



ME & my mentor

Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, Chair

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director

Lady Sharon J. Beard, National President & CEO



"Lady Sharon Beard serves not only as the National President and CEO of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., but she also serves as my mentor. The TLOD/TTA mentoring program has influenced me by helping me to make more positive decisions. The program has pushed me to be the best I can be and to give back to the community through service. Whenever there is an opportunity to perform community service on behalf of the chapter, I am there. Lady Beard has encouraged me to reach for my dreams and to do well in school. I am happy to be a part of this organization and it has allowed for me to be so much better in school. I am happy when I share my experiences with my friends about things that I have learned, my accomplishments and my achievements. I am also happy when I get to spend quality time with Lady Beard. We always have fun together."



*reach
for the
stars!*

Mentoring through the Years



Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. &
Top Teens of America

"Me and My Mentor: TBC"
Volume III



Lady Vivien Coe Richard
National President

Lady Carol Harris & Teen Christina William
South Suburban Chicago Chapter



My mentor, Lady Carol was instrumental in influencing me to run for Vice President of my chapter assuming more leadership roles. She also encouraged me to run for delegate to attend Area III Conference. Additionally Lady Carol convinced me to use my talent in creative dance by participating in the South Suburban Chapter of the Links "Teens in the Arts" annual program. By performing in this show it helped me to boost my self-confidence.

Lady Carol is not just a mentor to me, but a friend, a surrogate mother (when my Mom is out of town) and she has influenced the most important decisions in my life. I transferred from Homewood to Lake Forest Academy. I needed to be accepted; Lady Carol sent the commendations, and I was accepted. She always remembers me on special occasions, etc.



I have only known my Top Teen mentor, Lady Patricia Campbell, for three weeks but I had to let you know about our beautiful friendship and the great experiences we have had already.

The mentoring program has helped me in many ways. I now have a personal confidant, which means I can share things with Lady Campbell that I would not want to share with just anybody. Another reason why the mentoring program is a success to me is that I now have someone that I can relate to. Lady Campbell is always available when I have immense decisions to make that are extremely important in my life. She tells me about her past experiences in her life and how she dealt with them, which is an encouragement to me.

Lady Campbell has already made a big contribution in my life by putting me forward to...

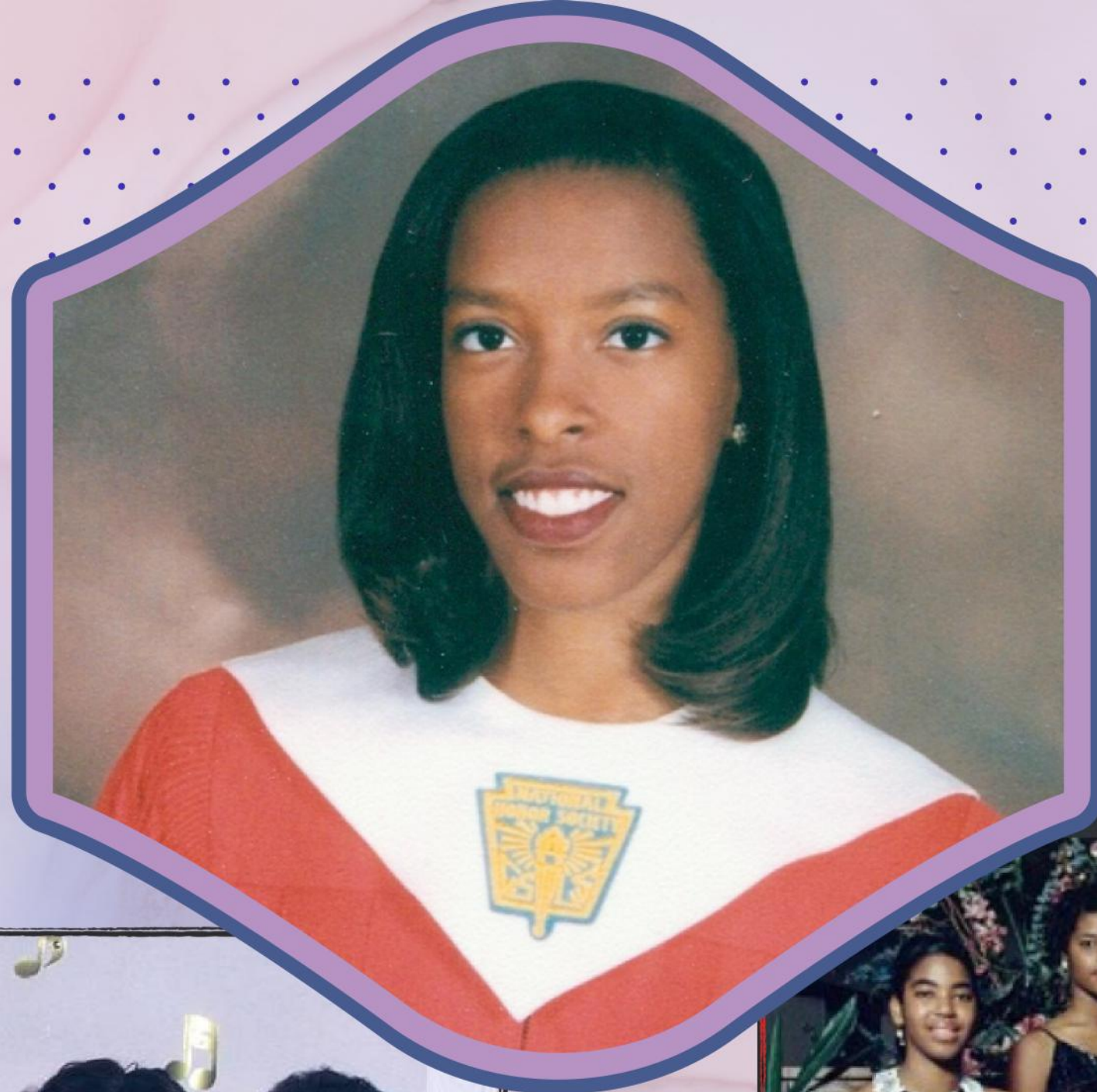


Lady Sharon Beard and Teen Justin Bolton are members of the Dallas Chapter in Dallas, Texas.

