

**NAACP DANE COUNTY  
PRESENTS**

**ACT-SO  
2021**

**LOCAL AWARDS  
CEREMONY PROGRAM**

**A VIRTUAL  
CELEBRATION OF  
YOUTH  
EXCELLENCE**

**SUNDAY  
APRIL 25, 2021  
2:00 P.M.**



**AFRO-ACADEMIC, CULTURAL, TECHNOLOGICAL & SCIENTIFIC OLYMPICS**

# ABOUT ACT-SO

In 1978, renowned African-American author and journalist, Vernon Jarrett founded the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO).

ACT-SO was designed to be an intellectual competition for high school students, under the sponsorship of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

The NAACP Dane County Branch was chartered in 2014, and hosted its first local competition in 2015.

That years' competition resulted in six local gold medalists who went on to represent the Branch at the National competition in Philadelphia PA.

Since then, more than 60 students have participated in the Dane County NAACP ACT-SO program with local gold medalists participating in the national competition each year.

Dane County ACT-SO students have won a total of five National Silver Medals.

## PAST NAACP DANE COUNTY ACT-SO PARTICIPANTS



*"A Scholar has a right to be a hero."*

*--Vernon Jarrett, NAACP ACT-SO Founder*



# ACT-SO 2021 PROGRAM

Opening Selection	Theola Carter, NAACP ACT-SO Committee Selection: "Lift Every Voice and Sing"
Welcome	Frances Huntley-Cooper, Committee Chair NAACP Dane County ACT-SO
Greetings   NAACP Dane County Branch	Greg Jones, President NAACP Dane County Branch #36AB
Greetings   State of Wisconsin	Mandela Barnes, Lt. Governor State of Wisconsin
Greetings   Dane County	Joe Parisi, County Executive Dane County, WI
Greetings   MMSD	Dr. Carlton Jenkins, Superintendent Madison Metropolitan School District
Student Performance Category: Music Vocal - Classical	Walker Stephenson Selection: "Adieu"

## Introduction of 2021 ACT-SO Student Participants

Keynote   NAACP ACT-SO	Larry Brown, Jr. National ACT-SO Director
Student Performance Category: Music Vocal - Contemporary	Elijah Edwards Selection: "A Change Is Gonna Come"

## Introduction of Judges

## Presentation of Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL ACT-SO 2021 PARTICIPANTS!



NAACP DANE COUNTY  
AFRO-ACADEMIC, CULTURAL, TECHNOLOGICAL & SCIENTIFIC OLYMPICS



# 2021 ACT-SO PARTICIPANTS



**Lamontae Burrel**  
Gr. 12  
(Grad Yr. 2021)  
Madison Memorial HS  
Category: Dance  
Contemporary



**Hunter Stephenson**  
Gr. 11  
Madison Country Day  
Category: Original  
Essay, STEM:  
Biology/Microbiology



**Elijah Edwards**  
Gr. 11  
Madison Memorial HS  
Category: Dramatic  
Arts, Poetry Written &  
Music - Vocal  
Contemporary



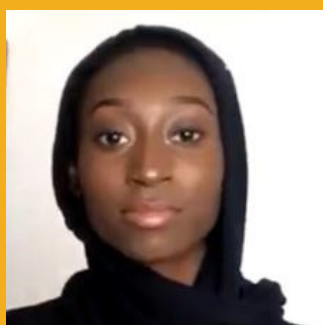
**Walker Stephenson**  
Gr. 11  
Madison Country Day  
Category: Music-  
Vocal Classical



**Aidan Nunez-Clark**  
Gr. 9  
Verona Area HS  
Category:  
Entrepreneurship



**Demi Stokes**  
Gr. 9  
Waunakee HS  
Category: Poetry  
Written



**Awa Phatty**  
Gr. 11  
Madison Memorial HS  
Category: Poetry  
Written



**Kaebrun Walker**  
Gr. 11  
Madison Country Day  
Category: STEM:  
Engineering &  
Drawing



# THANK YOU JUDGES

## DANCE

### CONTEMPORARY

Rachelle Fochs  
Heidi Hakseth  
Meenakshi Ganesan

## ORIGINAL ESSAY

Anna Purnell  
Dana Maya  
Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, PhD  
Michael Thornton, PhD

## VOCAL MUSIC

### CLASSICAL

Deborah Biddle  
Greg Smith  
Jose J. Madera

## DRAMATIC ARTS

Jonathan Solari  
Baron Kelly  
Ed Holmes, PhD

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Jessica Cavazos  
Ruben Anthony, PhD  
Jill Huizenga

## VOCAL MUSIC

### CONTEMPORARY

Deborah Biddle  
Greg Smith  
Jose J. Madera

## DRAWING

Jerry Butler  
Anwar Floyd-Pruitt, PhD  
Jerry Jordan  
Frieda Tesfagiorgis, PhD

## POETRY WRITTEN

Anna Purnell  
Dana Maya  
Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, PhD

## STEM:

### Biology/Microbiology

Sheryl Henderson, MD, PhD  
Evan Glasgow, PhD  
Danette Daniels, PhD

### STEM: Engineering

Julia Krueger, PhD  
Steve Krueger, PhD  
Sara Rothe

## 2021 MENTORS & WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

### Student Mentors

Kelley Harris, PhD  
Barbara (Barbie) Jackson  
Oscar Mireles  
Raymond Nall  
Daniel O'Dea  
Shiela Reaves  
Tamera Stanley  
Alice Fae Svetic

### Workshop Presenters

Dawn Crim  
Dan Olszewski  
Joann Pritchett, PhD



# 2021 ACT-SO COMMITTEE

## Frances Huntley-Cooper, Chair

Theola Carter  
Susan Ezalarab  
Jonathan Gramling  
Gloria Hawkins, PhD  
Gwendolyn Jones  
Vivian Larkin, PhD  
Tracy Lewis-Williams, PhD  
LaRuth McAfee, PhD  
Laura Stephenson, PhD

## SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS

American Family Insurance  
Dane County Credit Union  
Dane County Executive's Office  
The Evjue Foundation  
The Governor's Office  
Madison College  
Madison Metropolitan Chapter of the Links, Inc.  
Andrew Sewell, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra  
Sue Studz

## OUR LOCAL MEDIA

The Capital City Hues, Madison 365, Club TNT

**and**

A special thank you to our community supporters and members of  
our Branch

NAACP DANE COUNTY #36AB!



**JOIN US!**  
VISIT:  
[HTTPS://WWW.NAACPOFDANE.ORG](https://www.naacpofdane.org)

