I have sought donations for PEARL's Annual School Supply Drive. With the BB Program, I help teenagers with Autism adjust to new environments and schedules. I utilize Audio Visuals to communicate effectively. Also, I am a Sunday school Clerk at Mt. Rose Missionary Baptist Church.

My desires to make a difference and help others have landed me several recognitions. I was selected as Mr. Chosen Generation at Mt. Rose, and I am a 2020 Beau for the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Eta Lambda Chapter's Merit Beautillion. As a Beau, I recognize the importance of being financially stable, well rounded and giving back to my community.



Missouri City - Space City Chapter

Teen Angel Smith

Teen Angel Smith, past Chapter President, and past Area One Assistant Recording Secretary has also been an active member of The Girl Scouts 14 years. As a Girl Scout she has been able to cultivate leadership skills, discipline and work ethics. She is committed to volunteering and fostering lifelong friendships. In her Troop she serves on the Cadette Planning Board Committee. She has also served as a delegate. On several occasions she represented her Southbridge Community in voting on descion for council future activities and upcoming events. Angel has represented her county with honor. Angel has been a member of Foresters since 2010. During her early years she earned her silver and Bronze award She has volunteered with the Houston Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, the Ronald McDonald House, and a variety of back to school projects helping to pack back-packs with school supplies.

During the most recent Color Guard Ceremony Teen Angel Smith was honored with the community service award. Working with children is truly her passion as well as volunteering in several organizations with an emphasis on the development of children and creating essential programs.

Teen Chase Roberts

When Teen Chase Roberts is not serving as Top Teens of America Area One President or Director of Operations for the Missouri City-Space City Chapter, he serves as the lightening for the Texas Storm Track Team.

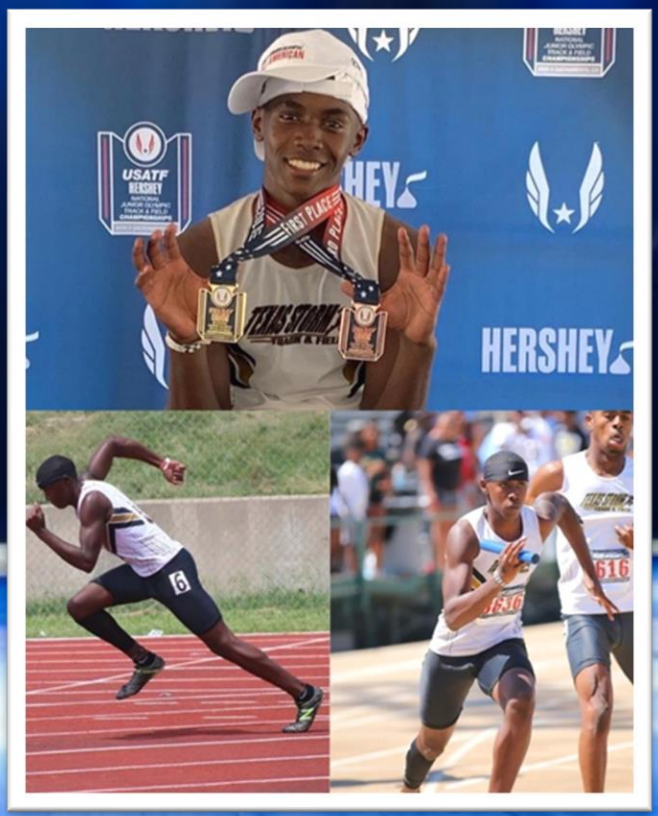
In July of 2019 at the National Jr. Olympics in Sacramento California in the heat of the day, during a record-breaking heatwave, this All-American Athlete had one focus in mind, the winners circle.

The starter shot the gun for the 400 races. Chase Roberts bolted down the lane like he had wheels on his feet. 47 seconds later he crossed the finish line.

Next was the 4x400. He was the 2nd leg lane 6

The hand off was as smooth as silk. With rockets on his heals and victory on his mind he secured the W for his team with a 30-meter gap between him and second place. The Gold was Eminent.

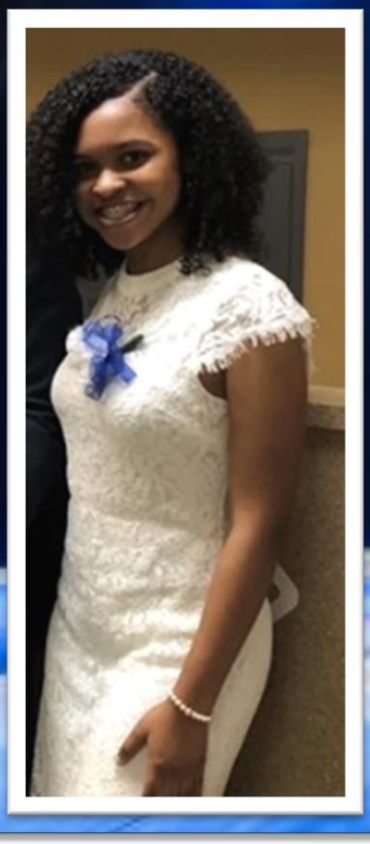
At the end of the day Chase Roberts stood in the winner's circle as a Jr. Olympic Silver Medalist in the open 400. The icing on the cake was when he stood at the top of the heap with his team as a Jr. Olympic Gold Medalist and an official All-American Athlete.



Nonpareil Chapter

Teen Jayda Morris

My name is Jayda Morris, I am 16 years old, a junior at the Madison Preparatory Academy, and I am the president of the Nonpareil chapter of Top Teens of America. Along with TTA, I am a member of the National Beta Club, Lambda Tau Youth Sorority Inc., Molly Myers Dance Academy, and the Greater Mount Carmel Baptist church youth ministry. I have been a part of TTA for about four years now going on five. What I like about being a top teen is the full experience. The community service projects, the meetings, the trips, the conferences, etc. My chapter, Nonpareil, and my fellow teens make giving back a fun and fulfilling experience. It is also exciting to meet and network with other teens from many different chapters. Top Teens of America has taught me that giving back comes in many different forms and that it's the little gestures that count. You don't have to donate hundreds of thousands of dollars to a charity in order to give back. If you sacrifice your time for a cause and contribute to it somehow, you are giving back. With TTA, my fellow teens and I have given back by face painting at festivals, speaking at events, distributing food and other items at events, etc. I also deeply enjoy interacting with all different types of people of different age groups and warming the hearts of those in need. TTA has overall been a beautiful and enlightening experience that I would recommend every teen to partake in!



Teen Christopher Honore

Teen Christopher Honore – Mr. Top Teen 2019 – 2020. Teen Christopher is son of the late Howard Honore' Jr and LaTrece Honore'. He is a junior at McKinley High School. His current grade point average 3.7. Teen Christopher is a great scholar's student and is honored to participate in the Talented Drama program. He attends Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, where he serves with the Junior Usher Ministry. Teen Christopher plays three instruments and is trying to master his craft in songwriting. He is really excited about attending college at either the University of Southern California or Millsaps College, where he will major in Business Management and minor in music. His favorite quote is "Difficult roads often lead to wonderful destinations…" and his favorite Bible verse is Psalm 118:24 – "This is the day that the LORD has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Prairie View Chapter

Teen Ayeshia Smith

September 20, 2019 was a day to remember for Ayeshia Smith. Ayeshia Smith, a member of the Prairie View Chapter Top Teens of America, became the 2019 Homecoming Queen for Hempstead High School in Hempstead, Texas. Teen Ayeshia Smith is a 2020 graduating senior and the proud daughter and granddaughter of Ms. Jokeisha Campbell and Ms. Ida Campbell respectively. Way to go Teen Ayeshia Smith!! Teen Ayeshia Smth is in the spotlight for the Prairie View Chapter because she is actively involved in not only Top Teens, but she is very active in school and church. In school, Teen Ayeshia was All Academic in basketball her junior and senior year of high school. In addition, she competes in the livestock show in both the Waller County Fair and Houston Livestock Show for the Future Farmers of America showing rabbits and pigs. In church, Ayeshia has been a member at Bethlehem United Methodist Church since her early childhood participating in both the youth praise dance and choir. Among other things, Ayeshia is just a well-rounded individual very respected amongst her peers.

Teen Jarius Turner

On the 27th of December 2019, Teen Jarius Turner of the Prairie View Chapter was one of eighteen men presented to society. While it is common for young women to be presented in a Debutante Ball, the young men are presented as well in what is commonly called a Beautillion Ball. The Missouri City Sugar Land Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated is celebrating its eighteenth Biennial year of the Beautillion Ball. With that being said, Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated founded in January of 1938 is an organization of mothers with children ranging in age between two and nineteen years of age whose primary focus is to stimulate growth and development and provide children constructive educational, cultural, civic, health, recreational and social programs. Since 1938, the organization continues on, dedicating its resources to improving the quality of life, particularly for all African-American children.

Currently, Teen Jarius Turner attends Cy-Ranch High School. After graduating from high school, he plans to further his education at Prairie View A&M University majoring in Business Pre-Law. Way to go Teen Jarius!!

Teen Jarius Turner is very active in several community service organizations. This is the reason he is the highlighted Teen boy for the Prairie View Chapter. He has held various offices in Jack & Jill such as Treasurer, Legislative Chair, Chaplain, and Parliamentarian. Teen Jarius is very active in school organizations as well. He is in the Student Council. In the Student Council, Jarius held the position of Vice President. Whatever is asked of Jarius he puts his heart and soul into the project. He has worked with the Salvation Army packaging and sorting toiletries for the women and men of the shelter. In Top Teens, Jarius has held the office of Parliamentarian and Senior Citizen Chair. Jarius was responsible for the Teens and Ladies working with a Nursing Home in Navasota during the Martin Luther King National Service Day Project. At the Nursing Home, the Teens and Ladies handed out toiletries and played games with the residents.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area I ▪

Trinity West Chapter

Teen Cecelia Audi Traylor

Teen Cecelia Audi Traylor is the Trinity West Chapter female Teen Spotlight. She is the daughter of Lady Pamela Ikner. she is currently the Teen President of the Trinity West Chapter and has held this position for a year. Some of the most memorable service activities she has participated in this year include: Saint Phillips Young Business Vendors, Derek Jeter Park and Adopt a Highway Beautification Projects. She also participated in the St Jude and March of Dimes walk in 2018 & 2019, Operation Care Christmas Gift 2019 at Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center, and Top Teens Day at North Park CME Church where teens led the service. Teen Cecelia is a Senior at Juan Seguin High School where she is a member of the National Art Honor Society and Archery Team. Teen Cecelia loves painting, producing digital art, and editing and producing videos. She is an archery expert as well and loves socializing with friends. An interesting fact about her is that she is the top archer in her school, one of the top females in her district. A heartfelt experience was winning Miss.Top Teen at the "Blue and Silver" Ball in February 2020, she was surprised and appreciative. Her favorite quote is: "You're the most important person in your life. You must produce self-love and self-care for your own physical and mental health. Once you have done that, life is no longer a burden."

Teen Christian Xavier Pierce

Teen Christian Xavier Pierce is the Trinity West Chapters male Teen Spotlight. He is located in Dallas, Texas and has served as Treasurer for the past two years. He was elected as Mr. Top Teen and represented his chapter at the Area One Conference in 2019 and 2020. Some of the service activities he has participated in this year include: Literacy Back to School/K.B. Polk Elementary, Saint Phillips Young Business Vendors and Thanksgiving Outreach, Derek Jeter Park and Adopt a Highway Beautification Projects, Operation Care Christmas Gift 2019 at Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center, Top Teens Day at North Park CME Church (Teens led worship service) and UNCF Sunday.

A heartfelt experience was during the Gladys Stern Feed the Homeless Day. He helped prepare Thanksgiving baskets for thirty-five families, along with serving the homeless in the community Thanksgiving dinner, implementing MANTRA #6 of M. O. M. E.N. T. U. M.
He is a sophomore at Red Oak High School where he is a member of the track team. His favorite subject is Chemistry. Christian also plays football and especially enjoys playing on the Seven on Seven Football Leagues. His hobbies include landscaping, listening to music, playing video games, and training his German Shepherd.
Christian participates in the Upward Bound Program at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. He learns skills to facilitate his academic success in high school and eventually prepare him for his post secondary degree. He is also a member of North Park CME Church.

Central Virginia Chapter

Teen Pierce Britt

MY VICTORIES

Hello, my name is Pierce Britt with the prestigious organization of Top Teens of America. I would like to thank you for taking your time to read my article about some of my activities and sports outside of my academic life. Two of the sports that I play at Manchester High School would include both golf and track and field, there is never a dull moment when I'm participating on either team. My golf career started out on the First Tee in North Chesterfield way back in spring of 2014, I won two awards during my time there. However, about three years ago I decided to move on to a more challenging course. Many people know this course as the Independence Golf Course in Midlothian. In Summer 2019 I won the Lexus award for the most improved personnel in my camp, that day was exciting no dought. Currently I am still on the Manchester High School Golf team and will continue to stay. Now let's cross over to track and field, I started my career in track back in 2017 with the Henning track team in North Chesterfield. I won a lot of victorious ribbons during my time there from 2017 to 2018, but in 2019 things changed quickly. I was a senior at Bailey Bridge Middle School and wanted to try out for sprint races after getting cut in 7th grade. A little less than a week I found out I had made the team and was so overjoyed. May 22, 2019 was the day of the district meet held at Meadowbrook High School, my races were the 100 and 200 Sprints. Little did I know that I would come in first place during my 100 meter sprint and would be in 5th in my district for the 100 meter dash. Honestly, I could go on and on about my achievements in sports and activities but I decided to choose the ones that really put a lasting imprint on my life. Don’t just think that's it for my achievements though, There's a lot more where that came. from.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area II ▪

Hampton Roads Chapter

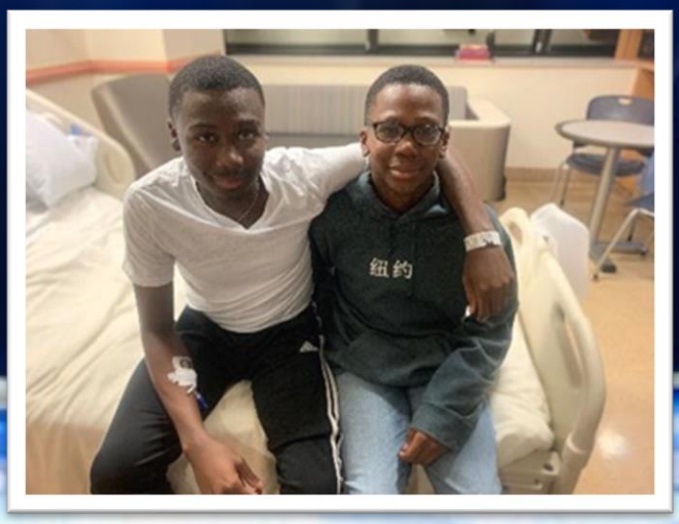
Teen Joy Armstrong

My name is Teen Joy Armstrong and I am the Hampton Roads Chapter female teen spotlight. I am in the 11th grade, taking all college classes. College is a lot to handle. You must be responsible enough to do your work and get it turned in by the due date, and there is no one to remind you. I finished my high school courses when I was in 10th grade. A typical week might be, a test in one class, a lecture in another, and a project due at the end of the week. It can be a lot to handle. How do I manage my stress level? I rely on my mentor Lady Jasmine. She has helped me by investing in a bullet journal. I write my agenda in my journal each day and this keeps me from getting overwhelmed. I also get through tough times by writing. Another thing that helps me relax is making music playlists of my favorite songs. Although I have a high level of stress, I believe that it has helped shape me into the teenager I am today. Lady Jasmine has been there for me every step of the way since I was in the 8th grade. Even though she is busy with her job and taking college classes as well, she still manages to make time to be with me and I am very thankful for that. A mentor can be a wonderful friend that helps you navigate the stresses of life.

Teen Robert Davenport III

My name is Teen Robert Davenport III and I am the Hampton Roads male teen spotlight. All my brother's life, he has lived with sickle cell anemia. My sister and I have witnessed several painful crises, some of which landed him in the hospital for several days. On October 30th, I decided to donate my stem cells to my brother. Because my DNA was a perfect match, this meant that my cells could enter his body and create healthy red blood cells. He had to go through chemotherapy and radiation to lower his immune system. This was done so that his immune system would not attack the healthy donor blood cells. The cells were infused into his body like a blood transfusion. The transfusion experience was quite easy for me compared to my brother. He spent 3 weeks in the hospital, and I was in there for 2 days. At times, there was a little bit of pain, but I knew it was all going to be worth it in the end because my brother would be able to live a pain free life.

I thank God for giving me the opportunity to do something special and to change my brother. Since the transplant, he feels great and can exercise; even running 10 or 12 miles at one time. He still goes to the doctor for his check-ups and he just had his 6-month appointment. All is well!



Haymarket-Gainesville Chapter

Teen Safyque xRichardson

Teen Safyque xRichardson is a charter member of the Haymarket-Gainesville TTA Chapter and President. She is a graduating senior of Battlefield High School in Haymarket VA. planning to attend Virginia Tech with a major in Psychology. Following she plans to attend medical school with the intentions of becoming a psychiatrist. A fun fact about her is that she loves to write and was admitted to NYU Tisch for writing but decided she could help in a more direct way by sticking to her Psychiatry path. This year she participated in many school clubs including the Student Council Organization, the Black Student Union, National Honor Society, National English Honor Society and others. During her high school career, she played Lacrosse, Field Hockey and Track and Field. Each activity provided a different deeply developmental experience and because of this, she plans to participate in similar clubs in college. Teen Safyque suggests as a rule that anyone in a new situation should join as many clubs as they can, within reason, of course.

Teen Desmond Harris

Teen Desmond Harris is a charter member of the Haymarket-Gainesville TTA Chapter and the chapter Historian. He is in his junior year and a student athlete who attends Freedom High School in South Riding, VA. He has been a member of the school's varsity track and field team for two years and a member of the basketball program since his freshman year. In addition to being a student athlete, he is also a part of the Excellent Options Club at my school. This club is a parent run non-profit organization which was created to advance the success of African American students and ensure that they are well equipped for everything the real world has to offer post high school graduation. Teen Desmond describes himself as hard working and an active critical thinker who enjoys finding solutions to problems. He is very interested in the engineering career field and plans to pursue an engineering degree once he graduates from high school.

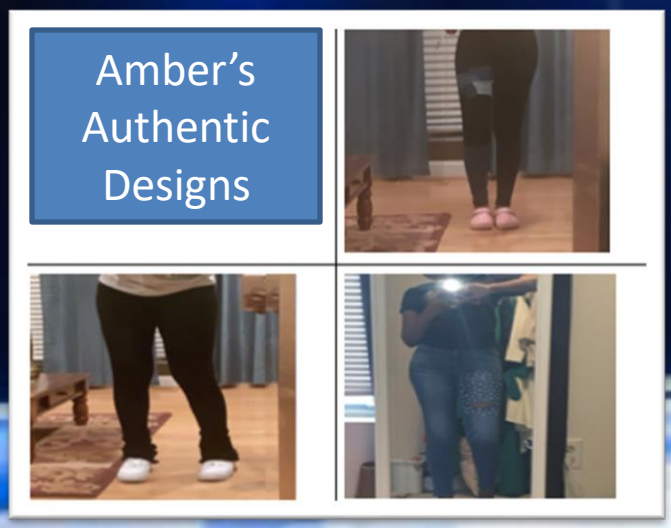
▪ Teen Spotlight Area II ▪

Patuxent River Chapter

Teen Amber Chambers

Teen Amber Chambers is currently a student at the Academy of Health Sciences at Prince George's Community College where she maintains a 4.2 GPA. She is an active member with Reid Temple AME Church where she currently serves as the President of the No Limits Teen Ministry and participate in the Young People's Division at Reid Temple. She also serves as the Communications Secretary for the District 2 AME conference. In the past, she has served as the Secretary for God's Makeover Ministry at Reid Temple and participated in Girl Scouts for several years. Outside of church, Teen Amber is the president of the Patuxent River Chapter of Top Teens of America. She is also the Financial Secretary on the Area 2 level.