When asked to describe his mentor, Teen Justin wrote:

"It has been one year since I first joined the dynamic Dallas chapter of Top Teens of America. Lady Sharon Beard watched me, worked with me, and taught me from day one. We had a true bond that was more than just Top Teen and Top Lady; we became family. With Lady Beard's help, my attitude and outlook in life has become more realistic and open-minded. She has helped me blossom into an emerging young leader. Lady Beard has given me a solid foundation that no one will ever be able to break down."

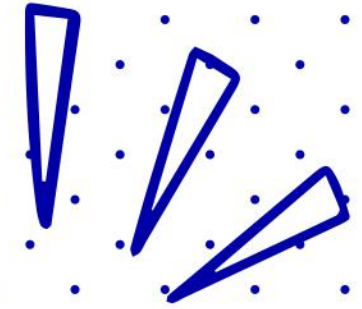
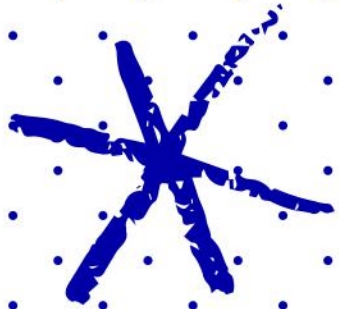
The TTA/TLOD Mentoring Program is important because my mentor has provided so much knowledge, wisdom, and most importantly love. I would not be the person I am today without her. The program has had a great impact on my Top Teen experience. It gives TTA members a chance to learn from them. As TTA President, I have seen the difference in the relationships of our teens and ladies by having a mentor.



CANVA STORIES 2899
009
FILLM



Cherice Cochrane
(Deceased)



Area I



Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, Ill.

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director



"Having a mentor is like a guide, someone you can ask for help from and not worry about feeling judged for not knowing."



Your mentor is there for you in all cases, and it is in their best interest to help you whenever you need it."



Bay Area South Houston Chapter




Beaumont Chapter




Beaumont Chapter



Lady Avery has encouraged me to put myself out there and strive to accomplish things I wouldn't even have dreamed of otherwise. She has supported me endlessly, she always helps me with difficult decisions and knowing that she is always in my corner gives me the strength to keep pushing forward."

"Teen Ariel is very grateful for the time and effort that I invested in her, the important lesson, and skills that she learned from my leadership has inspired her to continue to reach her goals. As, President of Top Teens she is a very intelligent and a smart young lady with a great future. "

"This relationship and seeing her grow has been rewarding. "Lady Alicia motivates me to do new things in the community, she has helped me overcome my shyness, and pushes me to my fullest."

" Lady Doss

"Lady Flo is always available & attending all Teen events. She is the true definition of a Mentor."



Beaumont Chapter



"Lady Flo is always available and gives me encouraging words. I love how she gets to know me."

Lady Flo, "I adopted 4 Teens, this has been the most beautiful two years of my life; we do everything together and we work hard all together. Thank God for a beautiful group!"

"Lady Flo has worked with me and mentor me through the last two years. "I truly appreciate all that she does."

Her guidance has ranged from college applications, support in my extracurriculars, and even simply teaching me how to be coordinated during line dances. Due to her mentorship I have been able to excel academically and socially."



Beaumont Chapter



"Lady Sheri, mentoring has meant developing a personal relationship with my Teen Morgan. I have earned her trust and I often advise her on how to achieve those goals.



I have participated in Teen Morgan's events, & continually encourage her. She knows that if she has any issues I will always be there, and we check in with each other via text or phone call biweekly!



Capital City Chapter



"We appreciate our shared emotional bond developed over the course of the past five years."



Lady Jearlene encourages Teen Kaitlyn that she can succeed in all endeavors and her resilience as well as work ethic have been a source of pride. Our relationship inspires both of us!"



Capital City Chapter



"The Me and My Mentor program has enhanced my time with my Teen Mentee and has given us an opportunity to nurture our connection."



We have spent more time together talking, sharing and traveling to community projects."



Houston Chapter




Humble Intercontinental Chapter





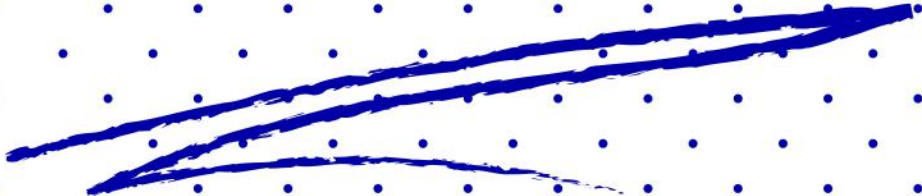
Humble Intercontinental Chapter



Humble Intercontinental Chapter



Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton
Lady Kendra Gillespie, Net





"Lady Shawanda, means a lot to me, she's family, she shown compassion and love for me but she has always had my back in times of need. My mentor knows how to spark a room up with laughter and fun, but Lady Shawanda has shown me how to balance the weight of being focused."

"Lady Sylvia O'Neal, as my Mentor has been a blessing to my life and has always encouraged me to be the best "Me" I could be!"

Lady Sylvia has shown major interest, been very present with my senior year and she does not wait to be served, so I can truly say I am blessed to have her as my mentor."

