Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics
ACT-SO was founded in 1977 by Vernon Jarrett, then given to the NAACP in 1978 to carry out his purpose and to recognize academic and artistic achievement among African-American students.

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<th>EXCELLENCE</th>
<th>SKILL DEVELOPMENT</th>
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| ACT-SO of the NAACP Montgomery County Maryland Branch epitomizes EXCELLENCE. Students work throughout the year to create medal-worthy projects presented to qualified judges. Local gold medal students compete at the National ACT-SO Competition for scholarship dollars and prizes. The goal is to develop Leaders through mentoring and enrichment and expose under-served high school youth to STEM, business, and the arts to enable better post-secondary and career decisions. | ACT-SO students have the opportunity to develop life-long skills through the program. Students learn:  
• Goal setting  
• Critical thinking  
• Public Speaking  
• Presentation Building  
• Teamwork  
• Community Training  
• and more!  
Students are supported by the community to develop these competencies as they work toward manifesting excellence. |
GROWTH
ACT-SO students have the opportunity to attend no-cost workshops led by professionals.

High School students in grades 9 through 12 and Middle school students may attend all workshops and special events!

Topics include:
- Writing
- Drawing & Painting
- Public Speaking
- STEM Project Building
- Performance
- Seeking and Applying for College Scholarships
- Dramatics
- Building Your Brand

OPPORTUNITIES
ACT-SO MoCo students are eligible for additional opportunities. ACT-SO MoCO Students:
- were part of a Google commercial about the partnership with ACT-SO
- performed at the NAACP Image Awards Pre-Show and attended artist workshops
- were selected to participate in the Lancôme Write Her Future Campaign
- participated in National Sustainability Building Design Competition
- performed in Montgomery County Juneteenth celebrations
- participated in Black Arts Movement Showcase
- participated in Delta Airlines Social Media Case Study Competition
### ACT-SO COMPETITION

Students may participate in up to 3 of 32 categories:

**STEM**  
Architecture  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
Earth and Space Sciences  
Engineering  
Physics  
Medicine & Health  
Mathematics

**HUMANITIES**  
Music Composition  
Original Essay  
Playwriting  
Poetry (Written)  
Short Story

**Culinary Arts**

**VISUAL ARTS**  
Drawing  
Filmmaking  
Painting  
Photography  
Sculpture

**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Dance: Ballet  
Dance: Contemporary  
Dance: Modern  
Dance: Traditional  
Dramatics  
Instrumental Classical  
Instrumental Contemporary  
Vocal Classical  
Vocal Contemporary  
Oratory  
Poetry Performance
**OUTCOMES**

ACT-SO students gain the confidence to apply the skills they learn to achieve other successes:

- MoCo’s Got Talent Gold and Silver Winners
- LearnServe Incubator International Virtual Pitch Competitor
- Savvy Girl Magazine Top 25 Under 25 Honoree
- America’s Got Talent Competitor
- Myles Frost, Tony – Nominated for Best Actor In a Musical, *MJ: The Musical*
- Craig Rice, County Councilmember

**ACT-SO COMPETITION**

More than 200 Montgomery County High School students have participated in ACT-SO programs and competitions in the past 4 years.

Each year our students work diligently to create STEM and Arts projects.

Montgomery County ACT-SO students were awarded 15 Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals at the National level the last four years.

ACT-SO students were awarded the third most national ACT-SO Medals in 2021!
HOW YOU CAN HELP

• ACT-SO is an all-volunteer program that benefits Montgomery County High School students.

• Adult volunteers mentor and coach students to prepare for competitions.

• Adult professionals deliver seminars and workshops for students to develop their skills.

• ACT-SO students participate in events across the County to showcase their talents.

• ACT-SO needs funds to support the costs of facilities and materials for the workshops/seminars

• ACT-SO needs funds to support transportation and travel costs for students

We strive to continue our spirit of EXCELLENCE and High Achievement.
ACT-SO students need YOU!

Support our ACT-SO students!

Send donations to
ACT-SO
NAACP Montgomery County MD
P.O. Box 2165
Rockville, MD 20847-2165

Help grow tomorrow’s leaders today!
ACT-SO Gold Medalists 2022

Selamawit Asmare
James Hubert Blake HS
Dance: Traditional
12th Grader

Logan Byrd
Northwood HS
Dance: Ballet
11th Grader

Bianca Calá
Northwest HS
Dance: Contemporary
12th Grader

Tenin Dembele
Northwest HS
Poetry Performance & Poetry Written
11th Grader

Danyele Holland
The Harbour School
Drawing & Painting
10th Grader

Donovan Holt-Harrington
Seneca Valley HS
Instrumental Classical
9th Grader

Jeanne Lubika
Clarksburg HS
Dramatics
12th Grader

Natalie Payne
Springbrook HS
Short Story
12th Grader

Gisele Sonnier
Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart
Dance: Ballet
11th Grader

Consuela Watts
Northwood HS
Vocal Contemporary
12th Grader
ACT-SO Delta Airlines Social Media Case Study Competition Team 2022

Daniella Gonyoe
Northwest High School
11th Grader

George Obongo
Northwest High School
11th Grader

Deja Pemberton
Bowie High School
12th Grader

Marcus Ross
James Hubert Blake High School
11th Grader

Aleyah Rowell
Coach
ACT-SO Sustainability Building Design Team 2022

Eugene Carson
Wheaton HS/
Thomas Edison HS
of Technology
11th Grader

Camille Kindrell Cobb
Walter Johnson HS/
Thomas Edison HS
Of Technology
11th Grader

Fasil Terra
Wheaton HS/
Thomas Edison HS
Of Technology
11th Grader

Jadyn Washington
Elizabeth Seton High
School
9th Grader

Kenneth Walton
Architect
Coach

PHOTO TO COME