In her downtime she enjoys listening to music, hanging out with friends, and enjoying family. During COVID-19 and finishing out the school year, she is making the best of her time by creating designs. Recently she has started customizing, personalizing, and tailoring clothing to give them a different look. She enjoys exploring and learning new things.



Teen Mason Minus

Teen Mason Minus is a charter member and the current 1st Vice President for the Patuxent River Chapter of Top Teens of America. As an adolescent growing up in the Montgomery county community, he has been extremely active through multiple organizations at his school, in addition to focusing on the creation of music and writing, Teen Mason is extensively involved in the minority scholars organization, being one of the youngest leaders in his chapter this year. Through minority scholars, he and his peers study the achievement gap of Minority students compared to the majority. They are representatives of the student population in terms of the diversity of racial groups throughout the county.

In addition to minority scholars, Teen Mason is involved in the Student Government Association. He is currently running for SGA President, and was the SGA Vice President the previous year. Through the SGA, he has assisted in putting together the school events such as pep rallies as well as homecoming. He was also a team captain of the Track and Field team where he holds the school record for the 1k, and he was the only male track athlete to qualify for states this year.

Teen Mason volunteers at his church by assisting the Media association. The Media association is tasked with projecting the service on large screens in the church. Teen Mason plays the Guitar, the Saxophone, and sings. He is a part of an Acapella group, and a part of his school's jazz band. In addition, he is involved in the marching band, and just finished drum major auditions for his senior year.

Southern Maryland Chapter

Teen Kayla Berry

Kayla Berry has been a member of Top Teens of America Southern Maryland Chapter since 2017 and serves as the Beautification Chair. She is a Senior at North Point High School in Waldorf, Maryland in the Welding Technology Program. Kayla joined TTA to improve her social and leadership skills, build confidence, and meet new people. Since induction, she has accomplished these goals and has participated in several opportunities to serve her community. Aside from TTA, Kayla is a world traveler. She has visited Iceland, Ireland, Paris, London and planned to visit Japan this year prior to the pandemic. She prepared herself by teaching herself the Japanese language using video and phone apps. She also attended a convention to gain an understanding of the Japanese culture.

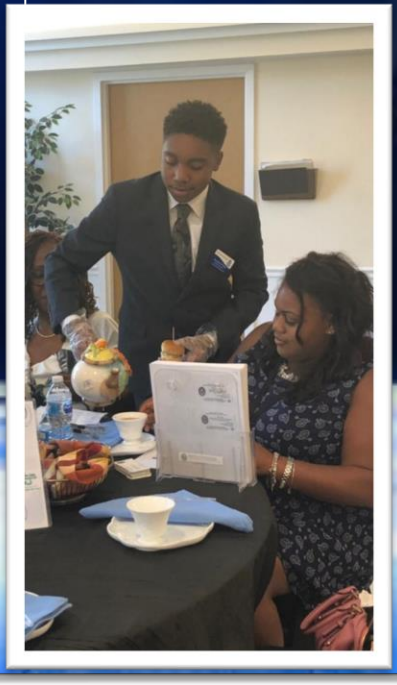
As a welding major at North Point High School, Kayla participated in the Skills USA welding sculpture competition and won 4th place with her sculpture titled Rusty Tribute! This fall Kayla will attend Pennsylvania College of Technology majoring in Welding and Fabrication Engineering technology. She is proud to say she knows she is someone who can make a difference and is excited to take all she has learned from Top Teens of America with her to college.

Teen Kevin Presley

Experiencing an enjoyable childhood and creating great teenage memories, Kevin Presley's most important thing to do is to give back to his community. He first thought life was easy for everyone, but after volunteering at the Prince Georges Men's Shelter, he met several men who have had challenging lives. That is when Kevin decided that if he can do something to make a person happier, he should give it a try.

Kevin is a member of the Top Teens of America, Southern Maryland Chapter. He won Mr. Top Teens for 2019-2020 and serves as the Treasurer. Kevin is the Lead Junior Usher at his church, a member of the Feed the Homeless Ministry, the Kappa Alpha Psi Leaguer Program, a youth basketball coach for 3rd and 4th graders, and a math tutor.

Kevin has many memories of serving his community, however; there are two that stuck out. Kevin greeted all the grandparents who attended the chapter's Grandparents Tea in 2019. Kevin served refreshments to all of them so they could sit back and enjoy being honored. While Kevin coached the basketball team in 2020, he enjoyed watching how their hard work and determination paid off. He said that although his team did not have the best year, it was not about winning. He is proud to say that it was about helping the players to believe in themselves.



Chicago Chapter

Teen David Range

The Chicago Chapter recognizes Teen David Range for his extraordinary leadership within the organization and ability to juggle to so many other responsibilities outside of TTA. Teen David has been in the organization for 3 years and is serving his first term as President of the TTA Chicago Chapter. In addition to Teen David leading the Chicago Chapter, he is also National Assistant Financial Secretary, National Credentials Chair and Area III Parliamentarian.

Outside of TTA, Teen David is very involved in extracurricular activities at Lindblom Math & Science Academy in Chicago. Teen David is the Student Council Vice President, on the Principal Student Advisory Council, Varsity Tennis Team Captain, member of the Varsity Debate Team, a School Ambassador, New Freshman Summer Math Teacher and member of the KOI (Knowledge Over Ignorance) Club. Teen David is also functioning in the political realm as a member of the Judge P. Scott Neville Steering Committee.

The TLOD Chicago Chapter family is proud to highlight Teen David Range and his accomplishments!

▪ Teen Spotlight Area III ▪

Confluence Chapter

Teen Devon Mann

Teen DeVon Mann is a 17-year-old junior at McCluer North High School. He has been with Top Teens for several years and is very active and attends almost every activity and meeting. He plays 3 sports with the school and is also in the marching band. Most recently he was named on the St. Louis Post Dispatch Newspaper's "2020 A list." Currently he is in a trades learning organization CCDI, Construction Career Development Initiative.

TEEN DEVON MANN

East St. Louis Chapter

Teen Mallorie Wooten

East St. Louis shines the spotlight on Teen Mallorie Wooten. Mallorie is a 2020 graduating senior and has proven to be a talented, intelligent Teen with charisma, confidence, and strong values. In addition, she is hardworking, responsible and compassionate. Teen Mallorie has shown tremendous growth as a servant leader. Her compassion to make her community a better place led her to use her talents as a volleyball player to organize a team that volunteer and teach children of East St. Louis the sport of volleyball.

TEEN MALLORIE WOOTEN

▪ Teen Spotlight Area III ▪

Lincoln Park Chapter

Teen Peyton Fox

Teen Peyton is a 17 year old junior at Tinley Park High school. Peyton is a member of the Girls swim team; National honors society and a Board member of Seekers diversity club. While president of the LPCC Teen Peyton has conducted two inductions and ran all in person and virtual meetings.

Teen Kameron Williams

Teen Kameron Williams is a sophomore at Leo High School in Chicago, Illinois. While at Leo he had the opportunity to be the school mascot at a basketball game. He is also a member of Champs, a male mentoring program. As a member he attended a boot camp with the Navy Seals. He loves singing and has been an active member of Oakdale Christian Academy Community Choir since third grade. Being a member afforded him opportunities to sing with the Soul Children of Chicago, sing at the Gospel Fest, the House of Blues, the Mayor's Breakfast for Rham Emanuel, Operation Push Martin Luther King Breakfast, the DuSable Museum and participate in two live recordings. They also travelled to several states including Indiana, Minnesota and New York. Kameron is also a member of Top Teens of America, Lincoln Park Chicago Chapter where he serves as membership chair. While in Top Teens he attended area conferences, participated in community activities and the presentation ball.

Milwaukee Chapter

Teen NiMia Moore

Teen Ni'Mia Moore is very dedicated to Top Teens and Top Ladies. She is always one of the first to volunteer for service opportunities. She understands the importance of giving back to the community and leading by example. As the chapter President she wants to make sure she is representing her chapter in a positive way. She is very respectful to all the Ladies and any special guests or visitors we may have.

Ni'Mia has proven to be an excellent leader by attending events like the March of Dimes for Babies, St. Jude Walk, River Keeper, UNCF Walk, HCBU/Tribal College Fair, HBCU Football Game and College Fair and Cultural Events, We are the Drum, Harriet Movie Outing and African Indaba. Ni'Mia regularly attends meetings, conferences and workshops on a regular basis.

Teen Stephawn Easley

Teen Stephawn is definitely destined for success. He currently serves on the Area level as the protocol chair and on the National level as the Sargent at Arms.Teen Stephawn was the chapter's previous Chaplain.

He is present on conference calls and attends monthly meetings. Some of his chapter involvement includes: TTA inductions, Senior Christmas card visit, Dr. King Jr. Service Day painting, Christ Presbyterian Church Toy Store, Mentor/Mentee outings, UNCF, We Are the Drum and St. Jude walk. Teen Stephawn is always reliable as he is called on for events and speaking roles frequently. He always accepts with a smile on his face. He has attended three Area Conferences. He has served as a Delegate and Alternate Delegate.

Overall, the Milwaukee Chapter of Top Teens of America is proud to have Teen Stephawn as a member where he continues to develop and work on his leadership and character. He is open to new ideas and wants to serve his commu-nity.

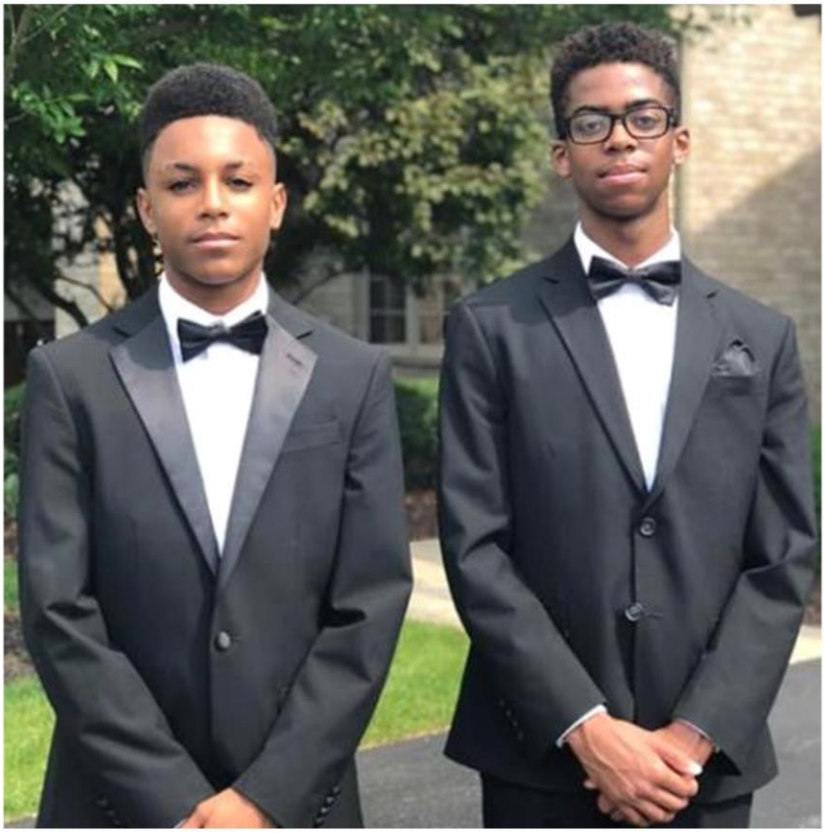
Skyline Metropolitan Chicago Chapter

Teen Brandon Hudson & Teen Trenton Lyke

Two Skyline Metropolitan Chicago Teens awarded Posse Scholarships!

Teens Brandon Hudson and Trenton Lyke won full tuition scholarships through the Posse Foundation. Both teens competed against over 2860 Chicagoland area teens through several rounds of interviews to win the coveted scholarships. Each year the Posse Foundation awards students across select U.S. cities full tuition merit-based scholarships at partnering colleges and universities. This Fall, Teen Brandon from Lincoln Way East High School, will attend Trinity College in Hartford, CT and will major in bio-medical engineering. Teen Trenton Lyke, from The Illinois Mathematics and Sciences Academy, will attend Cornell University in Ithaca, NY and will major in computer science. Teens Brandon and Trenton have been best friends since they were toddlers and are founders of a state-qualifying robotics team.

Skyline Metropolitan Chicago is the first TLOD chapter to become a Posse nominator and Teens Brandon and Trenton are the first ever Posse Scholar winners from the chapter. Both teens were nominated by their TTA Advisor, Lady Donna Townsend.



▪ Teen Spotlight Area III ▪

South Suburban Chicago Chapter

Teen Jori Williams

Teen Jori Williams has shown exceptional leadership as the Chapter President as well as an Area III Officer. Teen Jori holds leadership positions in other organizations she is affiliated with. Teen Jori conducts TTA meetings with professionalism and compassion. She is a true future leader of America.

TEEN JORI WILLIAMS

Teen Jeremy Wesley

Teen Jeremy Wesley has grown from a shy teenager to a person who speaks with confidence and knowledge. When he is called upon to do a task, he does it without wavering. Teen Jeremy has a plan for his future and is determined to achieve it.

TEEN JEREMY WESLEY

St. Louis Chapter

Teen Lewis Worthy III

Teen Lewis Worthy III is an incoming 11th grader at DeSMET Jesuit High School! He is an avid volunteer with the STL TTA chapter. Teen Lewis football team won the Class 6 State Football Championship in 2019 and he is also the 2020-2021 STL TTA CHAPTER PRESIDENT

TEEN LEWIS WORTHY, III

▪ Teen Spotlight Area III ▪

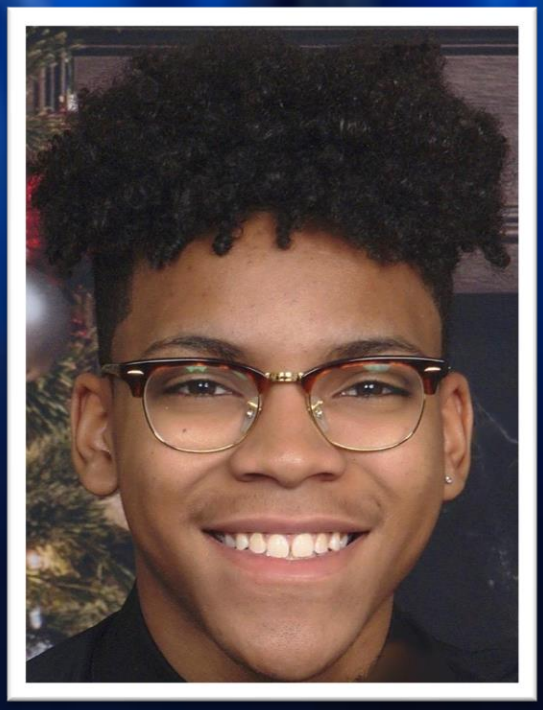
West Loop Chicago Chapter

Teen Trinity Deer

Trinity Deer is the epitome of academic excellence and service to others. She's an 8th grade student at Learn Charter Elementary School. She has maintained an A+ average throughout her matriculation through school. She has received numerous awards for academic excellence, scholarship, citizenship, merit, and "A"+ honor roll. Trinity spends her spare time providing community service for various causes. As a TTA member of Chicago West Loop Chapter, Trinity most recently used her sewing skills to assist her mother with making masks to donate within the community during the covid-19 pandemic. She has also distributed necessities such as socks, toothpaste, and hand sanitizer, to senior living facilities. She serves and feeds seniors to give seniors an opportunity to have a sense of community and a meal. Trinity also helps to raise funds for worthy causes and organizations. She's also volunteered as a part of census education, by doing a public service announcement video on the importance of completing the census. Trinity's extracurricular activities has included dancing on the park district dance team and performing at community events. She enjoys art. She also enjoys writing and one day hopes to write a non-fiction book. Trinity loves science, and one day hopes to study medicine on her path to becoming a pediatrician.

Teen Darion McDonald

Darion is a junior at Elmwood Park High School. Darion is a little shy when it comes to meeting new people, but he has a passion for helping and encouraging others. He has a kind, gentle spirit and is very easy to get along with. He is a natural born leader. His hard work and dedication to mastering a task has enabled his to continuously be on the Honor Roll. His athletic abilities shines on the track field. During basketball season, he is one of the players that exhibits good sportsmanship. In his spare time he enjoys playing the piano, swimming, and playing video games with his friends. His future goal is to gain acceptance into Loyola University where he plans to major in engineering.



▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

Atlanta Peachtree Chapter

Teen Sydney Bellamy

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. & Top Teens of America Atlanta Peachtree Chapter would like to shine the spotlight on Teen Sydney Bellamy. Teen Sydney Bellamy is an 11th grader who attends West Lake High School in Atlanta, Georgia. Inducted in June 2016, Teen Sydney has continuously developed and evolved into a true leader among her peers. Teen Sydney is the immediate past First Vice President of TTA and former Miss TTA of APC. Currently Teen Sydney serves as President, with a focus on active participation and active serving.

Service is always at the center of Teen Sydney's heart and helping others is truly heartfelt for her, which shows through her level of commitment and dedication as she leads and serve. You can always find Teen Sydney setting the example as she remains hands on in serving and participating in all TTA activities

In addition to serving with TTA, Teen Sydney has participated in several outside community service projects to support children and families in Africa. Most notably, writing and publishing a book for students as well as providing families with gloves, hats and scarfs to keep them warm through the harsh winter months.

Lastly, during these unprecedented times due to COVID-19, Atlanta Peachtree Chapter would like recognize and thank Teen Sydney for implementing a COVID-19 essential basket initiative in her neighborhood. Being the heartfelt person that she is, Teen Sydney makes baskets for senior citizens in her neighborhood of essential items needed during this time. Teen Sydney stated, "This has truly taught me that even the simple things can brighten up someone's day. I love helping others and I am thankful for the opportunity to continuously do what I love!"

Teen Justin Jackson

Teen Justin Jackson is the Second Vice President and Mr. TTA of the Atlanta Peachtree Chapter. As an 11th grade student at Stone Mountain High School, he is known to his peers and teachers as an all-around student and well-rounded individual. Congratulations to Teen Justin for earning an award for writing the best poem in his school wide poetry competition. Teen Justin is also a multi-talented athlete. Ranking number four for having the most sacks in his entire school district as a defensive end, he received an honorable mention award.

As a newly inducted teen of December, 2019, Teen Justin describes joining TTA as great! Since joining, his most memorable moments include participating in National TLOD & TTA Pink & Blue Day of Service by volunteering in the NAACP MLK, Jr. Parade, traveling to Savanah for the Area Conference and serving as Mr. TTA. Teen Justin is also the chair of APC's MOD committee where he received an opportunity to have an interview with Lori Wilson from Atlanta's Channel 2 Action News to help promote the fight for the mom and babies campaign in Atlanta, Georgia.