"Lady Artis Petterway has been my Mentor for the past four years and the bond we have built will continue through my next chapter of life. I knew I had a voice, but I didn't know how to use that voice and Lady Petterway saw something in me that I didn't."



Humble Intercontinental Chapter

"Lady Sheila Maddox, is a caring, compassionate and hardworking mentor. I am thankful and grateful for her being a bonus mother with qualities that keep me on the right track.

"Lady Erica is a great listener, she's understanding, and she motivates me. She never lets me drown in my emotions, she provides unique insights into situations and she's mine. 😊

"Lady Barbara as a mentor has been the best. At first, I thought it was a bit much how she would go out of her way and check on me. I had to do some research and discovered that a Mentor provides guidance, advice, and support to the mentee.

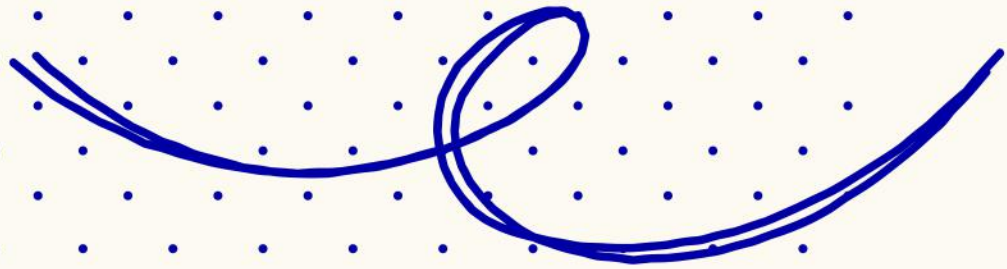
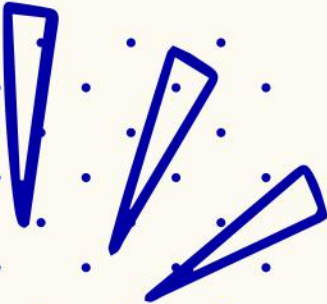
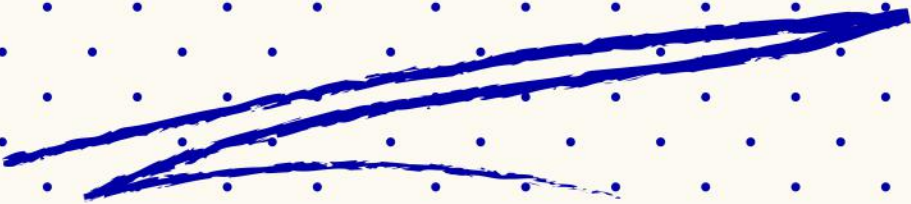
"Lady Cherry Gooden is the sweetest lady ever, she encourages me to do my best at everything I do, and keeps me motivated to enhance my writing skills.



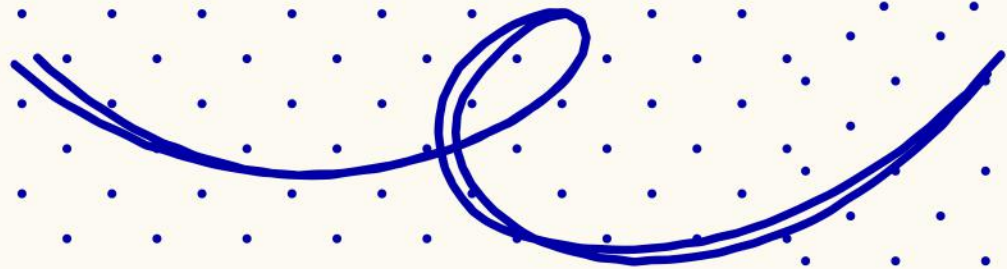
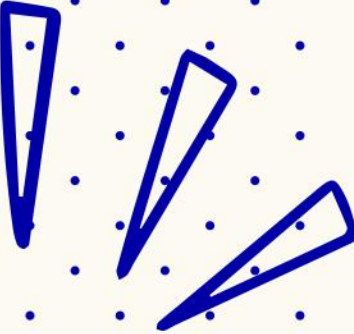
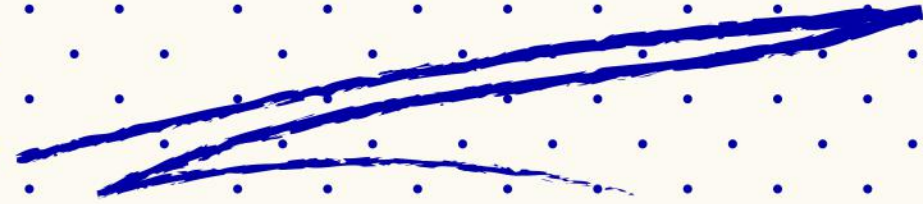
Humble Intercontinental Chapter




Metro Chapter




Suburban Bayou City Chapter

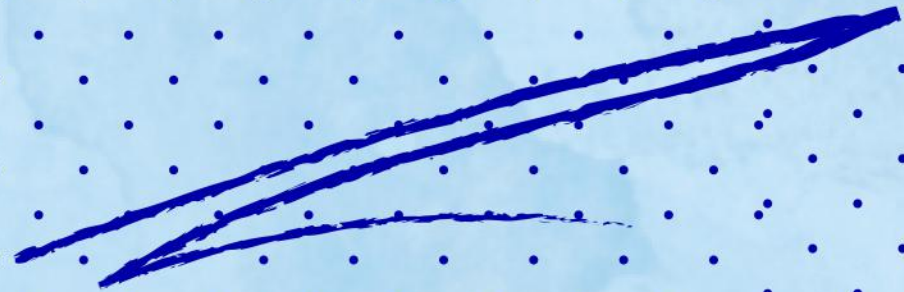


Suburban Bayou City Chapter



When I was apprehensive to speak before the Teens, my mentor provided lots of support. She encouraged me and motivated me to accept the challenge despite my apprehension. My mentor identified my strengths and instilled confidence in me. Having a strong sense of self-assurance helped me to work harder to achieve my goals.

