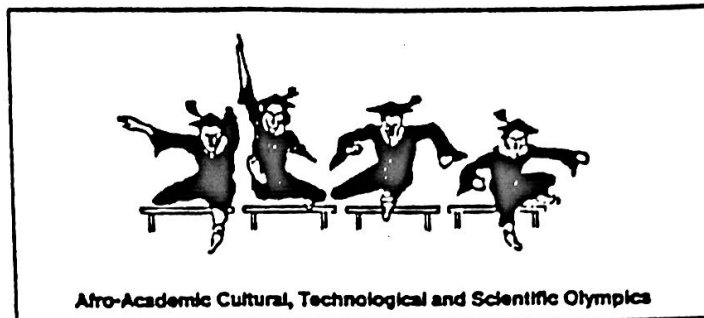


# AFRO-ACADEMIC, CULTURAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC OLYMPICS

## NAACP



## ACT-SO

### FACT SHEET, 1994-1995

#### **What Is ACT-SO?**

ACT-SO is an acronym for Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics, a national program of the NAACP. It stresses competition of the intellect by demonstrating that Black youth can succeed in the classroom as well as on the athletic field. It is the goal of ACT-SO to afford the same respect for Black scholastic and cultural achievement that is awarded heroes in the world of sports. It is an "olympics of the mind."

#### **How Does ACT-SO Operate?**

ACT-SO conducts academic competitions for students in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) in NAACP branches throughout the country. The current procedure is for participating branches of the NAACP to hold local competitions in the designated categories. The top local winners then compete with the winners from other cities in the national ACT-SO finals during the NAACP national convention.

#### **How Do The Students Benefit?**

Students have the opportunity to display their talents through projects and performances. Local winners receive medals and monetary awards. First place winners receive an all-expense paid trip to the national competition.

#### **How Does The Community Benefit?**

The annual local and national competitions provide a display of the work done by students. Most importantly, the ACT-SO program represents the results of an improved climate for academic excellence created wherever an ACT-SO program operates.

#### **What are the ACT-SO Categories?**

The ACT-SO program has four major divisions, each with specific categories, totaling twenty-four. Each contestant may enter up to three (3) categories. The major divisions and categories are the following:

HUMANITIES	PERFORMING ARTS	
Music composition Original essay Playwriting Poetry	Dance Dramatics Oratory	Music Instrumental/Classical Music Instrumental/Contemporary Music Vocal/Classical Music Vocal/Contemporary
VISUAL ARTS	SCIENCES	
Drawing Painting Photography Sculpture Filmmaking/Video	Architecture Biology Chemistry Mathematics	Physics/Electronics Physics/Energy Physics (General) Computer Science

### What Has Been The Involvement Of The Ypsilanti-Willow Run Chapter?

#### 1989-90 First year of involvement

- Twenty students from seven high schools competed in nine categories
- Three students performed in two categories
- Five first place winners in local competition
- One national winner: Andre Myers, first place—music composition

#### 1990-91 Second year of involvement

- Fifty-two students from nine high schools competed in eleven categories
- Four students performed in two categories
- Six first place winners in local competition
- Two national winners: Ladell Abrams, first place—instrumental music/contemporary; Andre Myers, second place—music composition

#### 1991-92 Third year of involvement

- Thirty-four students from twelve area high schools competed in fifteen categories
- Ten first place local winners compete in national competition in Nashville, TN
- Sixteen local participants traveled in competition in Nashville
- One national winner: Tekeshia Bailey - first place chemistry

#### 1992-93 Fourth year of involvement

- Thirty-four students from twelve area high schools competed in fifteen categories.
- Eleven first place/one second place local winners participated in national competition.
- One national winner: Khari Brown - first place original essay.

#### 1993-94 Fifth year of involvement

- Thirty-five students from twelve area high schools competed in sixteen categories.
- Eleven first place local winners participated in national competition.
- National recognition: Bridgett Marsh-Chemistry NASA all-expense paid trip

#### 1994-95 Activities

October 25 ..... Student Orientation-Washtenaw Workforce Development Center  
 October 28..... Student Recognition-1994 winners - Freedom Fund Dinner  
 November 15 Parent/Mentor Orientation/Student Workshop-Washtenaw Workforce Development Center  
 December 6..... Content Area Presentations-Washtenaw Workforce Development Center  
 January 24 ..... Student Orientation-Washtenaw Workforce Development Center  
 March 7 ..... Motivation Session-Washtenaw Workforce Development Center  
 April 8..... Rehearsal Session- Ypsilanti High School  
 April 29..... Local Competition-Ypsilanti High School  
 May 2 ..... Awards Ceremony- Washtenaw Community College  
 July 4..... Ypsilanti 4th of July Parade

#### Whom Can I Contact?

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 Dr. Pauline Coleman, Co-chair..... 485-8856