Teen Justin shares, "even recently, during COVID-19, I was able to participate in a virtual Kahoot match with different chapters and also participate in our literacy video that was uploaded to YouTube". APC commends Teen Justin Jackson for his leadership and participation in school and jumping right in to serve the communities of TLOD.

Augusta Chapter

Teen Madison Elizabeth Elwell

My name is Madison Elizabeth Elwell. When I was born 13 years ago, the Doctors said I would not survive the night. All my family was present at my birth- my Mom and Dad, my Nana, my Aunts, Uncle and Cousins. They were all praying for me and I survived. My medical journey has been ongoing for the last 13 years, but because I Believe that God and my Family have always been with me, I have survived. I have been an honor roll student since first grade. Even when I had to miss school due to my medical condition, I was committed to keeping my grades up. I am thankful for all the prayers from so many people on my behalf.

Because my two older cousins were Top Teens, I also wanted to join Top Teens. Although this year I spent my Christmas season in Children's Hospital of Atlanta, I was lifted up by prayers from Top Teens and Top Ladies of Augusta. Although I still have some restrictions after my surgery, I hope to be very involved in Top Teens. I Believe.

As I finish 8th grade and prepare for a new journey- high school- I will keep my faith in God. I Believe.

Madison just wanted to share how she overcame her diagnosis of aortic stenosis. She wants to share her story, so she can be an inspiration to anyone that's going through a difficult time. She wants everyone to know that if you believe and have faith in God, that you can get through anything.—

Teen Joshua Phillip Jones

Teen Joshua Phillip Jones is the son of Lord Tim Jones and Lady Julie Jones. At Burke County High School, he is a rising senior as well as dual enrolled student at Augusta Technical College. At BCHS, he is an Honor Student, a member of the Beta Club and Skills USA. He is also a starter on the Burke County High School Tennis team.

Joshua has been a Top Teen for three years. He is currently the Second Vice President and Historian of the Augusta Chapter of Top Teens of America. He is also a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church where he is an acolyte and a member of the Audio Ministry. Joshua has most recently been selected by Augusta State University as an African American Scholar recipient. He plans to attend Augusta State University and pursue a career in law.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

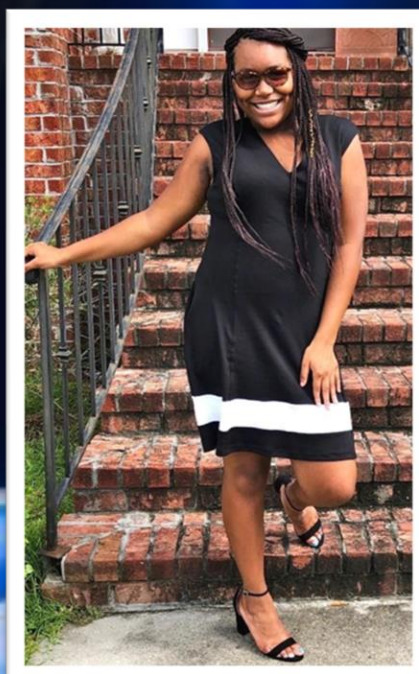
Bryan-Liberty Chapter

Teen Victoria Myles

Hello, my name is Victoria Myles and I am the Bryan-Liberty Chapter female teen spotlight. I am a member of the Bryan-Liberty Counties Chapter in Hinesville, Georgia. In my free time I like listening to music, going shopping, talking to friends, and travelling is stimulating.

The Girl Scouts of America has the spirit of my favorite activities. Participating with the Summer Angels programs were upbeat. Personally, the Summer Angels was appealing because the program allows teens to visit the residents. Each day we travelled to a different senior citizen facility. The Girls Scouts would create crafts, play bingo, and occasionally deliver the Meals on Wheels to others in need. It is so heartwarming to see the expressions on the seniors face just from demonstrating simple acts of kindness.

In the coming future, I would like to graduate from college to lawyer then a Judge. The Court's in Session Program afforded the opportunity to interact with current lawyers and judges. This program has also allowed me the opportunity to shadow Attorney Lester A. Johnson, III, PC a well-known lawyer in Savannah, Georgia for the day. This will always be my favorite memory of the law office. Learning how to annotate the lawyer's report was a gratifying experience. In conclusion, with the knowledge and soft skills I have learned will shape me into becoming the best I can be!

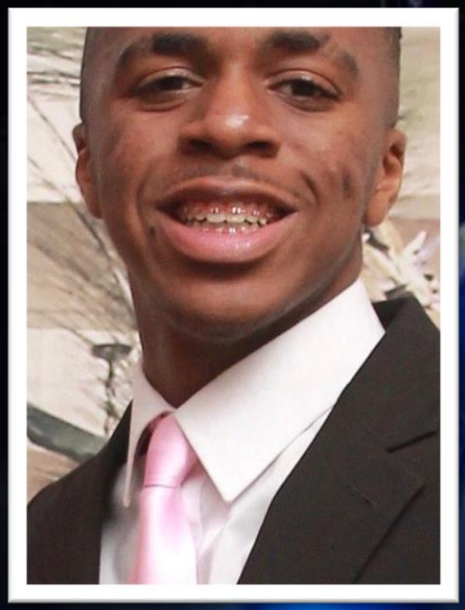


Teen Jared D. Johnson

The Bryan-Liberty Chapter male teen spotlight is Teen Jared D. Johnson. Teen Jared is an upcoming senior. He is a member of Liberty Christian Fellowship Worship Center where he serves as a member of the Future of Liberty (FOL) Choir, Usher Board, and the Youth Ministry. Teen Jared is a long-time member of the Liberty County 4-H Program where he now serves as a Teen Leader and a Healthy Living Ambassador for the local 4-H Center and at Summer Camp. His participation began when he was in elementary school and continued as he became more active with Project Achievement and other competitions. Teen Jared has been a volunteer with Keep Liberty Beautiful since his elementary/ middle school years and regularly participates with events such as Earth Day and Rivers Alive in Liberty County. He is also a member of the Liberty County Youth Branch NAACP. Teen Jared takes time out to volunteer with the Liberty County Dream Team, a local GA Adult Special Olympics team (Gateway Behavioral Health Services) where he assists with coaching special needs individuals that were born with other abilities for basketball, bowling, Bocce and any other activities they desire to compete in during the GA Special Olympics. Teen Jared is a well-rounded young man that is grounded by his family and faith. In the future, Teen Jared aspires to attend college and pursue a career in the field of Sports Medicine.

Cocoa Brevard Chapter

Teen Dalyn Sims

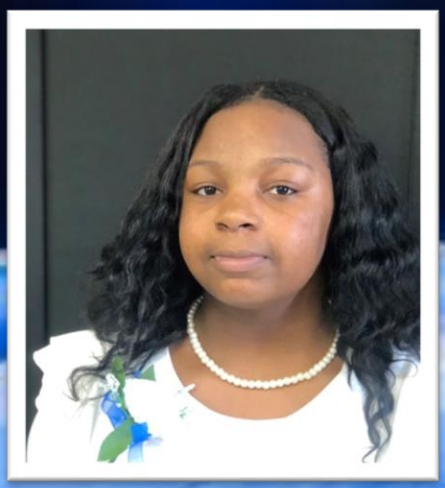


Teen Dalyn is a regular activist within his community. Since the onset of adverse conditions surrounding COVID-19, Teen Dalyn joined Cocoa PAL (Police Athletic League) in serving meals to children 18 and under. Teen Dalyn dedicates three hours each day (Monday – Friday) expressing his love for the welfare and betterment of others.

Concord Chapter

Teen Nadia Owens

The teen I would like to spotlight is Teen Nadia Owens for her exceptional service within Top Teens of America, as well as, in her own community. Teen Nadia Owens is always first to volunteer on service projects and tasks. This active teen is very productive in Top Teens of America as the Top Teen Chapter President. Nadia, took to her role quickly and took the extra effort to learn her role as President, with the help of her mentor, Lady Chanel Hewitt. I am always so amazed of her suggestions and ideas for the Top Teen projects. Teen Nadia has demonstrated her leadership skills in inviting her friends and classmates to Top Teen of America interest meetings. Teen Nadia does not mind speaking up in group meetings and looks out for the best interest of her fellow teen members. Recently, Concord Chapter's Virtual Healthy Choice Conference, Teen Nadia assisted us with locating a guest speaker, who gave a lesson on Vegan cooking. Teen Nadia has already demonstrated some entrepreneurial skills, as well, by braiding family and friend's hair. Teen Nadia also feeds the homeless and has assisted with Habitat for Humanity in her spare time.



Durham Chapter

Teen Ania Oladoye

I am 13-year-old Teen Ania Oladoye from the Durham Chapter TTA, Area IV in Durham, North Carolina. Needless to say, I am proud and honored to be featured in the TTA Newsletter as part of the Teen Spotlight. In November 2019, I was inducted into the Top Teens of America. Since my induction, I have attended my meetings, as well as participated in the Service Project, the Literacy Activities, and the virtual HBCU college tour. Outside of the TTA, I have assisted the Seniors of the community with becoming computer literate and with their medications.

As an 8th grader at Word of God Christian Academy in Raleigh, I am an avid basketball player. In fact, I am the team basketball manager of the all-boys team. Additionally, I play basketball for the Knightdale Parks and Recreation. Through that program, I was selected for the All-Star Basketball Team. We were headed to the tournaments until it was canceled due to Covid-19. I look forward to the future events where I can continue to give back to the community and of course play basketball. However, as Pema Chodron said, "Nothing ever goes away until it teaches us what we need to know."

Effingham Chapter

Teen Leah Edwards

Ms. Leah Edwards is a 9th grade student who attends South Effingham High School where she is described to be a respectable and lovable peer..

In her school setting, she serves on the Junior and Varsity cheer squad. Prior to her transition to high school, she participated in the school choir, Future Farmers Association debate team, and was selected by her peers to be Student Council secretary. Upon completion of high school, she plans on furthering her education by obtaining a degree in criminal justice/pre-law.

Leah participates in various ministries in the community and in her church setting. She is a part of Girl Scout Troop 30307, Top Teens of America, G.A Tyson children's choir, and P.U.S.H. ministry. She has also participated in the Rebecca Padgett School of Performing Arts for 7 years where she developed her love for dancing. In her spare time, Leah enjoys spending time with her family, cooking, and babysitting.

Teen Warren Drayton II

Warren Lakerris Drayton, II is from Savannah Georgia. He is the eldest of three siblings. I'm currently the president of 100 Black Men organization at my school, and an honors student. One of my favorite things to do outside of school is sing. I`m a member of the Savannah Children's Choir. Very active member of Historic First Bryan Baptist Church which is the oldest continuous African American Baptist Church in America. At church I am in Youth Choir and Usher's Ministry. One of my hobbies is playing the piano. I was inducted into Top Teens of America the Effingham chapter in 2019. Being apart of Top Teens is my greatest achievement thus far. We volunteer in our community and receive career and character development. I'm currently my chapters chaplain and looking forward to more ways to help others. As a rising 9thgrader my future is very bright.

Florence Chapter

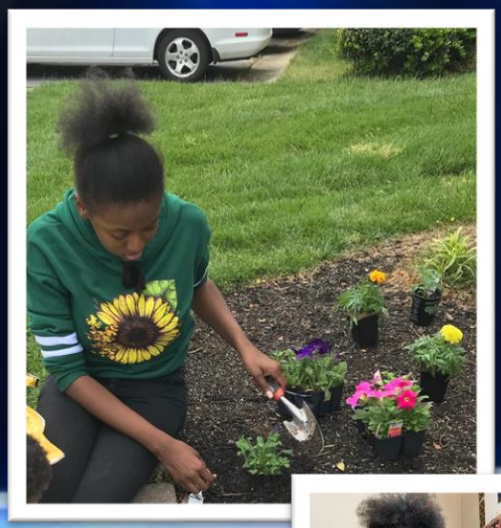
Teen Janiya Allen-Gregg

Janiya is the Second Vice President of the Florence Chapter. She is a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church Timmonsville, SC where she is a member of the choir and Praise Dance Team. She also serves as the treasurer for the youth department. Janiya is very involved in school activities. She is a member of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA where she serves as secretary), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), and Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG). Janiya is also completing 9th and 10th grade honor classes.

Guilford County Chapter

Teen Dajah Bond

Teen Dajah Bond, with her brother, planting petunias and marigolds. Also, Teen Dajah is reading Flowers in the Attic by V.C. Andrews.



Teen Jacob Simmons

Teen Jacob Simmons planted three trees (Peach, Pear and a Willow tree) in his backyard with his nephew.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

Miami Chapter

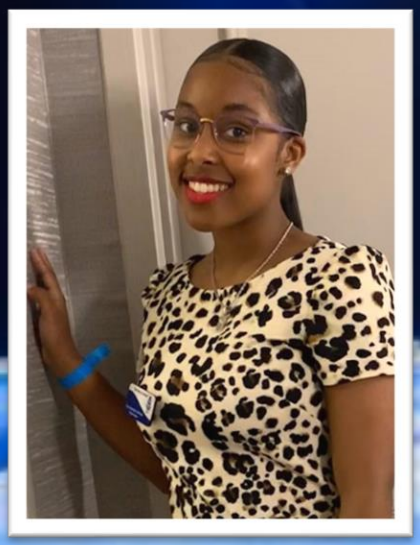
Teen Ja'Myah Lawhorn

Teen Ja'Myah Lawhorn is a sophomore at Miami Carol City Senior High School in Miami, Florida. In high school, she is a member of the Women of Tomorrow Organization, a student ambassador, a member of My School Votes Club and a proud member of the Marching Band. Currently, Ja'Myah has a 4.4 GPA and is an honor student in Carol City's Law Magnet Program.

In the community, she is an active member of the Metropolitan Dade County Section of National Council for Negro Women (NCNW) youth group, NAACP Youth and College Division, Sigma Gamma Rho's Bud of Spring, City of Miami Gardens Youth Counsel and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Miami Alumnae Chapter's Debutante Mentoring Group.

Ja'Myah's accomplishments include her work as a freshman in the Law Program as "Best Overall Attorney," "Best Closing Argument," and a selected participant for the 2019 Congressional Black Caucus Convention held in Washington, D.C.

Ja'Myah has been a vital member of the Miami Chapter of Top Teens of America where she serves as the Project Chair for Community Beautification and the Nominating Committee. As chair, she partnered with our Ladies to help organize an Adopt-A-Highway/Street Cleanup (2018); MLK Day of Service Beach Cleanup (2020) along with this year's Baynanza World-wide Beach Cleanup in honor of Earth Day. We appreciate her hard work, even though we could not participate because of COVID-19. Teen Ja'Myah Lawhorn is the granddaughter of Lord Derrick Love and Lady Karen Love.



Teen Jai Levison

Teen Jai Levison is the Mami Chapter male teen spotlight. He is a junior attending Cardinal Gibbins High School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He is a scholar athlete and plays on the 2018 State Championship football team. He is also a member of the Honor Society.

In the community, Teen Jai is involved in organizations such as the Lamplighters Youth Group under the leadership of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He has volunteered many community service hours and participated in numerous events to help serve the community while being a member of this group. Furthermore, he was a member of the Egelloc Club's Men of Tomorrow (MOT) group for 11th grade young men. During his participation, he was exposed to the rewards of civic involvement, benevolent activities, etiquette and appropriate dress.

Most importantly, Teen Jai is the current President of the Miami Chapter of Top Teens of America. He organizes his meetings and community outreach programs. Teen Jai participates in all workshops and community partnership events with other youth organizations. He has been a member of Top Teens for 4 years and has attended three Area IV Conferences. During this time, he has been instrumental in assisting with ZOOM meetings for the Teens and encouraging and praying for the Teens and their families.

His motto is "Put the maximum effort into becoming a better man, and you're that much more likely to do it!"

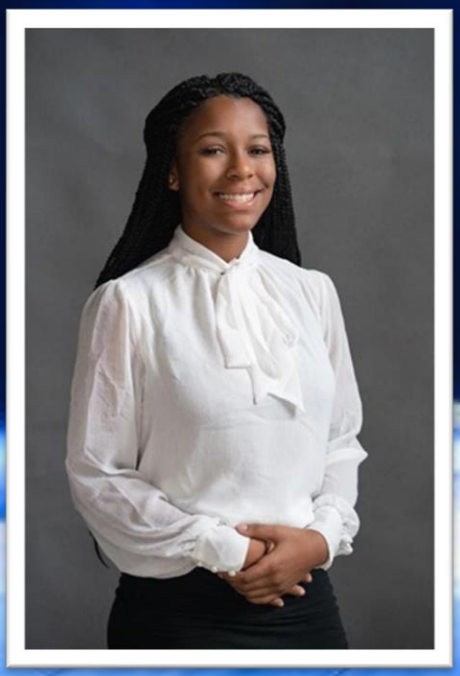
Teen Jai is the son of Lady Gisele Levison and Lord Robert Levison.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

Nashville Capitol City Chapter

Teen Shania Adkisson

My name is Teen Shania Adkisson and I am the Nashville Capitol City Chapters female teen spotlight. I am a junior attending the illustrious Martin Luther King Academic Magnet School for Health Sciences and Engineering at the historic Pearl High School. I am a continually active person in school as well as the community. I enjoy being involved with Saving Our Daughters, Top Teens of America, Judah Generation Liturgical Dance Ministry, Cheerleading, Black Achievers, Honors Society and Lambda Iota Theta Incorporated. In these various organizations I serve as Dean of Lambda Iota Theta Sorority Incorporated, Captain of my Cheer Team, Second Vice President of my Chapter, and National Recording Secretary of Top Teens of America. While being in these organizations I have developed the mindset that you oversee how you react to the people and events in your life. You can either give negativity power over your life or you can choose happiness instead. I've learned to bring positivity into everything I do, and prayer breeds wonderful outcomes. Being a part of Top Teens has further brought this mindset out of me and helped me use these attributes in the real world.



Teen Desmond Henderson

My name Desmond Henderson and I am the Nashville Capitol City Chapters male teen spotlight. I am a junior at Hillsboro High School in Nashville, TN. Some interesting facts about me are I play varsity football and basketball at Hillsboro High School with a GPA of 3.5. I am in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program in the Business Academy. I enjoy singing and have been a member of the choir both at school and at church. I plan to study Mass Communication in college; therefore, I have started my own YouTube channel to help me advance my editing skills. I am involved with an organization called E.M.B.O.D.I (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence) which is hosted by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc, Nashville Alumnae Chapter. This organization brings young men together where we do activities to enrich our development and participate in giving back to the community through various community service projects. Different members in the community and members of the Divine 9 Fraternities are our guest speakers on careers opportunities. In 2019, I was selected to represent Nashville Alumnae Chapter during their 54th National Convention as a E.M.B.O.D.I representative. I have been a member of Top Teens of America for 5 years now and I hold different offices on both the local and area level. I am the Nashville Capitol City Chapter's Treasure and the Area IV Parliamentarian.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

NewRock Chapter

Teen Mya Wilson

The NewRock Chapter female teen spotlight is Teen Mya Wilson. Teen Mya is the chapters corresponding secretary. Teen Mya Wilson is a 2020 graduate from the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology. Through her years in Magnet's rigorous program, she learned the true meaning of perseverance and dedication. As an incoming freshman, she was extremely shy and not as outspoken as she would like to believe she is now. During her time at Magnet, she was a cheerleader for one year and was recognized as the hardest working person on the squad, receiving the Bulldog Award. In addition to Top Teens of America, she was also a part of Women on the Way to Success, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and Future Business Leaders of America. She also represented Rockdale County High School as Miss Twelfth Grade. She will be furthering her education at Agnes Scott College majoring in biology and minoring in humanities disciplines. She has received the Elizabeth Kiss Trailblazer Scholarship from Agnes Scott College, the Snapping Shoals J.E. Memorial Scholarship, the Marynette Bonner Lovejoy Scholarship, and she is the first recipient of the JJG STEaM Scholarship. She is eternally grateful for the scholarships that she has received and excited to be starting this new chapter in her life knowing that with Jesus Christ all her dreams are possible.