My mentor is supportive and encouraging. My mentor calls to check on me and supports me during my activities. She shares ideas to support my business to help it to grow.

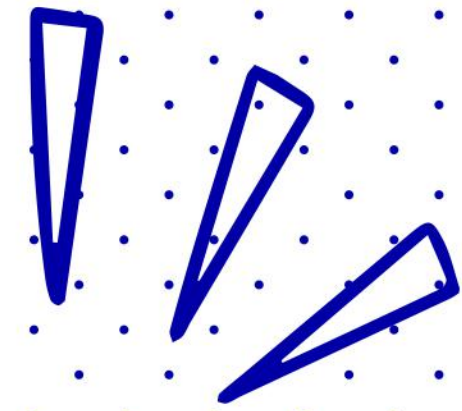


My mentor encourages me and enables me to grow socially and academically. My mentor helps me to focus my efforts by setting goals and giving feedback. I appreciate my mentors encouragement and guidance.

My mentor helps to hold me accountable to reach my goals and to keep track of my progress. She assists me to stay focused and on track towards completing them. She encourages me to ensure that I do not forget about the goals I have set. Knowing that she is watching and checking helps to motivate me so that I do not let her down by failing to meet my goals.



Suburban Bayou City Chapter



This mentoring relationship has meant the world to me and I was most fortunate to have two great Mentors. Their support and assistance has allowed me to go through my last year of high school and graduate with my Associates Degree.



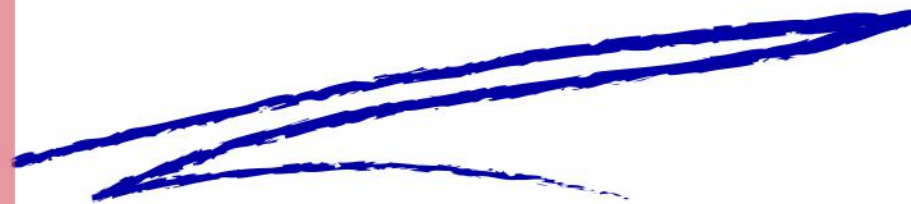
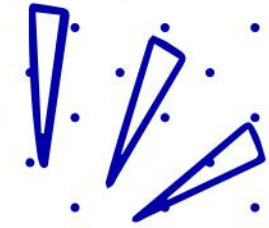
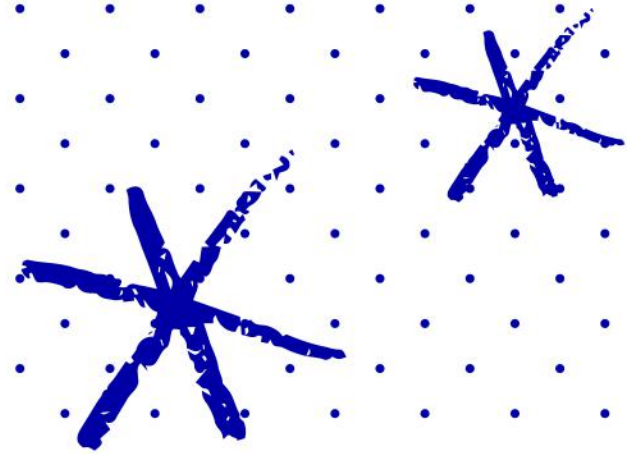
Lake Houston Chapter

I am truly grateful for the both of them. I am looking forward to spending the next two years at the University of Houston and giving back to our community.

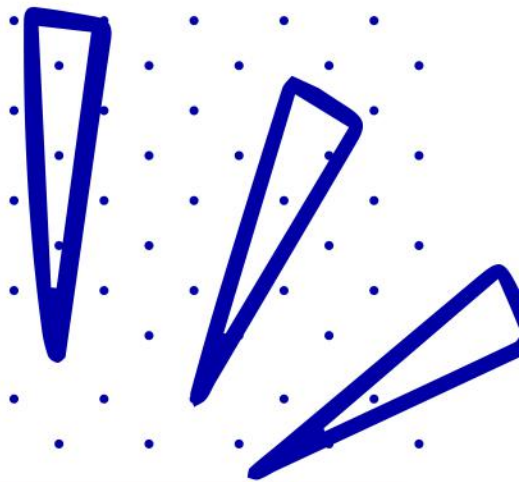
Mentoring Teen Zoë has been a true Joy and pleasure!!! Teen Zoë is an engaging leader, very motivated, and, respectful!!! Mentoring, Teen Zoë has been most pleasant as we connect!!



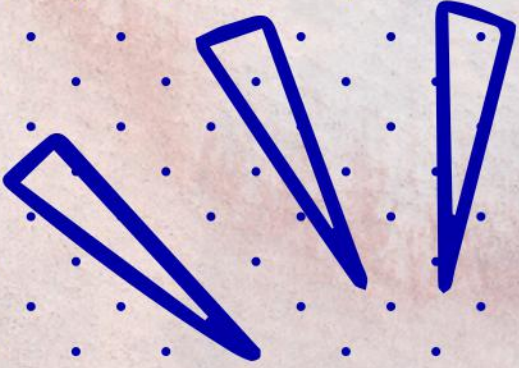
Lake Houston Chapter



Monroe Chapter



Monroe Chapter



Lady Ethel Belt has been a joy to work with. She has always been a phone call or visit away. Because of her, I do not think I would have had the wonderful experiences I have had. I want to thank her for her encouragement and positive conversations. This year she was there when I was named Miss Top Teen 2023. It was quite an honor to share that experience with her.



