



Today's Youth . . . Tomorrow's Leaders

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Greetings - Prospective ACT-SO Partner/Supporter/Community Member:

SUBJECT: ACT-SO - SEPTEMBER LAUNCH - ALL 9TH -12TH GRADERS IN OUACHITA PARISH!

The ACT-SO (Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) national program is being launched this month in Ouachita Parish to all high school students, 9th Grade – 12th Grade. ACT-SO can become one of the best youth programs in the city.

ACT-SO is a national program created by the NAACP - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In this program, students will prepare for local competitions; if they qualify, they will go on to national competition.

- ACT-SO provides a forum through which youth demonstrate academic, artistic and scientific prowess and expertise, thereby gaining the same recognition often only reserved for entertainers and athletes.
- ACT-SO is a year-long youth achievement program that begins in September of each year in local communities nationwide. In more than 200 local communities throughout the U.S., ACT-SO adult volunteers recruit students and mentors. Students work with mentors from September to April to develop their projects and performances for the local competition.
- ACT-SO is a community-based program that provides multiple opportunities for involvement. Community members may participate as: **mentors, sponsors, organizers, competitors, benefactors, educational partners, etc.**
- The program receives support from **schools, local businesses, community organizations, churches, foundations, major corporations and individuals.**

I am motivated by this program. I believe, each of us, has God-given talents. Some may need our help, discovering those talents. ACT-SO is designed to help youth determine their interest(s); and to help them develop and pursue those interests. Often, these interests and talents will be a career choice, where they can take care of themselves, their families, and give back to their community. When students are feeling successful at something, they are more motivated and more positive toward other things in life.

The next two pages show the tentative ACT-SO activities for the year and lists the 32 competitions. Please contact me, today or asap, saying you would like to be one of the early supporters of this program. Please, without delay, let me know what you think.

Yours very truly,

Betty Ward Cooper

Local ACT-SO Activities

- **September 2017:** Local programs kick-off annual ACT-SO activities
- **September 2017-March 2018:** Local programs conduct mentoring and scholastic enrichment activities
- **April 2018:** Local programs host ACT-SO competitions
Once local competitions are held, the gold medalists (those with scores between 95-100 in their category) are invited to compete on a national level. The National Competition and Ceremonies, held every July in conjunction with the NAACP National Convention, is the ACT-SO culminating event.

National ACT-SO Competition

- **April 2018-July 2018:** Students continue their local mentorship and enrichment programs to prepare for the National Competition.
- **July 2018:** Annual activities culminate with the National Competition and Ceremonies (San Antonio, TX)

Students can select up to 3 competitions from a total of 29 offerings.

The **32 ACT-SO competitions include:**

STEM: (9 Competitions)

ARCHITECTURE

The science, art or profession of designing buildings or outdoor spaces.

BIOLOGY/MICROBIOLOGY

The science of life or of the origin, structure, reproduction, growth and development of living organisms collectively.

CHEMISTRY/BIOCHEMISTRY

The science that deals with the composition, structure and properties of chemical processes and phenomena of substances and the transformation that they undergo.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

The science that deals with the theoretical aspects of computers including storage

and the transformation of data using computers.

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES

The body of sciences that include geology, mineralogy, physiography, oceanography, meteorology, climatology, astronomy, speleology, seismology, geography, etc.

ENGINEERING

Technology. Projects that directly apply scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses.

MATHEMATICS

The science of numbers and their operations, interrelations, combinations, generalizations, and abstractions of spaced configurations and their structure. Development of formal logical systems or

various numerical and algebraic computations and the application of these principles.

MEDICINE AND HEALTH

The study of diseases and health of humans and animals.

PHYSICS

Theories, principles and laws governing energy and the effect of energy on matter.

HUMANITIES: (5 Competitions)

MUSIC COMPOSITION

The science or art of arranging music by ordering tones or sounds in succession, in combination or in temporal relationships to produce a composition having unity and continuity.

ORIGINAL ESSAY

A brief examination of a subject in prose usually expressing a personal view or interpretation of a subject or topic.

PLAYWRITING

A literary composition developed for the stage.

POETRY–WRITTEN

An original poem or prose performed as a monologue or exchange involving extemporization.

SHORT STORY

A brief examination of a subject in prose usually expressing a personal view or interpretation of a subject or topic.

THE PERFORMING ARTS: (11 Competitions)

DANCE: BALLET

To perform a series of rhythmic and patterned bodily movements usually performed to music using grace and precision.

DANCE: CONTEMPORARY

To perform a series of rhythmic and patterned bodily movements usually performed to music.

DANCE: MODERN

To perform a series of rhythmic and patterned bodily movements usually performed to music that focuses on the dancer's interpretations using their emotions and moods to develop choreography.

DANCE: TRADITIONAL

To perform a series of rhythmic and patterned bodily movements usually performed to music to reflect the life of the people of a certain region or country.

DRAMATICS

The art of staging or acting plays.

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL– CLASSICAL

The art of performing with a device used to produce music with tones of the late 18th and 19th centuries characterized by an emphasis on balance, clarity, and moderation.

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL– CONTEMPORARY

The art of performing with a device used to produce music with the tones of the present.

MUSIC VOCAL–CLASSICAL

The art of performing with the human voice rhythmic tones or sounds of the late 18th and 19th centuries characterized by an emphasis on balance, clarity, and moderation.

MUSIC VOCAL– CONTEMPORARY

The art of performing with the human voice rhythmic tones or sounds to produce music with the tones of the present.

ORATORY

The art of speaking in public eloquently and effectively. (This is not a dramatic presentation.)

POETRY–PERFORMANCE

An original poem or prose performed as a monologue or exchange involving

extemporization.

THE VISUAL ARTS: (5 Competitions)

DRAWING

The art of representing forms and figures on a surface by means of lines.

FILM-MAKING

The art and process of making motion pictures.

PAINTING

The art of laying on paints with a brush or a knife.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The process, art and technique of taking images recorded by a camera and reproducing them on a photosensitive surface.

SCULPTURE

The art of making three-dimensional figures or designs.

BUSINESS: (1 Competition)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Refers to owning, organizing, and managing your own business by providing a necessary product or service.

CULINARY:

**(1 Competition) Not
Being Offered This Term.**

CULINARY ARTS—The creative practice of cooking. One who engages in the culinary arts, or a culinarian, is either called a cook or a chef depending on their level of expertise.