Teen John Brown

The NewRock Chapter male teen spotlight is Teen John Brown. He is the NewRock Chapters 1st Vice President. Teen John Brown is a graduating senior at Heritage High School in Conyers, Georgia and is the 1st President of the NewRock Chapter of Area IV. As the upcoming school year approaches, he will be a college freshman at Alabama A&M in Huntsville, Alabama. He will be playing baseball at Alabama A&M and looking to pursue a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. With his hard work and desire to succeed, he will proceed to get his master's degree in electrical engineering. Once a college graduate, he plans to use this knowledge to improve the growing need of smart technology. These smart technologies include, smart homes, energy efficient panels, and electric cars. A helping hand along with his knowledge and training can help grow his community soon. Being involved in the community has taught him a lot about himself and life. Community service has made him grow into a person who cares and wants to make the community a better place for everybody.

▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

North Atlanta Chapter

Teen Ebonyee Tutt-Knight

Teen Ebonyee Tutt-Knight is the North Atlanta Chapters female teen spotlight. Teen Ebonyee currently serves as the President of Top Teens of America North Atlanta Chapter. She also serves on the Area IV TTA Leadership Team as the Senior Citizen Chairman. Prior to her role of President, Teen Ebonyee served as 1st Vice President. Teen Ebonyee has attended the 2019 SynLod and 2020 Area IV Conference where she served as a delegate. During the 2020 Area IV Conference, Teen Ebonyee was recognized and received an Author's Award to include her participation in the Area IV Authors Book.

Teen Ebonyee is a junior at Lanier Middle School where she is a member of the Football Athletic Dept. and serves as a Trainer. She understands the meaning of serving our communities as she is a servant leader and member of All Nations Norcross Church. Her contributions include Community Outreach for Homeless where she provides service to Disabled Children. Also noteworthy is her contribution as a Sunday School Teacher (k-5).

Teen Nyl Aziaya

The North Atlanta male teen spotlight is Teen Nyl Aziaya. Teen Nyl serves as TTA National Mentorship Chairman and North Atlanta Chapter Treasurer where he enjoys every opportunity to engage in community service events. Aside from maintaining both Chapter and National positions in Top Teens of America, Teen Nyl spends a great deal of time participating in service organizations, including, The Atlanta Kappa League with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the Embodi Program with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Through the Embodi Program, Teen Nyl has been able to focus on culture, leadership, character building & service. Working with the Christian Service Mission in conjunction with the Embodi program, Teen Nyl participated in a Diaper & Wipe Drive to assist families in need. Teen Nyl takes great pride in helping and has the confidence, courage and compassion that will allow him to continue to impact the lives of others.

Queen City Chapter

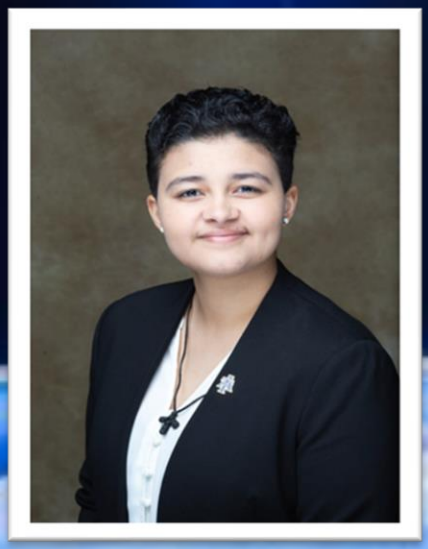
Teen Ja'Khori Belk

My name is Teen Ja'Khori Belk. I have completed all of my 9th grade honor classes and will be promoted to the 10th grade at Central Cabarrus High School. I play on Bethel Community Recreation Center's basketball team for the 2019-2020 season as point guard. In addition, to my scholastic and athletic achievement, I am actively involved in church. I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior and work heavily with the youth ministry. I am most proud to be a big brother to my younger sister and brother.

Raleigh Chapter

Teen Alicia Yodlowsky

Alicia Yodlowsky, a teen from Raleigh Chapter of Top Teens of America, has taken advantage of every opportunity presented, as she prepared for her future. Alicia has been a member for 2 years and has obtained many accolades for her service and academics. Her senior year has been very impressive, to say the least, as she participated in events locally, regionally, and nationally. Alicia is a positive example to her peers in Top Teens of America -Raleigh Chapter, her church and her school. Teen Alicia is one that goes above and beyond what is asked of her, always aiming for excellence. Alicia boast over 500 hours of community service respectfully. Teen Alicia placed 1st in the 2020 Area IV Essay Contest, she's the 2019-2020 Chapter Spelling Bee Champion, the 2019-2020 Omega Psi Phi Essay Contest Winner, and she is a member of the TTA Black History Bowl Team who won the State Competition and 6th District Competition for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. Teen Alicia Yodlowsky's, greatest accomplishment to date is being named a Cheatham-White Scholar at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T SU). Teen Alicia along with 19 other amazing scholars have earned a fully funded 4- year academic scholarship that covers her tuition, housing, meals, fees, travel, and personal expenses. Teen Alicia plans to major in agricultural and environmental systems, ultimately conducting research in the fields of plant science and environmental science.



Sandy Pines Chapter

Teen Alexis Smith-McCoy

Teen Alexis Smith-McCoy is a member of Top Teens of America Sandy Pines North Carolina Chapter. Teen Alexis is the daughter of Lady OnJerya Smith and is a 9th grader at Butler High School in Matthews, North Carolina. Alexis is very active in the community; she is a Gleaner in Jessie's Gleaners of Hope #201, Marshville, NC, and member of Henderson Grove Missionary Baptist in Lilesville, NC where she is on various committees such as choir and kitchen. She is participating in the Mecklenburg County District Attorney Office's Exploring Program. The Exploring Program is a program for students who are interested in a career in the Criminal Justice system. Alexis is a member of the Butler High School Marching Bulldogs, where she plays the auxiliary in the percussion section.

Teen Alexis became a published author at the 2020 Area IV Leadership Conference, with her fellow Top Teens in the Area IV's Book of Authors. Her poem entitled, "Be Counted and Stand." Alexis recently took part in the North Carolina Gleaner Youth Department Western Regional Day, where she received 3rd Place in the Poetry contest for ages 15-18.
Teen Alexis' guiding motto is that "Teens are our world's future, and each of them has a destiny to fulfill!"

▪ Teen Spotlight Area IV ▪

Savannah Chapter

Teen Chloe Screen

Outside of Top Teens and school, I have been a part of my church group (G.E.M.S) since I was eight years old. In G.E.M.S (Girls Evolving Into A Mature Society) we learn many things such as CPR, self-care, bettering ourselves, etc. I am the eldest of the group so oftentimes I will lead the opening of every meeting. All of the girls in the group are like my little sisters.

I am also a part of the junior Deaconess Ministry at my church where we sometimes assist in service by serving communion or collecting the offering. Also, every baptism Sunday, we prepare those who are to be baptized.

In my spare time, I like to create, edit, and post Youtube videos because one of my aspirations is to work in the film industry and become a film director. It has always been a passion of mine to create films that people can enjoy and produce work that I can feel proud of.

My major in college will be mass media, and my long-range career plans are to own my own production company and my own casting company. I would like to have a production company because I want to have the freedom to run things the way I want. I also would like to give other young directors, actors, and producers a chance to shine, learn and improve their skills. My company would also help create mass media jobs for students who are just starting their careers.

Teen Dekevian George

I am a student at Jenkins High School, and I am a well-rounded young man. I am a member of Overcoming By Faith, the Mime Ministry and AIM Youth Ministry. I am involved in numerous programs in school and outside of school. I am a member of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), two in-house programs at my school.

Outside of school, I am in a host of other great programs that include Explorer Post 290 as a Corporal, GearUp Georgia, 100 Black Men of Savannah, Boys to Men Ministry, 4-H club, a former member of Savannah Youth Council, Urban Mentoring Academy (UMA), Savannah Children's Choir, Fathers Mentoring Sons and currently a member of Savannah Youth Ambassadors. I am also a part of the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential (GCAAP), Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and I am a two-year member of the Georgia Juvenile Justice State Youth Advisory Group through CJCC (since 2018). These are statewide organizations that focus on sexual health and juvenile justice reforms. Other involvements include 21st Century Leaders, Top Teens of America Savannah Chapter where I serve as our Chapter Community Partnership Chair, Summer Bonanza as a Junior Volunteer, and a most recent member of Teen Council and the Be Strong You Matter Anti-Bullying Program.

I have been a 3X published author through the Deep Writing Program for the past 4 ½ years. Through Block by Block, I get to express my feelings and thoughts by writing them on paper. This has been a very nice accomplishment. I have received numerous awards and accolades throughout my young life. I am so faithful in giving back to my community by giving my time, feeding the homeless or participating in clothing drives or anything to help the less fortunate. I try to do all I can whether it's donations of time or monetary donations because I know that it could be any one of us needing a hand up and not a handout.

Those are just some of the programs and things I do on a monthly, weekly or a daily basis. I hope you found them interesting. Being involved in those activities is preparing me to face the world as I pursue my higher educational goals.

Wendell Chapter

Teen Joidon Boddie

Wendell Chapter Outstanding Female Teen – Teen Joidon Boddie

- Enloe High School Raleigh, NC Senior with a 3.3 GPA
- Ran track since middle school
- 2018 – 2019 Athlete of the Year for Track & Field
- Holds the Enloe High School record for the Triple Jump and tied for the Enloe High School Long Jump record
- #2 in the state for the Triple Jump
- Tied for 21st Place in the Country for the Triple Jump
- Received varsity sports letter for track and field and was offered various scholarships
- Completed Medical Biomed Science Academy at Enloe High School
- Completed Internship at Riccobene Associates Family Dentistry
- Participated in Dance and Chamber Choir all 4 years of high school
- Actively participated in the Wendell Chapter Top Teens for 5 years
- Past Area IV TTA Corresponding Secretary
- Current Wendell Chapter TTA St. Jude Chair
- Past Wendell Chapter TTA Corresponding Secretary
- Attended multiple Area IV Leadership Conferences

TEEN JOIDON BODDIE

Teen Zachary Dobbin

Wendell Chapter Outstanding Male Teen – Teen Zachary Dobbin

- Enloe High School Raleigh, NC Senior with a 3.0 GPA.
- Ran track since middle school and holds the Enloe High School track record for the 55 Meter Dash.
- Senior Track and Field Team Captain.
- Received varsity sports letter for track and field and was offered various scholarships
- Completed Medical Biomed Science Academy at Enloe High School
- Completed Internship at Wake Smiles Dental Office
- Was in Junior ROTC all 4 years of high school and ranked Sgt. Major
- Actively participated in the Wendell Chapter Top Teens for 5 years
- Current Area IV TTA Mentoring Chair
- Past Area IV TTA Sergeant at Arms
- Current Wendell Chapter TTA Sergeant at Arms
- Past Wendell Chapter TTA Chaplain
- Attended multiple Area IV Leadership Conferences

TEEN ZACHARY DOBBIN

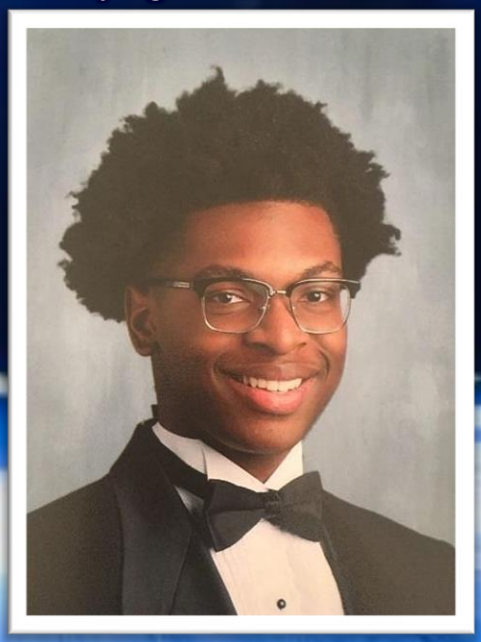
Winston-Salem Chapter

Teen LaShayla Stephens

There are quite a few activities outside of school that I thoroughly enjoy. All throughout my life I have been creating unique artwork that I love. Painting and drawing things have always been a de-stressor and a creative outlet for me. In school, I create artwork in volunteer settings to bring joy to people's lives and outside of school, my artwork serves to be a joy to my own life. My involvement in church is also something I will always remember because singing on youth choirs is like medicine for my heart. Attending different churches provided a loving community that contributed to the person I am today, and I am grateful for them. Now that I am a senior preparing for college, I really want to continue to improve my artistic skills so that I can create artwork that is even better than before. I have been accepted into my dream college, UNC Chapel Hill, and I am eager to get the experience of college life and to become a nurse.

Teen Gregory Gordon

I am Teen Gregory Gordon and I am the Winston Salem Chapters Teen Spotlight. My passion is to provide health and nutrition facts along with my tenacity to assist those with disabilities. My mom has taught me to respect everyone, but particularly those that others may disregard. I saw firsthand how many of my peers indulged in junk food as well as ignore peers that appeared slightly different. Besides taking two private courses of sign language, I am often able to notice developmental disabilities. So, when an autistic golf teammate did not seem to know the impact of junk food or how ingredients in excessive fast foods have on us, I took upon myself to partner with him during practice and tournaments to monitor his intake and encourage healthy snacks for him and the team. So, when I am volunteering at the monthly food bank, I take upon myself to select and package healthy items that are also tasty to everyone within the family unit. Having earned certification in Food Safety and Management, it is important that I share health and nutrition facts throughout the community. Reading labels and checking for MSG or other ingredients that lead to poor health is just one goal. Making others aware of fast food, chips, frozen meals, soups, seasoning blends, processed meats, condiments and instant noodle products containing MSG and the potential harm are essential, I will continue serving my peers and community even more once I obtain my degree in Health Sciences.



Dayton Chapter

Teen Armani Treece

Teen Armani Solei Treece is the daughter of Elise and Mark Treece. She is a rising Senior at Wayne High School in Huber Heights, OH. Armani has been an honor student since middle school and continues to excel academically on a high school level as well. She is currently taking college courses (Psychology) at Sinclair Community College. Her goal is to graduate high school, transfer the Sinclair credits, and begin her college career as a second semester Freshman or Sophomore. Armani enjoys painting in her spare time, writing, and reading books. She just completed reading the novel "The Hate You Give" by Angie Thomas and was inspired to join the fight for justice in America.

Armani's family suffered a house fire where the only copy of her first novel was destroyed. However, she continued writing and recently completed her second novel, entitled "The Chosen One." This novel tells the story of a young women sold into human trafficking and her triumphant courage to overcome her circumstances. Armani's inspiration for writing this novel was to bring awareness to human trafficking all over the world. She hopes to be published soon.

Teen Armani wants to be a Cardiologist and has shadowed doctors in hospitals treating patients. Her mother, who was a front-line essential worker in the medical field throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, is her role model. Teen Armani's attitude reflects "giving your all in all you do!"

Teen Ashlyn Edwards

Teen Ashlyn Rose Edwards is a Junior at Stivers School for the Arts in Dayton, Ohio where she studies Orchestra and Choir. She plays the violin for the school symphony orchestra and sings in the soprano section of the Stivers Symphonic Choir.

Teen Ashlyn has made strides athletically in the Dayton area, as she is ranked one of the top tennis players in the City two years straight. She is ranked the top tennis player for Stivers High School Tennis Team where she was recognized as Athlete of the Month. She was also named Athlete of the Week by Dayton Public Schools. Her skills on the tennis court have qualified her to serve as a Junior Tennis Instructor for the City of Dayton Parks and Recreation. In addition to her tennis achievements, Ashlyn has also well-represented her high school on the Cross-Country Track Team where she is a distance runner for indoor and outdoor track.

Ashlyn is in the top 30% of her class, a member of the Al-Ka-Pals (an Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority youth organization) and a member at Trinity Presbyterian Church, where she sings in the choir. She also plays the piano and patterns a quote from Arnold Palmer: "The most rewarding things you do in life are often the ones that look like they cannot be done."

Carson Chapter

Teen Nyla Modeliste

My name is Nyla Modeliste a current graduating high school senior at King/Drew Magnet High School. This fall I will be attending the University of California Davis, pursuing a degree in applied chemistry with a forensics emphasis. I am a proud citizen of Carson, California and have been a part of various organizations within the city. I've been a part of Top Teens of America Organization's Carson Chapter for the last two years, where I serve as treasurer for the past year. I am a former member of Sophisticated Dance Inc. for over 10 years, under the direction of Lynetta Johnson. I am a member and musician at Central Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Gerald Waddis, where I play piano for the children and adult choirs, and I sing in the youth choir. When I'm not busy in my community, I contribute to my on-campus community. At King/Drew I am a member of the Dance Team, Black Student Union, French Club, Home Econ 4 U Club, and King/Drew Medicine and Science Career Program, where I volunteered and shadowed health care professionals at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in the interventional radiology department. The King/Drew Medicine and Science career Program was featured in the LA magazine, where I and my other peers were interviewed and discuss our goals and how the program helped us with our career decision.

City of Angels Chapter

Teen Nya Johnson

Preparing for Success while Standing for Justice

Teen Nya Johnson believes that anything is possible if you keep the "pencil lead" sharpen. The lead consists of the four-key component of life – Brain, Heart, Body and Soul. This instrument is used to design her life.

At first attending Norwalk High was sad as they had many social clubs on campus, but none were specifically for African American students. Teen Nya strategically composed a plan and put it into action to spearhead the first African American Student Union on Norwalk High School campus where African American students could meet to develop relationships and make their voice heard. She also used the student to talk about issues that effected African American Teens, especially March of Dimes.

Teen Nya believes that if you do not design your own life plan, chances are you will fall into someone else's plan. She sets clear and concise goals where she will not wander, waste time or be moved by the opinions of others. She is detailed orientated which has created and built her strong character and integrity.

Teen Nya started high school on TOP with a 4.0 GPA and ended her final year in the same position… on TOP.

For Teen Nya TOP stands for:

T- Thinking I CAN WIN
O- Overcoming Obstacles and Fears
P- Prioritizing and being Proactive

Teen Nya is Tops in Service. She will be an active participant in her community. Congratulations Teen Nya, HBCU proud Grambling Tigers.

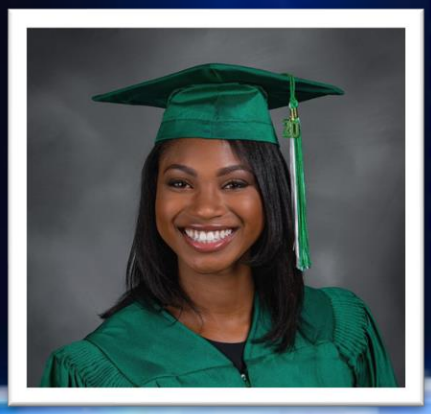
Ladera Heights Chapter

Teen Leilani Nichols

The Ladera Heights Chapter proudly recognizes Upland High School Senior, Teen Leilani Nichols, a Top Teen for five years. She served as Sickle Cell and St. Jude chair and participated in numerous TTA activities; including Syn Lod and Area Conferences.