I was so happy my mentor Lady Martin was there to hear my winning speech given at Area One to the Ladies of Area One and I was able to share the moment with her. The Top Ladies are amazing, but my Mentor... I am grateful for her support.

"Having Lady Gloria Kimes as a mentor has helped me come out of my comfort zone. I have enjoyed engaging with other teens and working on community service projects. We had a session where we had to interview each other, this process really helped us both to get to know each other."



Monroe Chapter



Lady Janet Davis has been a ray of light for me this season. She has encouraged me to participate outside of my comfort zone. She has encouraged me to speak at events, lead all clean-up efforts with Top Teens, take on the office of treasurer. This has made my senior year memorable. So many new experiences that I am sure will be beneficial as I make the transition from home to college in the fall.

Mentoring Lana has been an absolute joy! I've know Lana all of her life, however, having her as a mentee allowed us to bond into a wonderful relationship. I'm proud to have assisted and supported her from the time she became a member to the outstanding leader that she has become for this organization and in our community.

My mentor helps to hold me accountable to reach my goals and to keep track of my progress. She assists me to stay focused and on track towards completing them. She encourages me to ensure that I do not forget about the goals I have set. Knowing that she is watching and checking helps to motivate me so that I do not let her down by failing to meet my goals.

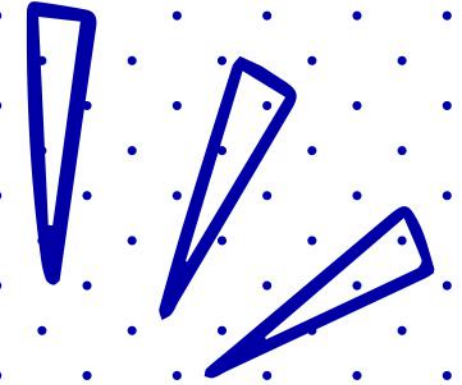


Monroe Chapter



Ms Durden wrote the letter that night and email it to school right away, I will always be grateful for her kindness. Also gives me pep talks about academics/ to study hard, make good grades and to be open to my parents about anything no matter how small that maybe bothering me.

Neches River at Beaumont Chapter



Nonpareil Chapter

Director

Having a mentor is so important to me because it means a lot to have a person who has been through so many things in life and has so much wisdom to share. Mentors are always so excited to pour into us and I really appreciate it because I can learn so much from them.



Teen Lailah, "as a teenager, being in contact with someone who has been where I am and is there to help me in ways that they could've used, is helping my college and occupational journey go by a little smoother. Through the assistance and guidance of Lady Drake I have been encouraged and empowered in my personal development. I also look forward to her continued assistance as I identify and achieve my ultimate career goals"

Having a mentor has been beneficial to me because it provides me with a second layer beyond my parents to hold me accountable to setting and keeping on track with my goals. Senior year has been stressful with so many things that had to be handled, such as applying to colleges and making college decisions, maintaining grades, ACT exams, school activities, community service and the like. My mentor has assisted me in prioritizing and juggling my many activities by offering encouragement, helping me make helpful connections and reminding me to take care of my mental and physical health in the process. My mentor not only checks in with me but maintains contact with my parents to check up on me and my well-being.



Nonpareil Chapter



Lake Charles Chapter



Director



Lady Michelle has been very supportive in everything that I do. She also gives good advice when needed. I started off very quiet in the organization but that has definitely changed over the years and I thank Lady Michelle for not only being a great mentor now but also someone who I know I can call later in life after Top Teens. Thank you TLOD for helping to make me a leader in everything that I do. I am confident that I can go out and ExCEL in my community, state, nation, and world!

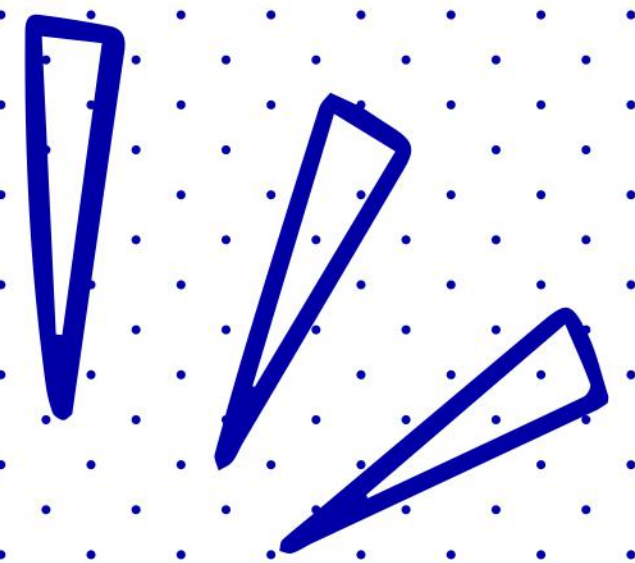


Lady Ivy is an amazing woman. She takes time to explain things and she always has a beautiful smile on her face. I am thankful for having a mentor that cares and understands my busy schedule. Thank you TLOD!

