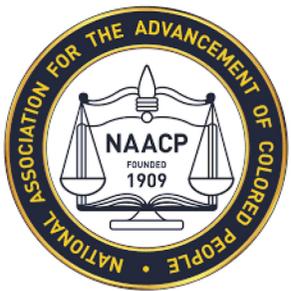
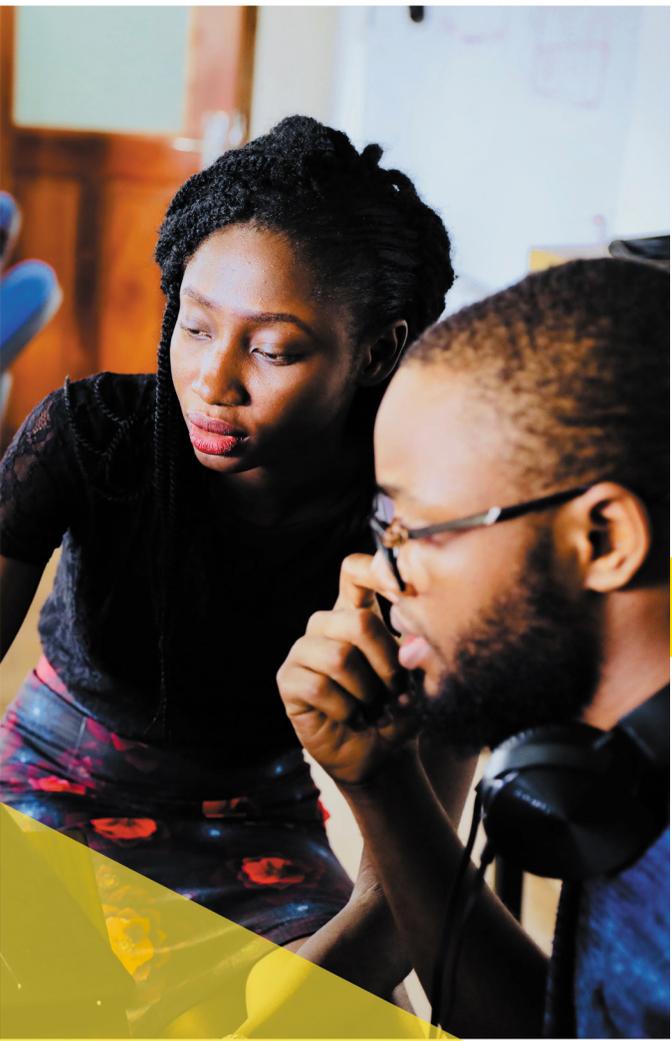


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WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

ACT-SO is a learning experience that focuses on enrichment and achievement. The local competition showcases the students' handwork, academic, and artistic talents.

Students' work is reviewed and critiqued by professionals and professors. In addition, they attend workshops and seminars. Students also develop skills in goal-setting, time management, presentation, and leadership.



Prince William Area Branch



ACT-SO ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Prince William Area Branch

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WHAT IS ACT-SO?

The Afro-American, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), the “Olympics of the Mind,” is a major youth initiative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Founded in 1978, ACT-SO provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate academic, artistic, and scientific prowess and expertise. This program celebrates student success with the same recognition often reserved for entertainers and athletes. ACT-SO is rooted in the firm conviction that all students can succeed and compete at a superior level in the classroom and in the workplace.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The NAACP ACT-SO program targets African American students. However, ALL students are eligible to participate in the program. Students interested in participating **must**:

- ✓ be a citizen of the United States or hold a permanent resident visa card.
- ✓ be enrolled in high school at the time of application.
- ✓ be an amateur (having not received wages for professional services) in the categories of competition.
- ✓ be a student who has demonstrated a genuine interest in one of the competition categories.

Participants in the annual national ACT-SO competition are chosen from the local competitions.

ACT-SO COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Stem

- Architecture
- Biology/Microbiology
- Chemistry/Biochemistry
- Computer Science
- Earth and Space Science
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Medicine and Health
- Physics

Performing Arts

- Dance: Ballet
- Dance: Contemporary
- Dance: Modern
- Dance: Traditional
- Dramatic Arts - Acting
- Music Instrumental Classical
- Music Instrumental Contemporary
- Music Vocal Classical
- Music Vocal Contemporary
- Oratory
- Poetry (Performance)

Humanities

- Music Composition
- Original Essay
- Playwriting
- Poetry (Written)
- Short Story

Visual Arts

- Drawing
- Filmmaking/Video
- Painting
- Photography
- Sculpture

Business

- Entrepreneurship

Culinary

- Culinary Arts

Group

- Hospitality

ACT-SO TIMELINE

- **August:** Local programs, hosted by NAACP units, kick-off annual ACT-SO activities.
- **September—March:** Local programs conduct mentoring and scholastic enrichment activities.
- **April:** Local programs host ACT-SO competitions. Gold medalists (those with scores between 95-100 in their category) are invited to compete on a national level.
- **April—July:** Students continue their local mentorship and enrichment programs to prepare for the national competition.
- **July:** Winners from the local competitions compete at the National Competition and Ceremonies, held every July in conjunction with the NAACP National Convention.

FAMOUS NATIONAL ACT-SO ALUMNI



ACT-SO

PROMOTES EXCELLENCE!