At Upland High School, Leilani is a founding member of the Black Student Union (BSU) on her campus. She and others felt that students of African American descent should be represented with a voice. Thus, a created space was formed that fosters understanding, promotes personal growth and education of African-American history. Teen Leilani received recognition from her high school for Varsity Track and Field, being a source of encouragement by teachers, coaches, and peers, and is an honor student. In addition to being a student-athlete, Leilani currently works part-time.

A member of the Uplift Church she serves in various capacities to support of community activities that provide comfort to surrounding neighborhoods, and assists with children's church. Teen Leilani plans to attend Riverside Community College and will major in Political Science; emphasis in Pre-Law. She is gifted with the ability to understand people and their situations. This will prove valuable as she works towards her goal of becoming a Corporate Law Attorney. When asked to describe her attributes she says she is "genuine, unique, and innovative.



Lookout Life we present Teen Leilani. Her parents are Mr. & Mrs. Kendrie & Joi Nichols, sibling Autumn Nichols.

Teen Kingsley Ekejiuba

The Ladera Heights Chapter proudly recognizes Crenshaw High School senior, Teen Kingsley Ekejiuba who has been a Top Teen for the past three years. He proudly serves as our Sickle Cell Chair and has participated in numerous TTA activities and projects including Senior Citizens, Community Partnerships, and the March of Dimes.

At Crenshaw High he is a member of Saxon Buddies (teens who mentor Special Ed students) and Young, Black, Educated (a leadership organization for Afro American Students). Teen Kingsley received numerous accolades from his high school since 9th grade for Perfect Attendance, Academic Honor Roll, MVP Varsity Basketball player, and leadership recognition by his peers. As if basketball was not enough, Teen Kingsley plays tennis and is currently interning at a bank. As a member of Holy Trinity Anglican Church he serves as a Youth Provost leading his youth group in activities that feed the homeless, distributes toys, and sponsor clothing drives.

Teen Kingsley plans to attend California State University Northridge and major in Business Information System. He knows that his strongest personal asset, being a hard worker, will be required to achieve his goal to become an App Designer and Business Analyst. When asked what three adjectives best describes his character, he says, "being ambitious, versatile, and a team player. Look out world, here comes Teen Kingsley. His parents are Mr. & Mrs. Kingsley Ekejiuba, Sr. and siblings Teen Benjamin and former Teen Stephanie '18.

Phoenix Chapter

Teen Jendayi Sells

My most creative and unique thing is also the proudest moment, attending 2020 Area VI TTA conference in Las Vegas, it was my first time meeting different chapters from all over and making new friends. It was a pleasure to interact with the other chapters and to gain new friends. I came prepared and my fellow chapter members came prepared to show our creative flairs and answer the challenges they gave us in our workshops, and most of all show what this chapter was able and ready to do.

As, I reflect on 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic, yes, it took the small things from me and the things that I believe would define me, friends, prom and everything that goes along with being a Senior. But, I realizes it's not about the extravagant party and celebration that will define me, I will enjoy a small pool party, just as much, knowing the world will continue on with distancing

Today, I will move toward my goals of pursuing a Criminal Law degree and become a Police officer, while I wait to apply when I am 21, I will work as a dispatcher to gain experience and will attend community college to earn my credits and finally transfer to Arizona State University.

Teen Brandon Esparza

My proudest moment came this year in the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic. Instead of bemoaning the moment of not being able to do all of things a Senior would do in my final year, I moved with what was available to me. My friends and I still communicated via social media and use it the way only this generation could. During all of this I focused on school, I went from 210th of 592 in my sophomore class to 100th in my Senior year.

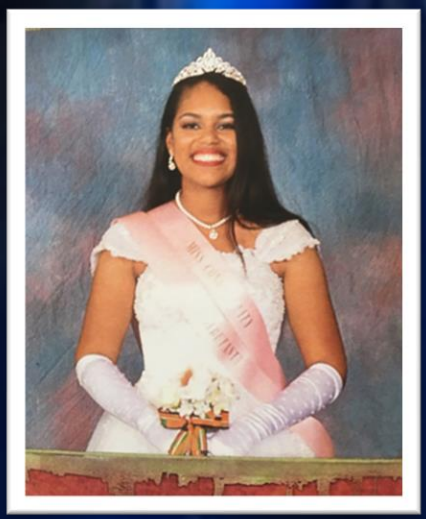
I was very proud of still participating with the St Jude's Walk, I kept my space and walked for the cause. I raised my goal and the Corvid-19 will not take that for me. I also was very proud to attend the 2020 Area VI TTA conference. I was part of a very special team and it showed in the end as my chapter received compliments on the chapter's unity.

I will also remember 2020 as the first biggest obstacle that I had to surpass thus far and will only prepare me for the next obstacle in my life. I will be pursuing a major in Biology and I plan to become a Physical Therapist.

Starlight Chapter

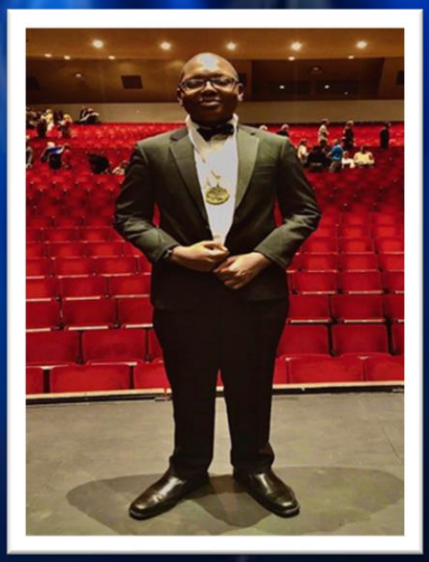
Teen Casiana Lucero

Teen Casiana Lucero has been a member of the Top Teens of America Starlight Chapter for four years. This last year she was the Recording Secretary for the chapter. She is a fantastic leader not only in the classroom but as a Top Teen and a Debutante (Beta Theta Debutante 2019). She was crowned Miss Debutante and Miss Congeniality She is a graduate of Centennial High School in Las Vegas, NV . Teen Casiana will attend Pacific Lutheran College in Tacoma, WA, where she will major in Business Administration. Teen Casiana has been accepted into the Honors program and the Diversity program at Pacific Lutheran College.



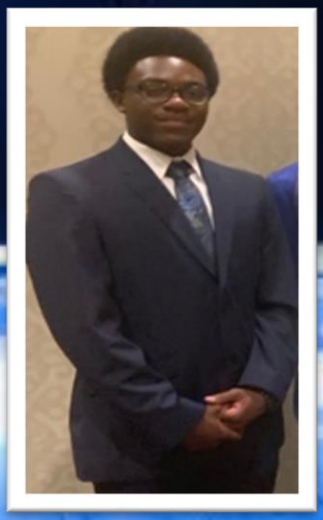
Teen Jayden Williams

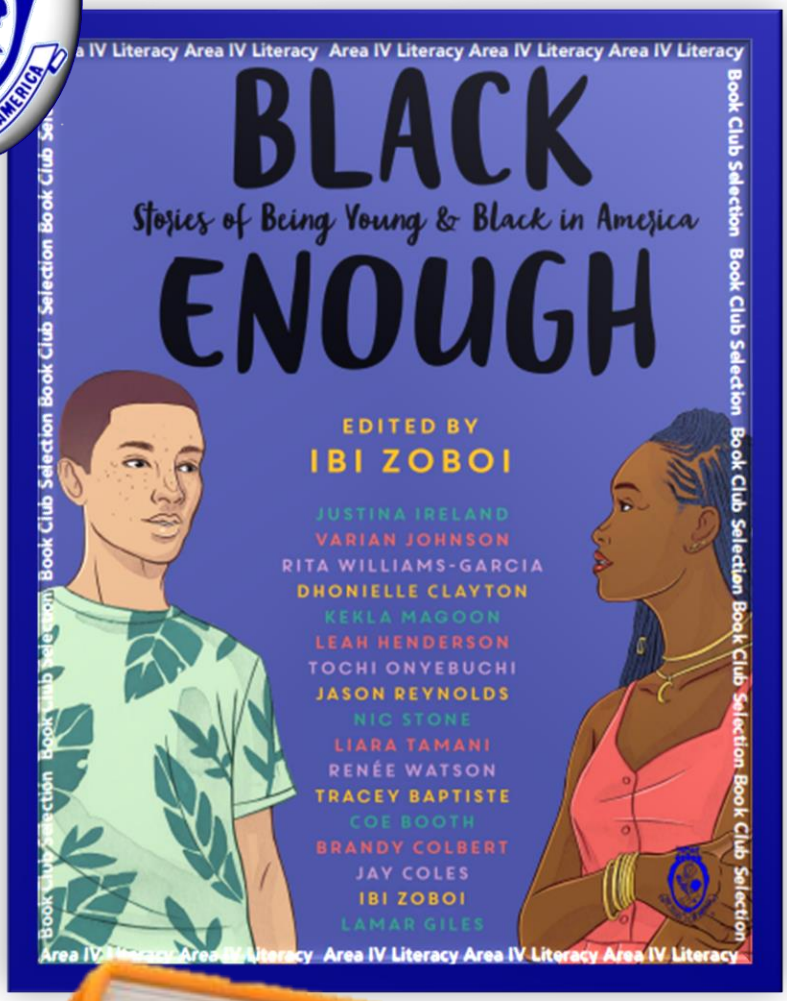
Teen Jayden Williams is the current President of the Starlight Chapter. He has been a member for four years. Teen Jaden helped to put on a remarkable 39th Area VI Leadership Conference held in Las Vegas, NV. Teen Jaden is also a skilled singer/songwriter and producer. He is a member of the Esteemed Honor Choir, which handpicked students from all over Clark County School District. Teen Jayden is a graduate of Coronado High School in Henderson, NV. Teen Jayden will attend University Nevada, Reno, NV, majoring in Computer Science



Teen Sullivan Thomas

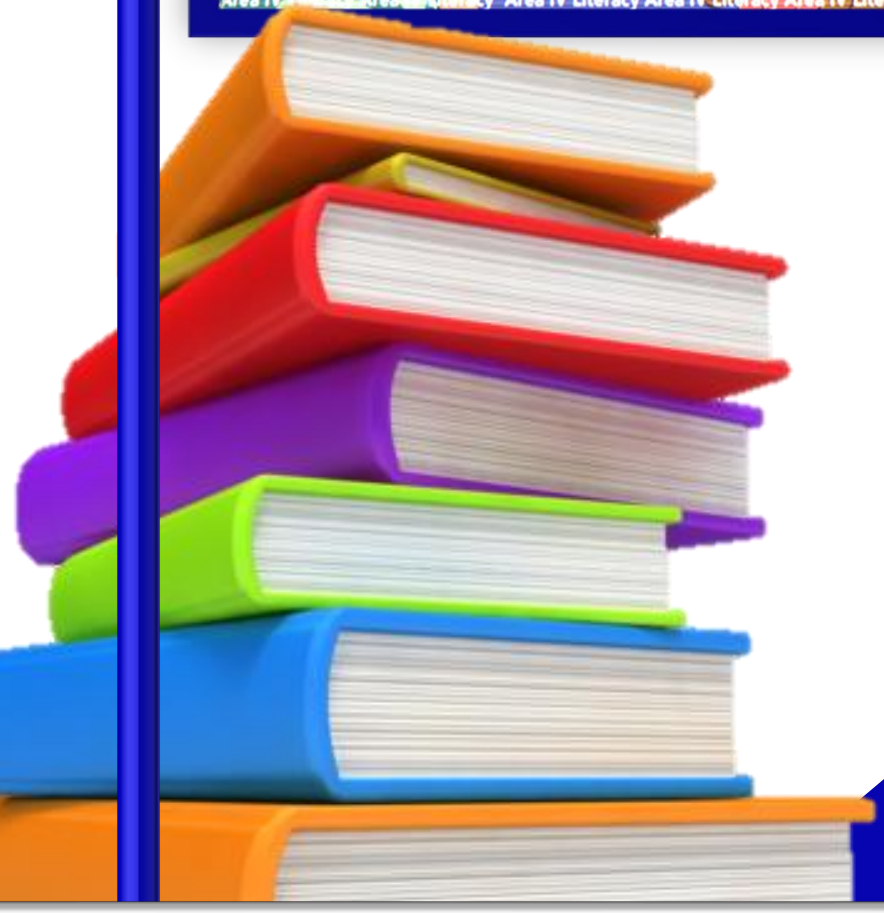
Teen Sullivan Thomas has been a member of Top Teens for four years. He is the 2nd Vice President of the Starlight Chapter and the Assistant Recording Secretary for Area VI. Teen Sullivan adores playing sports such as football and track. He admires learning about African American/Black history. He studied the Harlem Renaissance for extracurricular class. Teen Sullivan is a graduate of Coronado High School in Henderson, NV. Sullivan will attend the University of Nevada Las Vegas.





Black Enough: Stories of Being Young & Black in America edited by Ibi Zoboi. Black Enough is a compilation collection of 17 original stories written by 17 contemporary black young adult authors.

Author, Ibi Zoboi



GREAT FOR SUMMER READING

Be Counted and Stand

By Teen Alexis Smith-McCoy

Area IV - Sandy Pines Chapter

December 15, 2019

We may be too short, too tall, too fat or too slender but we are somebody, we will walk as graceful as one can, and the world will look up to us and we will

Our ears may stick out to far but we are somebody, we will walk as graceful as we can and be a good listener and the world will listen to us, and we will

They may think that we are ugly, and our hair is wild, but remember we are beautifully made and we believe in ourselves and the world will believe in us too, we will keep walking as graceful as we can the world will look up to us, and we will

We may not be where you our classmates are in our curriculums today, but we will be beyond you our classmate tomorrow, because we stands and believe in ourselves, we smile or laugh at ourselves, and all of us who are picked on, looked over, bullied, stared at and laughed at today; tomorrow we

Will be your firemen, policemen, lawyers, senators, president, principals, teachers, doctors, dentist, nurses, mail carriers, barbers, hair stylist, plumbers, building contractors, scientist and we will be your bosses and the world will look up to us, those who were left on the bench. Because we believed in ourselves and stood for ourselves and continued to believe.

"A Scarring Pandemic"

By Teen Quinn Gordon-Freel

Area VI - Mountain West Chapter

"….There's a light at the end of the tunnel although distant and hard to see
Shining bright it is always there contrary to what you may believe
In the meantime have some courage to get up every morning and try
Give praise and glory to the King of Kings and thank Him that you're alive
I know the road is long and hard and people dying breaks your heart
But pass the torch to your neighbors and you have done your part
So this pandemic will soon be over and its end is almost due
Use this time to think back on yourself and work on fixing you
Play a game or cook a steak and do what you need to survive
To overcome that brutal battle with the fiery demon inside."

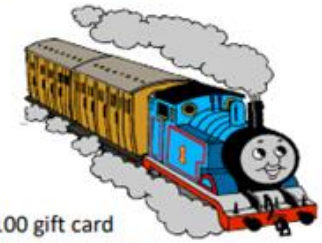
Teen Quinn
April 19, 2020

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

TO: Top Ladies and Top Teens

FROM: Lady Beverly Byrd, National TLOD Literacy Chair
Teen Madison Conerly, National TTA Literacy Chair
Lady Loretta Gray, National TLOD Literacy Co-Chair
Lady Cherise Brown Easley, National TLOD Literacy Co-Chair

The TLOD/TTA LITERACY COMMITTEE WANTS YOU TO COME ABOARD THE LITERACY TRAIN FOR AN EXCITING JOURNEY!



National Literacy Projects STOPS

I. TTA Senior Essay Contest – Due by June 15, 2020

- Two (2) winners selected from each TLOD Area
- 12 Area winners will compete Nationally
- 1st place $750, 2nd place $500 and 10 remaining Area winners will receive $100 gift card

Click the link for the essay topic and additional details: https://forms.gle/f94RX9NxiGKnPwag8

II. National Literacy Calendar – 24 Months (January 2021 – December 2022)

- 12 Top Ladies & 12 Top Teens authors will be featured – One TLOD/TTA author per month
- One free "shout out" included for birthdays, anniversaries, etc. until spaces fill up
- 24-month 9 1/2 x12 color calendar for $30 including shipping and handling
- **Purchase Early! "Shout Out" dates available on a first come first serve basis!**

Click the link for calendar purchase and additional details: https://forms.gle/BHFD1mF6nnWE52vw5

III. Literary Contests

A. Calling All Top Lady Authors

- Purchase a TLOD Literacy calendar and receive an "Honorable Mention" in the calendar for $30 including shipping and handling. Honorable Mention will include your name and title of publication.
- Twelve (12) Top Ladies (Authors) will be selected to showcase their literary work! The selected author will receive a "month" to be featured and pay an additional $100 for a 9 1/2 X 12 color advertisement that will include a photo and brief synopsis of your published work!

Click the link for calendar purchase and additional details: https://forms.gle/8qWqXoecSBH7ickb6

B. Calling All TTA Authors

- Send in your poems, short stories, narratives or any literary form of art
- Twelve (12) Top Teens will be selected to receive a month to be featured in the National Literacy Calendar!

Click the link for additional information: https://forms.gle/EdEaUN1DRS2V6fDR8

All Aboard - - TLOD Literacy Train!

▪ Financial Tips for Teens ▪

1. Understand The Power Of Time

You probably aren't making a ton of money right now, but that doesn't matter. What matters is time. And your money has a lot of it. Let's look at an example: At the end of your summer job, you have $1000. You invest it at a rate of return of 5%. You don't contribute another cent for 50 years. At the end of those 50 years, you will have $11,467.49.Time is rarely on our side but it's on your side now if you start now.

2. Start A Money Saving Habit

How long have you been brushing your teeth? Because you have been doing it for so long, it's just a habit. The power of habit is almost as important as the power of time when it comes to money. If you start the habit of saving money now, that habit will always be with you. Every dollar you get, whether it's a gift, an allowance, or pay from a job, get into the habit of saving a portion of it. Now is the time to start because you don't have a lot of expenses.

3. Track Your Spending

This can be hard because as a teenager you might be earning money by doing things like babysitting or mowing lawns and those kinds of jobs are usually paid in cash. And cash is the hardest thing to track. Cash also tends to burn a hole in our pockets, so it's better to have it stashed away somewhere, so it's less tempting. Establish a relationship with a bank now. In fifteen years when you want a loan to buy a house, a long track record with a bank can be helpful. You can get a debit card for the checking account. You can now spend money via your debit card rather than cash so you can easily track your spending.

4. Get Educated

You probably aren't getting much education about personal finance in school, maybe none at all. I have a whole conspiracy theory built around this. The more you know about money, the less you are tied to a job for decades making someone else money and the less consumer crap you buy. So you can see why it's in the interest of certain groups to keep you in the dark when it comes to handling money.

5. Make Smart Decisions About College

A smart decision about college can include the decision not to attend, or to delay attending for a few years and work full time to help pay for it.