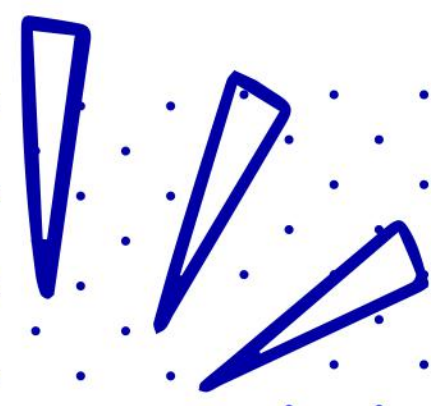
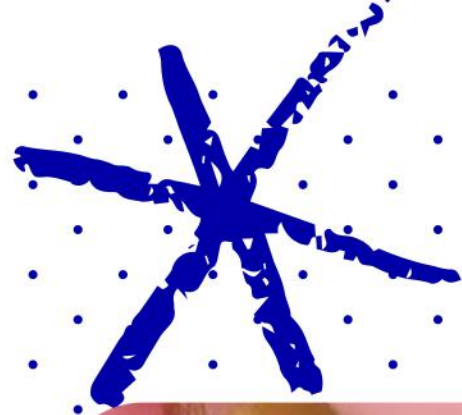
I've had the awesome experience of having the Area One Director as my chapter mentor. Not only does she take on the role of superwoman for our area, she always takes time out to check on her mentees, including me. Over the past two years she has shared enough wisdom to last a lifetime. I'll never forget her being there for me during this time and I'm happy to know that I can call on her in the future if I ever need her. I am forever grateful to TLOD for having this mentor program.

Lake Charles Chapter

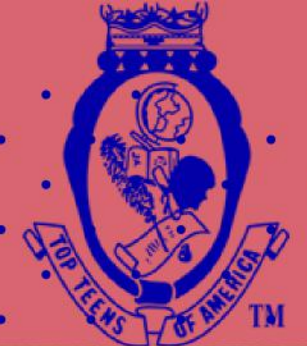
"Having a mentor means always having someone in my corner willing to provide guidance, support and inspiration."




Little Rock Chapter




River City Chapter



"My mentors are Lady Rhonda Harris and Lord Milton Harris, they encourage me to reach my goals. It is through my mentors that I learned the value of staying focused and working hard toward my future goals."



"Lady Rhonda always offers me opportunities to achieve things. My mentor lead me through top teen's and got me where I am. She's been sweet and always supportive. Lady Harris kindness and care towards others makes me want to be an better person."

River City Chapter



"My mentor, Lady Brazil, and I share a love for STEM and have many common interests. We even share our June 19th birthday! Lady Tracy is always interested in my school and extracurricular activities. We have participated in activities in the community together this year and look forward to working together in more chapter and community activities in the coming years. "



"My mentor has been involved in all that I have been participating in school and Top Teens."

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Lake Charles Chapter



"Having a mentor means you always have someone who is there for you. They are always a listening ear who can provide positive and constructive feedback. They are someone outside of your immediate family that you can ask for advice and can help you solve any problem."



"A mentor is someone who is there to cheer you on and encourage you through all of your accomplishments."



Shreveport Chapter



Having a mentor
has been very
beneficial to me
mentor.



Trinity West Chapter

"My Mentor reaches out to me frequently with nothing special but just checking on me. She has reached out to me during stressful times, for birthdays, reports on classes and congrats for the new job I started. I like this relationship."