A smart decision might be attending a local college for two years and then transferring to a more expensive, prestigious school. It means applying for every grant and scholarship you are evenly remotely qualified for.

A smart decision is choosing to major in something that people actually get paid to do.

6. Establish A Credit History

Ideally, parents would help you start a credit history before you leave home. Handing an 18-year-old their first credit card the day they get dropped off at college and telling them to "use it responsibly" and leaving it at that is a recipe for disaster. It's better if the process starts while you still live at home, and your decisions can be monitored. Speak to your parents about adding you as an authorized user to one of their credit cards. They don't even have to give you access to the card but adding you to the account will open a credit file in your name. Once you have a credit file, get into the habit of checking your credit score.

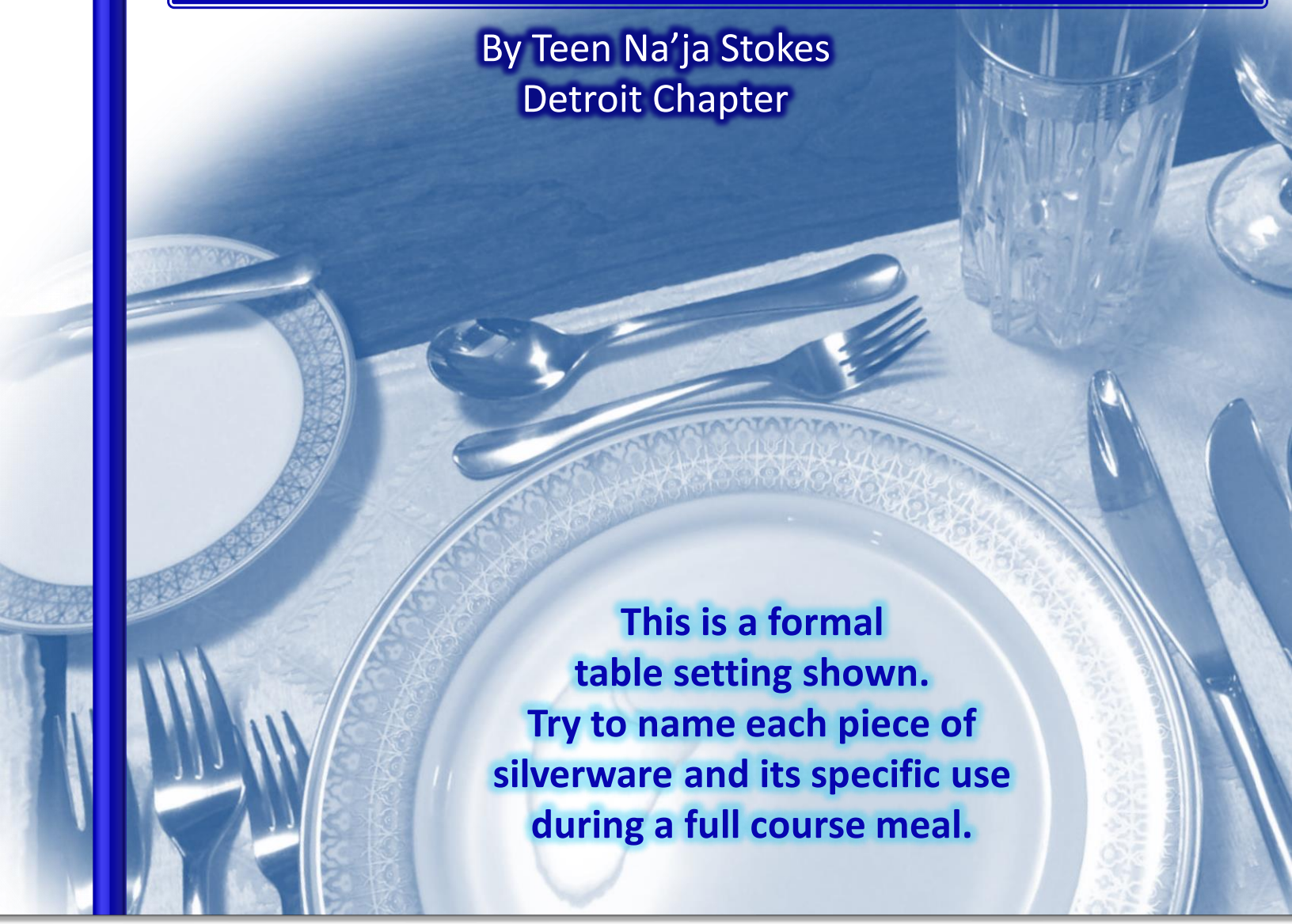
7. Use Your Student ID

You can get so many discounts using your ID; Amazon Prime, tickets to museums, concerts, sporting events, restaurants, groceries, movies, train and bus travel, hotels, restaurants, newspaper and magazine subscriptions, clothing, electronics, shipping and lots more. Anytime you buy something, ask if there is a student discount.

Here is a list of 10 easy etiquette tips you can implement in your daily life:

1. Look people in the eye when you speak to them.
2. Cover your coughs and sneezes.
3. Wash your hands before eating.
4. Clean up after yourself if you make a mess.
5. Chew with your mouth closed.
6. Refrain from using your phone during mealtimes.
7. Maintain proper hygiene.
8. Say 'excuse me' when you interrupt or need to pass someone.
9. Be punctual.
10. Listen when others are speaking.

By Teen Na'ja Stokes
Detroit Chapter



This is a formal table setting shown. Try to name each piece of silverware and its specific use during a full course meal.

▪ Greeting | Area I TTA President ▪

Greetings Top Teens of America Area One,

I am indeed honored to extend greetings to all of you during these challenging times. It is my prayer that you and your families stay safe and well. Sometimes God allows challenges so he can redirect us to his will. Please take this opportunity to grow closer to Him, explore untapped creative gifts and experience new things.

I praise God for giving our national leaders the vision to help us adapt in this current challenge so we can continue with our thrusts, making a difference for those who need it most. With that in mind, I encourage each chapter to stay connected. Please reach out to each other via zoom, facetime or conference call. Chapter meetings and activities may be the only peer connection some Teens get. Your executive board and I are meeting to make sure our 50th Area One Leadership Conference will be the best ever. We want your leadership conference to be educational, inspirational and entertaining.

Remember: He which has begun a good work in you will perform it even in these challenging times. Therefore, I challenge you to commit your ways unto the Lord, trust Him and keep moving forward. Thank you for making Area One, the #1 Area of the Top Teens of America.

Yours in service,

Teen Chase Roberts

Area One President, Top Teens of America Inc.
"Participation is our Foundation as leaders of tomorrow"

▪ Greeting | Area I TTA Advisor ▪

Greetings,

It is my honor and joy to bring greetings as the Area I Top Teens Advisor and the more than One thousand two hundred forty-five plus Teens, and thirty-three committed Advisors in Area I.

Advisors and Teens are taking their creativity to new levels. The times that we are currently experiencing makes the task of providing service to our communities seems as daunting as ever, yet there is no doubt in my mind that Area I will continue to prevail. Not only on the nobility of our cause but more importantly on the uniqueness of the service provided by the Ladies, Teens, and Lords of Area I. As we work to promote the National theme, "Celebrating Our Legacy, Transforming Lives, and Making a Difference…One Teen, One Lady, and One Community at a Time (TLC), Advisors, and Teens recognize the importance of persisting steadfastly in pursuit of the task even if hindered by distraction, difficulty, or obstacles.

As we embark upon five decades of service, there are so many more outstanding ways to continue to serve that are planned now and beyond. Let us persevere to serve and advocate in whatever capacity we can as we stand together and allow the work that we do speak for us.

I believe that together "we can, we will, watch us" make a difference. It is after all about the service we provide to others.

Lady Lynette Smith

MISSOURI CITY - SPACE CITY CHAPTER

Missouri City Makes History

Dr. A.L. Patterson once said "if you want to get your mountain you must help someone else get theirs" In March 2019 at the 48th Annual Area One Leadership Conference the Missouri City Teens lead by then Chapter President, Teen Amari Venzor, rallied behind Teen Chase Roberts, Director of Operations, as he campaigned for the Position of Area One President. They encouraged Area One to Race with Chase. Thankfully Chase won the election and became the first elected Area One President from the Missouri City Space City Chapter.

Teen Amari had his eye on the National Presidency. Naturally the Missouri City Teens sprung back into action. Armed with t-shirts, buttons, cokes cupcakes and push cards his chapter set out to encourage the Nation of Top Teens of America to "Soar with Venzor" and again history was made for Missouri City Chapter as Teen Amari is the first National President to hail from the Missouri City Chapter.

The Missouri City Space City Chapter of the Top Teens of America Inc. are blessed and proud to be the home of the National Top Teen President, Teen Amari Venzor, and Area One President, Teen Chase Roberts 2019-2021.

It has been a privilege to lead and work alongside these young men. They have served and are serving their chapter, communities and church families well. Teens Amari and Chase are great examples of leadership in action.

DALLAS CHAPTER

Top Teens planting gardens during the Pandemic

Teen Imani Wise worked to create a "Kiddie Pool Garden" the vegetables and flowers were planted in grow bags. The grow bags were then placed in the pools using a wicking system to reduce the amount of water needed to grow the plants.

ROSE CITY CHAPTER

On December 21, 2020, Rose City inducted 18 Memorable Teens at 10:00 am. These teens were inducted during our 50th Rose City Top Teens Anniversary Celebration. The celebration was held in Tyler, Texas at Harvey Hall Convention Center at 7:00 pm. Our guest speaker was Lady Harnell Price Williams, First Top Teens National President and Tyler native. Other distinguished guests were: Lady Sharon Beard, National TLOD President; Lady Annie Mouton, Area One Director and Ms. Nytesia Poe Ross, Past National Top Teens President and Tyler native. Due to a flight cancellation, Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teens Director was unable to attend the celebration.

SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN CHAPTER

On the second Saturday in December 2019, the Top Teens of America, San Antonio Metropolitan Chapter, Area I, participated in the Wreaths Across America program at the Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. Wreaths Across America began as a project at Arlington Cemetery. In 2007 Wreaths Across America became a national non-profit organization with volunteers throughout the country. The mission of Wreaths Across America is: Remember, Honor, Teach.

Wreaths Across America is committed to teach young generations about the value of freedoms and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect these freedoms. Various organizations and volunteers donate money to purchase the wreaths.

There was an opening ceremony designed to teach the purpose and the necessity for honoring veterans who have served their country in war and peace times. The Top Teens were given a designated area of the National Cemetery to place wreaths on each gravesite. The National Cemetery was adorned for the holidays, and the Teens were able to observe information on headstones about the diversity of our nation's veterans. The purpose of remember, honor and teach was accomplished.

Plans are underway for the next Wreaths Across America at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

PORT ARTHUR CHAPTER

"A Day in the Park"

A group of Port Arthur Top Teens made their way to a city park sandwiched between a gorgeous Baptist church and a former public housing complex with a mission to clean up and improve the safety of a park. Port Arthur TLOD and TTA organized the event in partnership with the City of Port Arthur and the Adopt-a-Park program. This Beautification Park Clean up event took place on October 12, 2019 at Carver Terrace Park near New St. John Baptist Church in Port Arthur, TX.

On this bright sunny day after the park clean up, teens participated in a UNCF Walk in the same neighborhood. The day wrapped up with a picnic lunch.

▪ Greeting | Area II TTA President ▪

Greetings Top Ladies, Top Teens and Lords!

On behalf of the Awesome and Amazing Area II TTA Executive Board, it is my honor and pleasure to bring greetings to you. We are living in unprecedented times and though things may not be the norm for many of us, I hope each of you have an opportunity to reflect and use this time to build character, courage and confidence.

Top Teens of America has been an important presence in our lives. The programs and projects have helped us provide excellence through culture, education and leadership and have helped instill a sense of community responsibility. It is important to always reach for more and have higher goals to surpass anything we set our minds to do. Hard work and dedication have brought each of us to where we are today

I've had the opportunity to witness numerous achievements and success of both Area II teens and teens across the country and it makes me proud to be part of this great organization. We are leading the way and following our motto "Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow." We must surround ourselves with likeminded teens to both thrive as an organization and grow as individuals. If we take all the life lessons and memorable times, we have experienced being a part of this organization, we can become even better people than we already are.

In closing, my prayer is that each of my fellow teens continue to serve Top Teens of America with EXCITEMENT and EXCELLENCE.

Yours in Service,

Teen Zakiah Carpenter

Area II TTA President

▪ Greeting | Area II TTA Advisor ▪

Top Ladies, Top Teens and Lords,

It is my honor and great privilege to bring you greetings on behalf of the "Awesome & Amazing" Area II Top Teens and Chapter Advisors. These are challenging times and the need for community-minded, creative problem-solvers has never been greater.

Under the guidance of National Area II Director, Lady Sandra Clark, we proudly forge ahead committed to transforming lives and making an impact in our communities. Area II Top Teens from the New York tristate area, the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak, to Virginia have used technology to hold virtual fundraisers, "Mental Health Monday" discussions, career training sessions and held a mini Black History Bowl. We continue to strive for **ExCELLENCE** as we seek new ways to engage in our changing environment.

Top Teens are part of a rich heritage dedicated to service and leadership. It from this foundation that we must draw strength and know that we are equipped to get beyond today and help shape a beautiful tomorrow. I encourage you to be deliberate in your connections and intentional your commitment to service as you remember the Top Teens of America motto, **"Participation is our Foundation as Leaders of Tomorrow."**

Yours in Service,

Lady Katina Robinson Wright

Area II Top Teens Advisor
"Together We Are Better"

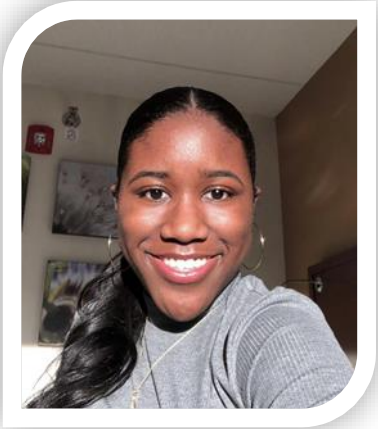
SOUTHERN MARYLAND CHAPTER

The Charles County Branch of the NAACP held its 32nd Annual Freedom Fund Gala titled, "When We Fight, We Win", to celebrate 110 years of Civil Rights History on September 7, 2019 in Waldorf, MD. At this event of over 300 attendees, members of the community were honored for superlative service that made a difference in Charles County, Maryland and beyond. Lady Michele Bell, Advisor for the Southern Maryland Chapter of Top Teens of America, nominated Teen Caleb Wiggins for the Charles County NAACP 2019 Hall of Fame. Teen Caleb serves as the Chapter's 2nd Vice President and previously held the position of the Chapter's NAACP Committee Chair. We are excited to announce he was selected as an honoree and was inducted into the Hall of Fame during this event.

Teen Caleb was honored and received a Certificate of Appreciation and an Official Citation from the Maryland General Assembly (signed by Delegate Edith Patterson). He received an Official Citation from the Charles County Commissioners (signed by Delegates Reuben Collins II, Gilbert Bowling, Thomasina Coates, and Bobby Rucci). He also received a Certificate of Congressional Recognition acknowledging his Hall of Fame Induction from U.S. Congressman, Steny Hoyer and another from U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin.

Several Southern Maryland Chapter Top Ladies attended this event. Teen Caleb attended along with his parents and grandparents. This was a wonderful networking opportunity for Teen Caleb because he was able to meet several community leaders and other 2019 Inductees. As a Top Teen who is an honor student and a young man with a heart to serve, Teen Caleb was well deserving of this honor. He organized an NAACP Sock Drive last year and was able to donate over 100 pairs of socks to Lifestyles, Inc., a local nonprofit organization that supports people in crisis. Lifestyles, Inc. provides emergency assistance to our community with the support of partnerships. We are honored and proud to have Teen Caleb as a member of the Southern Maryland Chapter.

▪ Greeting | Area III TTA President ▪



Greetings Ladies, Teens and Lords,

As the Area III Top Teen President, my name is Erin Chapman and I bring you greetings on behalf of the entire Area III Executive Board and all of Area III. I understand that there are extremely rare circumstances in which this country is being faced, but I trust that Top Teens can move forward with pride and dignity whilst exemplifying what it means to be a part of TTA. I am proud to be a part of Area III because of how well things are being held within each chapter. I genuinely hope that you are still engaging with your TLOD and TTA family because they are here to help and aid everyone through these uncertain times. With that being said I sincerely hope everyone is staying safe and being cautious.

Yours in service,

Teen Erin Chapman

Area III TTA President

▪ Greeting | Area III TTA Advisor ▪

Greetings Ladies, Teens and Lords,

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to each of you as the Area lll Top Teens Advisor. I am excited as we are completing a successful year of rolling out the new National TTA Program, ExCEL. Our TTA Chapters embraced the Cultural, Education and Leadership Pillars of the ExCEL Program in our Program of Work, Service in the Community and our Area Leadership Conference Programs.

Area lll Top Teens continue to shine within Top Teens of America and beyond. Our Area lll Top Teens have flourished and received numerous accolades within their communities and here are a few highlights of their success.

- Three Top Teens awarded full college tuition through the Posse Foundation which will result in each teen awarded over $200,000 dollars.
- Several Top Teen Seniors awarded over $250,000 each in college academic scholarships.
- Three Top Teen Seniors awarded associate degrees and trade school certifications while completing high school.
- Five Top Teens awarded the Operation Push, Dr. King STEM Awards.
- Two Top Teens selected in the Goggle Coding Program in which they trained middle school students on the importance coding.
- An Area lll Top Teen selected as a Youth Ambassador to the Chicago Mayor, Mayor Lori Lightfoot.

The Area lll Leadership developed a senior recognition social media page to highlight our over fifty plus graduating seniors. We congratulate our seniors for accomplishing another educational milestone and we wish them well as they pursue their goals and become leaders in their communities.

Lastly, I wish you well through this season and may we continue to make a difference within our communities.

In Service to Youth and Adults,

Lady Michele D. Davis

Area III Top Teens Advisor

WEST LOOP CHICAGO CHAPTER

Top Teens of America Chicago West Loop Chapter has been very active in implementing the M.O.M.E.N.TU.M program "Community Service is our Goal" as well as participating side by side with the Ladies on National Projects & THRUST.

January 2020 Area III TTA Assist Advisor and Top Teen Officers from North Cluster Area III attended the first meeting and provided support, and training to the teens on "How to conduct a meeting" roles and responsibilities of each officer and expectations for the upcoming AREA III Conference (March 12-15, Naperville, IL). Applications for the NAACP (ACT-SO program) were distributed to the teens at the January meeting. Pink and Blue day of service. Chicago West Loop Teens provided toiletry care packages for the 86 Senior residents of the Montclair Assisted Living Facility (18thPl and Kostner, Chicago, IL)

MIDWAY CHICAGO CHAPTER

In this photo, Teen RaMaya is at a Senior Suite facility celebrating a holiday event engaging with a few elder residents as they played bingo, hosted by Top Teens Midway Chicago Chapter. This picture is significant to RaMaya because it highlights one of the purposes Top Teens of America strives to carry out, to serve and develop deep concern for senior citizens. RaMaya was able to spend quality time with the residents of Senior Suites while also playing a classic game they enjoyed. The elders at Senior Suites loved talking about current events, recent activities they were introduced to, and learning about what its like being a teenager in today's society. This time for RaMaya was always a great opportunity to engage in meaningful conversation and help answer any questions they had, for example with technology, learning how to send a text to ordering online gifts for their grandchildren. The residents of Senior Suites were always delighted to see the Top Teens of Midway Chicago host events for them each year to change up their everyday routine. Holiday events like this allowed RaMaya to show concern and serve her senior citizens in her community, while also building quality memories with them. RaMaya was always delighted to come back over the three years being a Top Teen of America member bringing the holiday spirit to their lives.

Teen RaMaya Johnson served as an Area 3 Top Teen of America for Midway Chicago Chapter, Chicago, Illinois for three years.

▪ Greeting | Area IV TTA President ▪

Blessings to all. I greet you with Royal Blue and Silver TTA Pride. It is my pleasure to lead with the emblems of our insignia (the Scroll, Squill and Pen) and serve as the 2019-2021 Area IV TTA President. I have and will respectfully honor and fulfill our motto and ask that all teens will do the same. Motto: Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow. Thank you, Top Ladies of Distinction Inc., and Top Teens of America, for this opportunity to serve and share the amazing and outstanding activities that the Area IV Top Teens have been involved in. There are currently 26 TTA Chapters and over 500 Top Teens in Area IV serving diligently in their various communities. Thank you to the wonderful Area IV TTA Executive Board and Area IV TTA Advisor(s) and the National Area IV Director.

The Mission as TTA Area IV President: is to continue to implement new fun ways of learning the TTA Culture, Service Programs and Projects of work within the chapters; developing strategies to make less work but with a greater impact for servicing our communities. Highlights of Area IV TTA for 2019-2020 year thus far: Planned and coordinated a successful Area IV Leadership Conference in Savannah, GA. Organized the first Area IV TTA Executive Board Retreat via Zoom in August 2019, Mentoring through Literacy-Engaged Ladies and Top Teens with the Area IV Literacy Book Club, developed the TTA Area IV Literacy Book of Authors (comprised of the Area IV Top Teens), TTA Area IV Literacy Poster Contest, TTA Literacy Online Story Reading, Implemented a safe TTA Social Media presence, Donating food, clothing and other essentials for the Area IV Outreach Projects for homeless teens and Food Farm Shares for Covid-19 families and essential workers, and most importantly facilitated monthly studies and quizzes on the TTA Governance in executive board meetings.

These objectives require all Teens and Ladies to mentor to one another and work together. We can all learn from one another. Teens we have an obligation to continue the work that the Founders desired for us to do long ago and so we must remain on the path of education, leadership and SEVICE. I look forward to meeting each one of you via phone, zoom, in person, email or social media. Top Teens #BE GREAT Because You Can!

Respectfully yours,

Teen Joseph B. Thomas, **III**

Area IV TTA President

▪ Greeting | Area IV TTA Advisor ▪

I am overwhelmed with joy because I have the privilege and blessing to greet all Area's Top Teens, Area TTA Advisors, National Top Teens Director and National Area Directors with exhilaration, strength, and pleasure. As Area IV TTA Advisor I have focused on our Teens partnering with each lady as it relates to the TLOD/TTA Mentor and Mentee. Thank you, Top Ladies of Distinction Inc., and Top Teens of America, for this opportunity to serve and share the amazing and outstanding activities that the Area IV Top Teens have been involved in by serving diligently in their various communities. Thank you to the wonderful Area IV TTA Executive Board and Area IV TTA Advisor(s) and the National Area IV Director.

In regards to COVID-19 and social distancing. TTA have made me proud with our “new normal.” You have expanded your use with social media such as ”Tic Toc, Google Slide and Zoom” to reach and help others connect and in some cases reconnect. Continue to check on your fellow Top Teens and reach out to the Top Ladies for any additional support. Top Teens you have risen to the occasion during this pandemic and have shown initiative and leadership how to support your peers who are greatly impacted by COVID-19. Your ability to reach out heavily within our TTA and TLOD internal Community and surrounding Area Chapters is truly impressive. We are truly in this together. Please continue to practice social distancing when you are in the community participating in the various projects and programs. Top Teens are striving and helping to improve the quality of lives of others in your communities.

We have been working persistently to create an atmosphere that coexists with our Area IV Theme : Moving Forward; Making a Difference, Honoring Our Legacy, and Shaping the Future in TLOD & TTA. This theme serves as a foundation to build leaders, increase learning and symbolizes our strength to continue grow. I look forward to embracing and celebrating each other on the "Voice" newsletter! So While you are here Please Gaze Upward, Look Inward, Reach Outward and Move Forward.

Welcome,

Lady Barbara Stowe

Area IV Top Teens Advisor

DURHAM CHAPTER

Durham Chapter TTA Winning the Hearts of Seniors Through Food and Bingo

What better way to reach the hearts of Seniors than through some good food, several rounds of Bingo, and some awesome Teens. The Top Teens from the Durham Chapter, Area IV located in Durham, North Carolina did just that. On Saturday, February 22, 2020, the Durham Teens, along with some members of University Assembly No. 218 served and fellowshipped with the 34 residents at the Durham Hosiery Mill. The Durham Hosiery Mill, located at 804 Angier Avenue in Durham, provides Section 8 housing for the elderly.

The Teens quickly took position on the serving line and provided the Seniors with a hot meal. Afterward, Bingo began! The Seniors played round after round of Bingo. The Teens assisted those Seniors with hearing problems and read off the Bingo cards to the Caller. Of course, each winning Senior received a gift. There were even special monetary gift envelopes compliments of the Durham Chapter Teens. One of the male residents yelled, “Bingo, go ahead and bring me one of those special envelopes.” The Seniors and Teens loved the interaction and won each other over.

At the end of the day, the Seniors expressed how much fun they had with the Teens. The Seniors said they have had other groups to come and do things for them, but they rarely have a group to come and actually spend time with them. They were extremely appreciative, particularly those with no family.

ATLANTA PEACHTREE CHAPTER

International Community Service Project

Atlanta Peachtree Teens Supports School Supply Drive in Puntarenas Costa Rica

In January of 2020, Atlanta Peachtree Chapter participated in an international school supply drive for underprivileged students in Puntarenas Costa Rica. The school receives little to no funding from the government. Therefore, the school relies on annual donations. Teen Allyson Kirksey, TTA Secretary who is a high school freshman attending North Cobb High School Magnet Program in Atlanta, Georgia spearheaded a partnership between North Cobb High School’s Magnet Program and APC Top Teens to provide additional supplies outside of what her school would be donating. As Top Teens of America, Teen Allyson and APC teens recognized the need to do more to support this great cause. APC Top Teens donated 150 more additional pencils to a small school in Puntarenas Costa Rica. APC is proud to have teens who desire to serve at all times! This was not only a trip to learn about other cultures, languages and societies, but an opportunity for APC Teens to make an impact on underprivileged schools and students across the globe. Teen Allyson was inducted into APC TTA in December of 2019. We are proud of her for establishing new partnerships on a local and international level. Kudos to Teen Allyson and APC Tops in Service!

NORTH ATLANTA CHAPTER

Atlanta Ladies & Teens participate in National Pink and Blue Day of Service with the NAACP 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade.

North Atlanta Ladies and Teens serving the community and keeping the area clean during the Adopt a Road Community Beautification service project.

AUGUSTA CHAPTER

TTA and TLOD Augusta Chapter Partnered with Broadway Baptist Church, AKA Alumni Chapter, and Bridge Ministry to clothe, feed, and distribute Christmas gifts. The Teens and The Ladies donated toys, care packages, and blankets.

BRYAN LIBERTY COUNTIES CHAPTER

Tis the Season to Give to the Senior Citizens Community

The Top Teens and Top Ladies of the Bryan Liberty Counties Chapter, Area IV blessed the residents on December 14, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Lauren the Activities Assistant at Bryan Co Health and Rehab was excited to have us bring cheer to the residents with Christmas gifts. The chapter donated socks, Undershirts (Men) Night gowns/House gowns M-XL(Women) in gift bags to the residents. We blessed a total of 95 residents. Pictured in the photo from left to right Teen Shawn, Teen Jada, Teen Jared, Lady Wanda, Teen Miah and former Teen Reagan.

The Liberty County Branch NAACP 67th Freedom Fund Banquet & Gala

The Liberty County Branch NAACP 67th Freedom Fund Banquet & Gala was held on Saturday, Oct. 5, at Club Stewart Main Ballroom, 1020 Hero Road, on Fort Stewart. The theme this year is Stronger Together: "When We Fight, We Win!" The keynote speaker for the gala was Willie E. Gary, Esq. The Freedom Fund Banquet & Gala is the chapter's premiere annual fundraiser. Tickets were purchased for a donation of $50. The funds raised will help the Liberty County NAACP Mission of fostering a stronger and healthier community as it relates to civic, economic, educational, and civil rights. Portions of the funds will also go toward scholarships for high school graduates of Liberty County and, the Ralph Quarterman Monument Fund, a collaboration with the 1st Saturday Legislative Party. Teen Jared was honored with the Youth Awards for the NAACP in Liberty County. Teen Jared is very active in the Youth Division of the NAACP. Congratulations to Teen Jared Johnson, President of the Bryan Liberty Counties Chapter of Top Teens of America.

NEWROCK CHAPTER

Thirty Care Packages Delivered for The Pink and Blue Day of Service

The Top Teens of America – NewRock Chapter in collaboration with the Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. - NewRock Chapter donated 30 "Packages with a Purpose" to the 30 residents of Monarch Villa, a memory care center for people with Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia for the Pink and Blue Day of Service. Each blue basket contained various items and or toiletries that the residents use daily. In addition to delivering the care packages, the teens read several of Dr. King's famous quotes and ended their time with the residents by playing BINGO.

CONCORD CHAPTER

On February 29, 2020 the Charlotte Museum of History hosted an African American Heritage Festival. Ladies and Teens enjoyed learning the history of the life and works of African Americans that built the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The museum displayed historical photos of African American communities, schools, business, and homes. Exhibits captured some of the most notable black communities such as Brooklyn Village, Biddle, Grier Heights, and the Myer's Street School later nicknames Jacob's Ladder was the largest elementary school in North Carolina for black children. Ladies and Teens also toured the original log cabin home of Hezekiah Alexander, this two-story stone house is the oldest surviving structure in Mecklenburg County and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
Our Teens, and many of the Ladies, learned about the rich history of African Americans in Charlotte that we now enjoy.

NASHVILLE CAPITOL CITY CHAPTER

Pink and Blue Day of Service

Meals on Wheels is a network of community-based, non-profit programs dedicated to providing seniors in their communities with the support that enables them to remain living in their own homes, where they want to be. This support is typically a nutritious meal, a friendly visit and a quick safety check.

For this special day (1/20/20), TLOD/TTA organized a partnership with Bethel AME Church, Kairos - Ebenezer AME Church and Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Lambda Omega Chapter. As Meals on Wheels volunteers, we primarily provide nutritious meals, a quick safety check and much-needed human connection to homebound seniors In addition to the national and local resources through grants and organization contributions, volunteers like us go the extra mile to provide more enhanced services.

On the Pink and Blue Day of Service, the food distributor delivers a truck load of food and supplies that will be used in preparing food for the following two weeks. On this day, several volunteers arrive at the site to assist in unloading the truck and storing the supplies and food. In addition, the meals for the second half of the month are enhanced to include special light desserts and/or enhanced entrée. This is above the grant allowance. We received donations to purchase extra items that were used to prepare the desserts and to add to the regular meals.

Ladies, Lords and TTA-Teens assisted in sorting, storing and with the preparation of meals that were delivered during the week. This collaborative effort supported 2020 senior citizens and disabled persons within the community with 1100 meals for a week.

WENDELL CHAPTER

Giving "Top" Level Community Service

The Wendell Chapter Top Ladies and Top Teens spent the weekend of October 5, 2019 providing service in the community to (1) enhance the status of women by soliciting and donating clothing to victims of domestic violence, (2) by donating socks and facial tissues to seniors at a local nursing and rehabilitation center, along with singing songs and providing companionship for the seniors and (3) by volunteering as host/hostesses and servers at a local church's Senior Citizens Banquet. These events of service provided an opportunity to strengthen the mentor/mentee aspect of the organization's program of work, as the Wendell Top Ladies and Top Teens focused on enhancing the lives and needs of the community.

Wendell Top Teens and Top Ladies delivered clothing to The Purple Shoe Thrift Shop for victims of domestic violence

Wendell Top Teens & Top Ladies deliver socks and facial tissues to seniors at nursing and rehabilitation center

Wendell Top Ladies and Top Teens attend National African American Read-In

On Saturday, February 29, 2020, the Wendell Chapter of Top Ladies and Top Teens attended the National African American Read-In at The PureLife Theater (Raleigh, NC) in partnership with the Richard B. Harrison Library. The Top Teens participated in spoken word by reading exerts from books, poetry, and song lyrics written by renowned African Americans, such as Maya Angelou, J. Cole, Eugene Perkins and many others. The Top Teens also registered participants and ushered them and guests to their seats. There were musical performances and numerous displays of black history literacy, stressing African Americans contributions. The event offered a networking environment with a literacy opportunity for the Wendell Teens and Ladies. The event also emphasized and encouraged the love of reading and the appreciation of contributions by our African American artists. Three years ago, the Wendell Top Teens were among the first to be invited to the first African American Read-In at the NC State Capitol and have continued as volunteer participants since then.

Teen Jaleah and Teen Mouhamadou register participants that will read during National African American Read-In - Raleigh, NC

BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER

The Birmingham Metro Chapter loves to give back

The Birmingham Metro Chapter of Top Teens of America has been busy with community service. As the only active chapter in the state of Alabama, the Top Teens cast their net wide to provide support communities throughout the South. Last November, Teen Jalisa, Teen DaShanti, Teen Zipporah and Teen Amber gathered canned goods to provide food for a needy family at Thanksgiving time in Birmingham, Alabama.

In honor of Dr. King's Day of Service, Teen Dashanti and Teen Jalisa gathered toiletries and socks for senior citizens at Crimson Health and Rehab in Montgomery, Alabama.

The plans the chapter had to serve the community have been halted by the pandemic, luckily Top Teen Jalisa and Dashanti were able to travel to Savannah, GA for the TLOD 38th Area IV Conference and participated in the Heart & Sole 3k Walk and the Have a Heart Canned Drive. Teen Dashanti said "It's been a great experience and I feel supported in becoming a leader in my community".

MIAMI CHAPTER

2020 MLK Day of Service Beach Cleanup

Another battle has been won in the fight against litter: In January, the TTA Miami Chapter partnered with Frost Science MUVE (Museum Volunteers for the Environment) to clean up a 300-meter stretch of the northern point of Virginia Key Beach, collecting about 10 gallons of trash. The Miami Teens were able to track the types of debris collected using the Clean Swell App and physical data sheets to provide to researchers at the Ocean Conservancy. The TTA Miami Chapter looks forward to working with other local entities to continue beach cleanups, as well other cleanups throughout the needed areas of Miami.

"Breakfast with Santa" Children Battling Sickle Cell

In December 2019, all children with sickle cell disease between the ages of 5 and 12 and their siblings were invited by the Miami-Dade County Chapter of the Sickle Cell Disease Association to a "Breakfast with Santa." at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Each child received a gift and a scrumptious breakfast donated by other organizations I ncluding our very own Top Ladies of Distinction Miami Chapter. The Miami Teens provided food baskets and served as Elves/Santa's Helpers during breakfast time and assisted with face painting, games and the distribution of toys.

▪ Greeting | Area V TTA President ▪

Greetings, Top Ladies, Top Teens, Lords,

Welcome to Area V! While reflecting our Area V theme "Lighting the Future Through Our Commitment to Excellence," I began to think of my peers, members of Top Teens of America. I commend each of you for your continued dedication to this wonderful organization.

I am blessed beyond imagination to be among such powerful and intelligent Teens, Ladies, and Lords. My hope is that we all are enriched with new lessons to improve ourselves, home, and community. We are all here to uplift one another, learn new ways to become stronger leaders, form positive relationships, and have a great time. "Participation is Our Foundation as Leaders of Tomorrow," and with the help of all, there is nothing that cannot be achieved.

In service,

Teen Kennady Robinson

Area V TTA President
Greater Cleveland Chapter President

▪ Greeting | Area V TTA Advisor ▪

Greetings Top Ladies, Top Teens and Lords we are all the way live! In Area V!!! How do we know this…well the Bible says in Romans 8:30 "Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." We were selected, chosen, credentialed and anointed for such a time as this. We accepted the call to go forth into our communities to make a difference in the lives of our communities' children and adults. With great vigor we have worked tirelessly to serve others.

We will continue to develop our Teens into "Leaders of Tomorrow." The Teens are preparing themselves to lead Fortune 500 Companies, heal the sick, make sure the laws on Capitol Hill are just, advocated for fair process, protected families, and educated children to ensure that they too, are able to lead successful lives.

Towards that end, this year we will celebrate the Teens great achievements, love on one another, strengthen old relationship, foster new relationships, tighten our sisterly bond, and build leaders of tomorrow, we will also give to the community, learn skills to enable us to effectively lead our Teens to greatness and create innovative ideas to make our brand extraordinary.

In honor of our eight Founders we will continue their legacy by focusing on "Lighting the Future through our Commitment to Excellence". With this focus we will be able to "Transform lives: One Teen, One Lady, and One Community at a time"

Through our combined dedication, loyalty, determination and love …
"WE CAN, WE WILL, MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Love you to life with great service in my heart,

Lady Velda A. Hunter

Area V Top Teens Advisor

RENAISSANCE CHAPTER

Co-Hostess at Renaissance Chapter - Annual Legacy Scholarship Luncheon

Teen Kaeleigh Harmon is proud of the moment which she and Teen Alexcia were Co-Hostesses with Lady Leslie Wilson-Smith of the Legacy Scholarship Luncheon for Renaissance Chapter. The Teens felt really special and proud as the TTA President and TTA Vice President of Renaissance Chapter. Almost all of the Chapter Teens were in attendance and they all volunteered as Receptionists and Hostesses for the Luncheon. They had fun and bonded well as they worked during the event. They supported Teen Sara Brown before, during and after her performance of a Praise Dance before a crowd of one hundred fifty people, because she was not feeling the greatest prior to the performance. Teen Kaeleigh will be a high school senior in the fall of 2020.

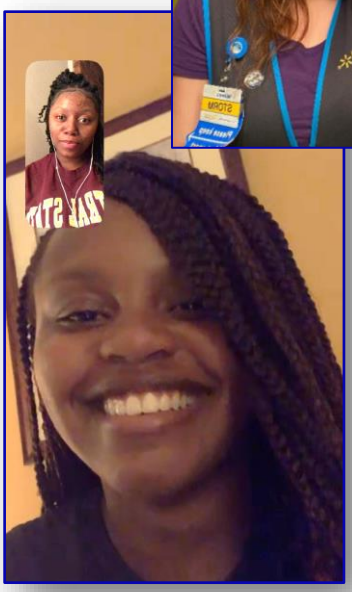
Status of Women Project – Alternatives For Girls

Teen Alexcia Jones remembers the highlight of inviting a representative from an organization name Alternatives For Girls. This organization supports young women and mothers who have been displaced and/or on the street. AFG helps the young women to finish school, find apartments once comfortable enough to live on their own, bond with other young women, help them to get into college and help with many other life challenges. Teen Alexcia suggested that we (Renaissance Chapter) support AFG by donating care packages filled with hygiene products. The gallon bags were filled with soap, deodorant, dental care, feminine care products and so much more. An inspirational thought was written on each bag before being packed with the items. A Representative from AFG was invited to come and speak to the Chapter of some of the things done for the young women at AFG. The Representative spoke of happening in AFG and seriously about the awareness of Human and Sex Trafficking. Teen Alexcia will be a high school senior in the fall of 2020

DAYTON CHAPTER

Top Teen Connections During COVID-19 Crisis

During the COVID-19 quarantine, **Teen Faith Chambers** reaches out to other Top Teens in different parts of the country to share experiences, challenges, prayer, and friendship. She is shown face-timing with her cousin, **Teen Avery Thomas** (Area IV North Atlanta Chapter). Teen Faith and **Teen Storm Hyden,** President of the Cincinnati Chapter (Area V), support each other throughout the quarantine. Storm served as essential staff working as a team lead at Wal-Mart.