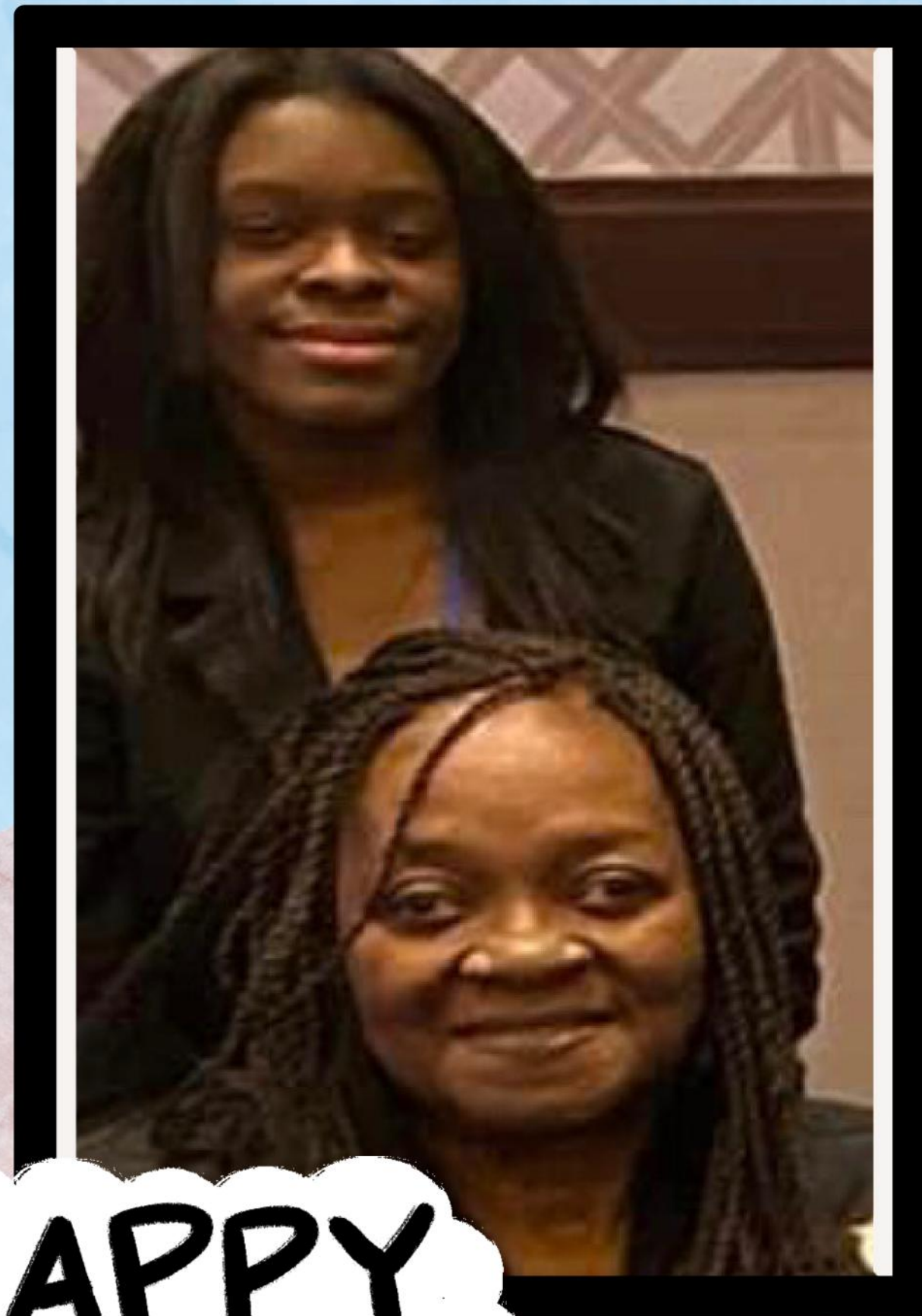


Trinity West Chapter

"Having a mentor allows me to be challenged in my thinking and to discuss my career goals. There is also an opportunity to hear shared life lesson."



Trinity West Chapter



**HAPPY
DAYS**

Trinty West Chapter



" I can see the young man he's becoming. He's still developing his leadership style, but he's always willing to take charge and represent his chapter."

Trinty West Chapter

As Mentee, the most memorable moment is when my Mentor helped me by listening as I practicing for my recitation of an excerpt from Dr. Martin Luther King speech, "I Have A Dream" After practicing with my Mentor, I felt more confident.



Twin City Chapter



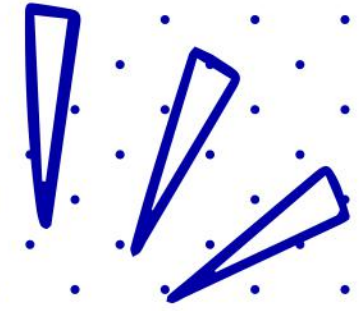
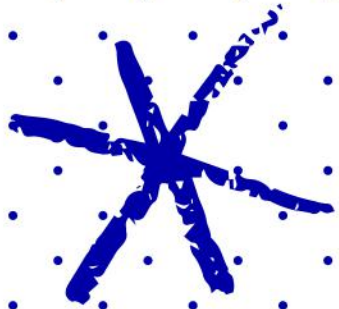
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Area One Mentors

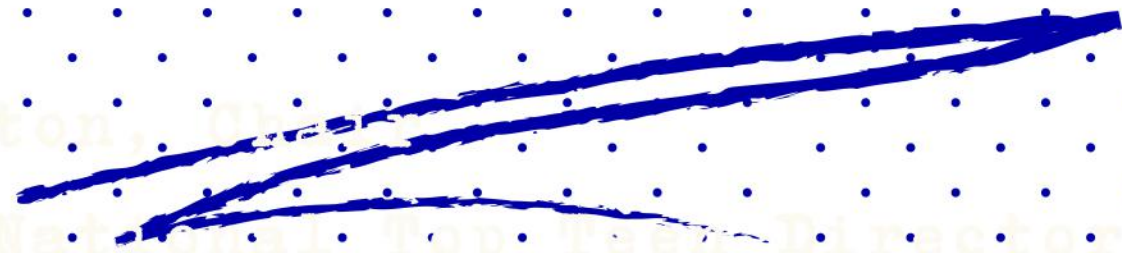


Area III



Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, III

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director





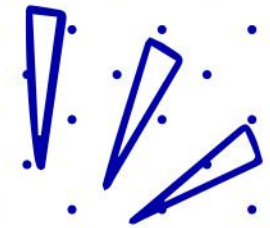
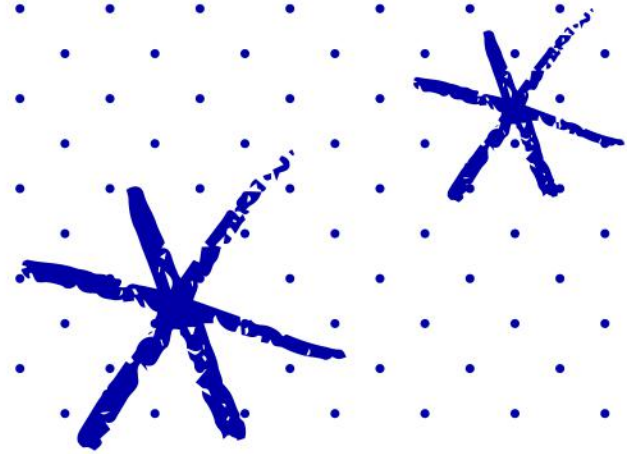
"We appreciate our shared emotional bond developed over the course of the past five years."



Lady Jearlene encourages Teen Kaitlyn that she can succeed in all endeavors and her resilience as well as work ethic have been a source of pride. Our relationship inspires both of us!"