▪ Greeting | Area VI TTA President ▪

Greetings to the Top Ladies, Lords, and Teens!

I am Teen Taylor Goar Johnson, the Area VI TTA President. Earlier this year we were charged with a plethora of tribulations not limited to widespread panic, poor leadership, anxiety, and self-isolation; all caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet despite these trying times, I have witnessed firsthand the efforts of Area VI to continue working hard and achieving greatness.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight," and it is evident that the faith this organization and its participants have is both everlasting and unfaltering. Top Teens and Top Ladies are truly the epitome of resilience and diligence as we continue to stay connected virtually to support our mission and charities. Your unmatched eminence has caused me to have the utmost respect and regard for all of you. I am praying for each of your minds, bodies, and spirits, both during and after this time of crisis. I am positive that we will come through this stronger with more spiritual, emotional, and cognitive strength than ever before. Remember that God loves you, and that God got you. We are all in the same storm just in different situations but know that you are never alone.

My Best,

Teen Taylor Goar Johnson

Area VI TTA President

▪ Greeting | Area VI TTA Advisor ▪

Greetings to Top Teens, Ladies & Lords,

I am extremely excited to be your Area VI Top Teens Advisor and it is indeed an honor and privilege to share with you in this edition of "The Voice". This year started off with an expectation that this would be another exciting year for our extraordinary Top Teens. As fate would have it, our entire world was stricken with the Coronavirus. This pandemic is no respecter of person, which means it can attach itself to any of us at any time. We must remain diligent in following the guidelines of staying inside, wearing masks & gloves when leaving our homes. Safety should be our top priority.

Let me encourage you by saying that God has allowed His breath to inhabit your lungs and you're ALIVE, SAFE from ALL HARM, HEALED AND WHOLE. Know that you are all full of PURPOSE, POTENTIAL & PROMISE, because of God's overwhelming love for you. Our God is GREATER than depression or anxiety, GREATER than fear and any circumstance or difficulty. Do not let the pandemic keep you from accomplishing all you set out to achieve. Romans 8:28 states: And we know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose (AMP)

Peace & Blessings,

Lady Cynthia Freeman- Clay

Area VI Top Teens Advisor

STARLIGHT CHAPTER

The Top Teens of American Starlight Chapter Area VI in Las Vegas, NV attended our Leadership Conference held February 2020 in Las Vegas, NV. We co-host this conference with the Greater Las Vegas Chapter. For many of us, this was our first time attending a conference. We enjoyed the workshops and meetings at the conference. We participate and present our "Canstruction" at the conference. The Teens at the conference were impressed with our structure. The highlight for us at the conference was that our chapter was recognized as the Top Teens Area VI Chapter that had 100% attendance!.

Teen Imani Wise worked to create a "Kiddie Pool Garden" the vegetables and flowers were planted in grow bags. The grow bags were then placed in the pools using a wicking system to reduce the amount of water needed to grow the plants.

Starlight Teens preparing our structure to be presented at Area VI Conference.

Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow!

You might be a Top Teen if….

…..You hold multiple offices simultaneously on a Chapter, Area, and National level…. And each one is of HIGH IMPORTANCE.

…..You have countless meetings, conference calls, Zoom meetings, and committee meetings to plan **"more meetings!"**

…..You're preparing for the next conference BEFORE you leave the current conference.

…..Your Teen Advisor will send up smoke signals to reach you and vice versa.

…..You are assigned a task, complete it in a timely manner, get positive recognition for doing a good job, and are rewarded with "another task!"

…..By your senior year, you realize you gained Top Lady grandmothers, aunties, and **TOP TEEN FRIENDS FOR LIFE!**

By Teen Faith Chambers
Area V Dayton Chapter

APRIL

Thought: Take time out and call some one that you have not talk to in a while. Show them that you care.

Quote: "There are 12 months in a year. It takes 6 months for me to mind my business, and 6 months to stay out of yours. So, I'm busy all year."- Lord James Davis from the Southern Maryland Chapter.

MAY

Thought: People think that because we are young our voices do not matter. They are wrong. Our voices do matter. They matter for Ahmaud Arbery, Bothem Sean and Atatiana Jefferson, Jonathan Ferrel and Renisha McBride, Stephon Clark, and Jordan Edwards, Jordon Davis, and Alton Sterling, Aiyana Jones, and Mike Brown, Tamir Rice, the Charleston 9, For Travon Martian, Sean Bell, Oscar Grant, Sandra Bland, Philando Castile, Corey Jones, John Crawford, Terrence Crutcher, Keith Scott, Clifford Glover, Claude Reese, Randy Evens, Yvonne Smallwood, Amadou Diallo, Walter Scott, Eric Garner, Freddie Gray. When will enough, be enough? How many more must die, before they get it? No more, it is time for the youth to make a change and stand up for us, our people. We are the voices of those that cannot speak. SO, STAND UP AND LET OUR VOICES BE HEARD.

Quote: Your hardest times often lead to the greatest moments of your life. Keep going. Tough situations build strong people in the end.
–Anonymous

JUNE

Ability is what you're capable of doing.
Motivation determines what you do.
Attitude determines how well you do it.

Teen Jamie Davis
Chapter President
Area II Southern Maryland Chapter (SMC)

Chaplain's Corner

Why Individuality is So Important?

It is our duty as leaders to be individuals. We must have a creative mindset to build new opportunities and ideas not only for TTA but for the competitive society around us. We need the ability to expand, to grow and to reflect onto others. I believe that the greatest leaders, preachers and power sources show their true skills in not telling but demonstrating. Being able to convey a message and ExCEL into it will show how strong of a leader you actually are. It is not enough to be able to quote scriptures but focus on what it is saying and enforcing it. In the Bible, there are instructions for us to live by. The specific verse that embodies this thought is in Jeremiah 1:5

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before your were born I set you apart."

This scripture tells us we were born to be different, creative and INDIVIDUALS. We all were made with this potential but it is up to us if we use it to our full advantage. As teens, we are part of an organization built on the foundation of giving us a voice and the skill to lead in everyday society. But we need to ensure that we keep our individuality and continue to show our creativity as leaders.

Teen Zakiah Carpenter
National Chaplain
Area II President
(Baltimore Chapter)

▪ Healthy Tips for Teens ▪

PHYSICAL HEALTH

1. **Exercise regularly.** Teens should be physically active at least 60 minutes of every day.
2. **Eat a healthy diet.** Healthy eating is an important part of your growth and development. Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, a variety of protein foods, and low-fat dairy products.
3. **Get enough sleep.** Most teens need between 9 and 9 ½ hours of sleep every night. Many average only 7 hours. Sleep has a strong effect on your ability to concentrate and do well at school.
4. **Brush and floss your teeth.** Make it a habit now, and prevent tooth and gum problems in adulthood.
5. **Wear sunscreen.** Getting just one bad sunburn as a child or teenager increases your risk of getting skin cancer as an adult.
6. **Don't listen to loud music.** This can damage your hearing for the rest of your life.

MENTAL HEALTH

1. **Learn ways to manage stress.** You can't avoid stress, so you need to learn how to manage it. 25 minutes of meditation each day will decrease stress.
2. **Study and do your best in school.** There is a strong link between health and academic success.
3. **Try to maintain a good relationship with your parents.** Remember that they want what is best for you.
4. **Develop a good balance between school, work, and social life.**

EMOTIONAL HEALTH

1. **Know the signs of mental illness.** These include: anxiety, depression, excessive tiredness, loss of self-esteem, loss of interest in things you used to like, loss of appetite, weight gain or loss
2. **Pay attention to your moods and feelings.** Don't assume your negative thoughts or feelings are just part of being a teenager. If you're worried about something, ask for help.
3. **Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it.** If you can't talk to your parents, find an adult you can trust. If you're feeling really sad or are thinking about harming yourself, get help right away.
4. **Accept yourself!**

SOURCE:
BlackHealthMatters.com
https://familydoctor.org/teenagers-how-to-stay-healthy

Submitted by
Teen Faith Chambers
Area V Dayton Chapter

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Submitted By Atlanta Peachtree Chapter (Area IV)

- World Finest Chocolate- Most teens are familiar with this fundraising and it is easy to manage and sell among their peers at school (classmates, teammates, etc). Family and friends can easily join teens in selling candy on their jobs to meet their goals. More information about the chocolate for healthcare heroes can be found at http://worldsfinestchocolate.com. 1888-821-8452 to support the COVID-19 Pandemic.

- Digital Fundraising- A digital fundraising drive to support teens with scholarship funding.

Submitted By Bryan Liberties County Chapter (Area IV)

- Krispy Kreme
- Panda Express
- Applebees Dining to Donate

Submitted Sugar Valley Chapter (Area I)

- The Sugar Valley TTA has fundraising via ABC Fundraiser Scratch & Help Cards.
- Themed raffle baskets for example Movie Basket and Pampering Basket

SCHOLARSHIPS

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Submitted By Atlanta Peachtree Chapter (Area IV)

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund Scholarship is open to first generation college students.

https://www.tmcf.org/students-alumni/scholarship/tmcf-walmart-foundation-first-generation-scholarship/
College Board Scholarship

https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/about/official-rules

Submitted By Bryan Liberties County Chapter (Area IV)

Scholarships awarded and Opportunities
- Chapter scholarship
- I Have a Dream Scholarship - $1,500
- Sweet and Simple Scholarship -$1,500
- Flavor of the Month - $1,500
- Research Scholarships from Fastweb

Submitted By Beaumont Chapter (Area I)

- Beaumont Foundation Scholarship
- Coca Cola Scholarship winner
- Disney Dreamer scholarship
- AMDA Dance scholarship
- Various school specific large merit and athletic scholarships(ranging from 2,000-50,000)

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

TOP TEENS OF AMERICA

2019-2021 National TTA Membership Drive

"5000 in '21: Aiming High and Making It Happen"
"Each One, Bring One"

Each Chapter Member is responsible for one New Member

INCENTIVES

The Top Teen membership incentives below reflect those for Top Ladies, as membership is a priority for ALL.

Level 1 – "Sponsor Certificate Award": Teens that sponsor a new member anytime during the membership drive period will receive a certificate of Sponsorship signed by the Founder and National TTA President.

Level 2 – "Sponsor Two or More Teens Award": Names will be entered into a drawing for $50.00 in each Area, with two winners in each $50.00 Area.

Level 3 – "Chapter Membership Engagement Award": Picture of Chapters shown on Power Point scroll at various times and places during Syn-Lod based on National TTA membership survey results.

NATIONAL TTA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teen Amari Venzor, National TTA President
Lady Kendra Gillespie, National TTA Director
Lady Sharon Beard, National TLOD President

Lake Houston Chapter

Kingwood, Texas

Teen Brandley Places Second in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Talent Search

Caption-Teen Alaysia Brandley wins Second Place in Fraternity's Regional Talent Hunt

Teen Alaysia Jamese Brandley, First Vice President of Lake Houston Chapter, won Second Place and was awarded $600 in the Southeast Texas Regional Talent Hunt Program, sponsored by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. The competition was held on February 22, 2020, at Miracle Land Church.

Teen Alaysia performed "The Greatest Love of All", by Whitney Houston. The first and second place winners were scheduled to perform at the Southeast Texas Region for the 83rd Ninth District in Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 3, 2020; however, due to COVID-19, it was canceled.

Awards

Midway Chicago Chapter

Teen Justin Threatt is being recognized for leadership qualities. He mentors incoming male teens. He is willing to give positive and inspiring messages to all teen members. He is supportive to the ladies and first to help when asked for volunteers.

Teen Kinaya Kerr is being recognized for her leadership qualities. She demonstrates and implements a leadership quality that is looked for in developing teens. She assumes the role without being asked. She is always willing to provide or give advice and takes initiative to lead teens in a positive direction.

Eric Clopton Jr – Columbia Scholar Award, Columbia CPS Award

Amiyah Chism – High Honor Roll, Outstanding Academic Performance

Eric Clopton Jr. – Faculty of Recognition Award from Columbia

Kelis Rhyne – CPS Honor Roll

Milwaukee Chapter

The Milwaukee Chapter would like to recognize **Teen Lauren Day** for her cumulative GPA of 3.8. She has been selected to join her school's National Junior Honor's Society as a sophomore. She has shown her leadership is other ways outside of TTA by being chose to be her teams cheerleading captain. She is also a Big Sister to younger dance students in her studio where she was honored to join the competitive dance team competing around Wisconsin and Illinois.

Bryan Liberty Counties Chapter

Teen Victoria Myles – Finalist in the TTA Poster Contest – Area IV Literacy
Teen Jared Johnson – Outstanding Top Teen-2nd Place Area Scrapbook

Queen City Chapter

Teen Ilayai Monroe was appointed secretary of the National Science Honor Society, is a member of Rho Kappa Honor Society, The National Honor Society and the Mu Theta Honor Society. She has recently been sought after by the Young Black Leaders of America and Youth Leadership Summit.

Teen Camille Ife' Pettiford was accepted to the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston Salem North Carolina as a rising Jr. for the High School Program. She will major in the Contemporary Dance program, being one of 12 dancers selected out of 344 applications. She will be an on-campus resident in the Fall of 2020. She began training in classical ballet at the age of 6 with Charlotte Ballet and attended Northwest School of the Arts from 6th grade until 10th grade.

Tipton County Chapter

Teen Farraday Johnson is a graduate of Craigmont High School where she is ranked 3rd in her class with a GPA of 4.2. She has been a member of Top Teens for three years and is the first vice president. She has received the following honors: University of Memphis Top 10% award, 2020 Homecoming Queen and named Miss Craigmont High. Teen Farraday has volunteered at the local Nursing Home. She plans to attend the University of Memphis.

Teen Javion Lightfoot is a graduate of Brighton High School ranked number two in her graduating class with an overall GPA of 4.0. Teen Javion has received the following academic awards: Calculus, History, AP English, and the 30+ ACT All Stars award. She has been a Tipton County Chapter TTA member for four years serving as TTA Chaplain. She has volunteered at the local Boys & Girls Club, the local Food Pantry, local Nursing Home and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Teen Javion plans to attend Howard University.

Teen Destiny Smith is a graduate of Covington High School and is ranked 26th in her graduating class with a GPA of 3.78 and plans to attend The University of Memphis. She has been a member of Tipton County TTA for four years. She is the financial secretary and has attended the Area IV Conference. Teen Destiny has been a member of the Spanish Honor Society, CHS Choir, HOSA, FBLA, FCCLA, and FFA. She has volunteered at the local Food Pantry and Nursing Home.

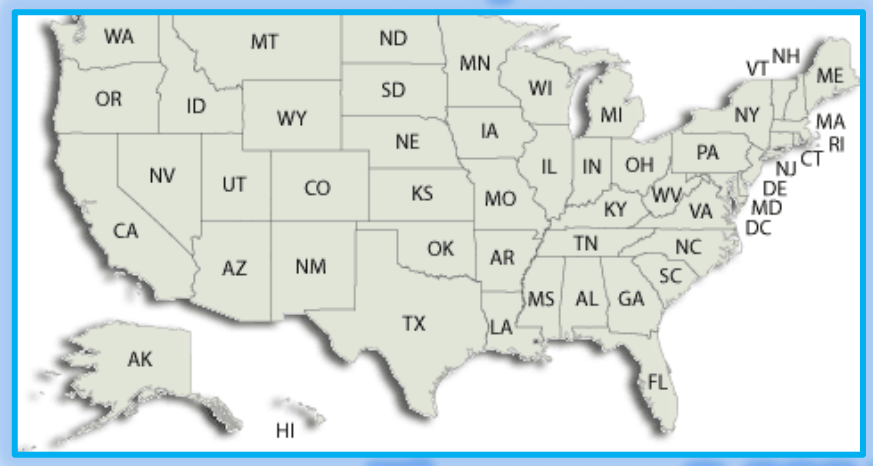
Awards

Dayton Chapter

Teen Faith Chambers, a sophomore honor student, was the first African-American to win 1st Place in her high school talent show, "Alter Got Talent," over its 11-year history. In the first round, she performed "Million Years Ago," by Adelle, winning the highest number of audience votes going into the second round. She received a "standing ovation" after her second-round performance, singing a soulful ballad, "I'm Here," by Jennifer Hudson, from the Broadway production of "The Color Purple." She will serve as the opening act next year and she also plans to save most of her $500.00 cash prize. Her photo will proudly be displayed on the school website as well as in the hallway of the Arts wing of Archbishop Alter High School Hall of Fame.

▪ DID YOU KNOW… ▪

- **There are 112 TLOD/TTA Chapters nationwide**



- **There are 3,082 Top Teens nationwide**

- **We raised $72,256 for St. Jude Children's Hospital**

  as of 06/01/20

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Finding cures. Saving children.

- **We raised $61,426 for the March of Dimes/March for Babies**

  as of 06/01/20

MARCH OF DIMES
MARCH FOR BABIES

Donations still accepted through August 15th

Top Ladies of

Distinction, Inc.

Founders Day 2020

SAVE THE DATE

We Are One

Celebration Tribute

Saturday, June 13, 2020

12:00 NOON EST
11:00 a.m. CST
10:00 a.m. MST
9:00 a.m. PST

All members are welcomed to join via video conference as we pay homage to our Founders

It was 1964, TLOD was established under the leadership of eight visionary women. In their honor we will celebrate our beloved Founders.

Attire: Ladies & female Teens in white, Male Teens in suit & ties

▪ "Summer Dates to Remember" ▪

TOP TEENS OF AMERICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Senior Send-Off WEEK

3 DAY EVENT!
SHOW YOUR TTA SPIRIT!

June 14, 2020 SUNDAY ← **Netflix Party**
7-9:30 PM EST
- Brief Introduction to TTA Alumni Organization
- Spike Lee's "School Daze"

June 17, 2020 WEDNESDAY ← **Table Talk: College Edition**
7-9 PM EST
TTA Alumni Table Talk: College Edition

June 20, 2020 SATURDAY ← **Send-Off Ceremony**
12 Noon EST
Honoring our 2020 TTA Graduates

Register here: https://cutt.ly/TTASENDOFF20

Instagram: @ttaalumni

Facebook: Top Teens Of America Alumni Association

Need more information? Contact ttaalumniassociation@gmail.com

Class of 2020
SEND-OFF CEREMONY
20th
JUNE
SATURDAY
12 Noon EST
PRESENTED BY THE TTA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Register here: https://cutt.ly/TTASENDOFF20

Participation is our foundation as leaders of tomorrow.

Be safe and enjoy your Summer!

We welcome your feedback, ideas, and suggestions regarding this and future editions of The Voice: **ttanewsletter@tlodinc.org**

Graphic Designer: Terri Chambers