Alexandria City Chapter




Gotham Chapter





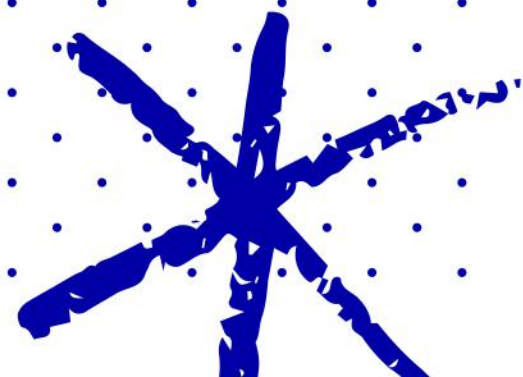
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Hampton Roads Chapter



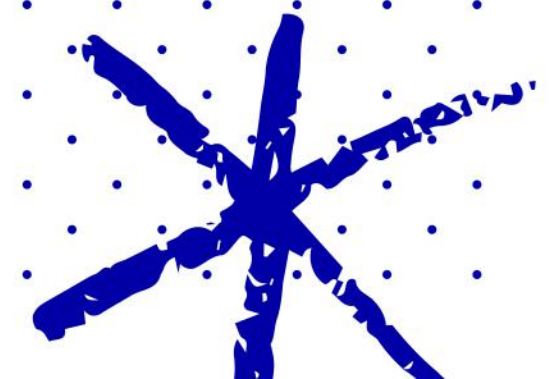
"Having a mentor means weekend calls to check in and kind words through text to encourage me during the week.



It's going into Washington, DC for museums and good food, cheering me on at my rowing competitions, and always having a positive word and lots of laughs.



Haymarket- Gainesville





"We appreciate our shared emotional bond developed over the course of the past five years."



Lady Jearlene encourages Teen Kaitlyn that she can succeed in all endeavors and her resilience as well as work ethic have been a source of pride. Our relationship inspires both of us!!



Prince George's County Chapter



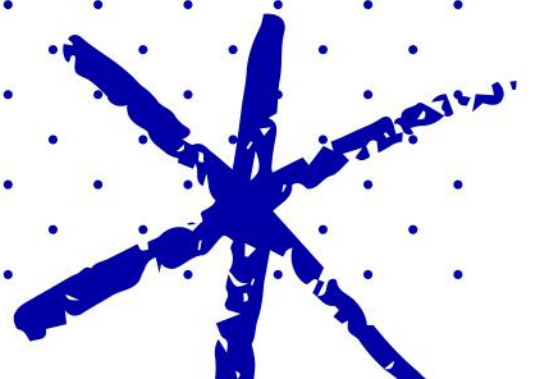
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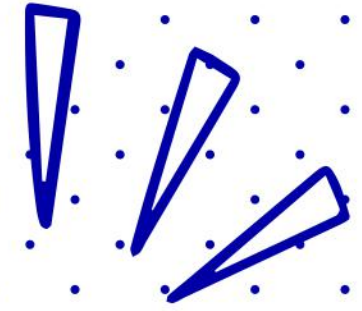
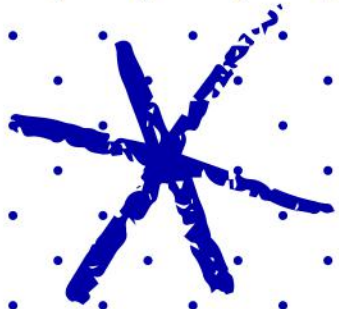


**I CAN AND
WILL**



Queens New York The Empire State Chapter





Area III



Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, III

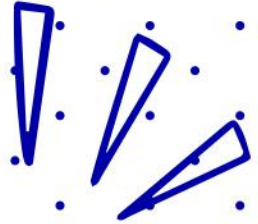
Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director



Lady Penina Gillespie



Cardinal Chapter




Midway Chicago Chapter



Chair
ie, National Top Teen

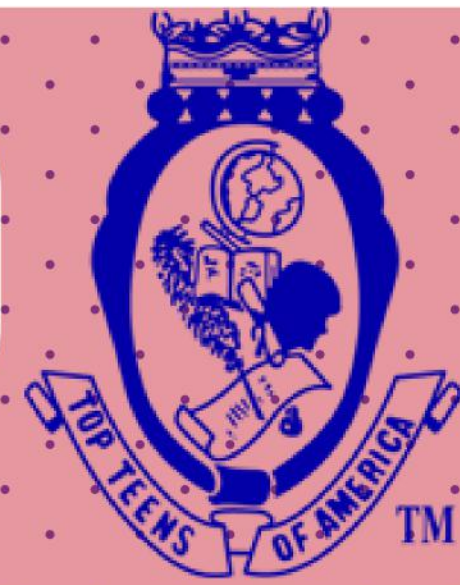



Midway Chicago Chapter





St. Louis Chapter



GOOD
TIMES





North Shore-Chicago Chapter



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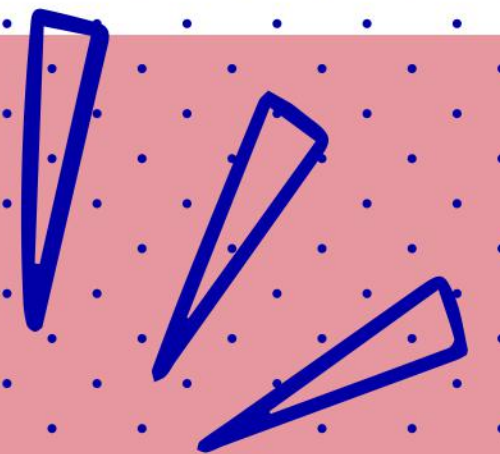
Top Teen Director



My relationship with my mentor has brought me so much closer to this organization that I love so much, and I am so grateful for that. My mentor has always been there when I ask questions about my leadership positions and has truly made me a better person. We've had lunch together, seen plays together, and just have been able to talk. I also do theater, and she always comes to my shows and supports me.



Lincoln Park Chicago Chapter




Milwaukee Chapter

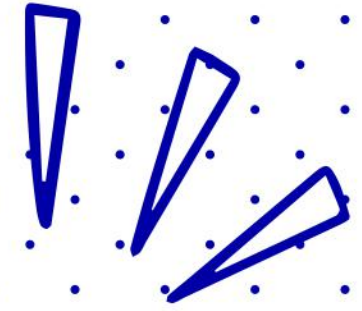
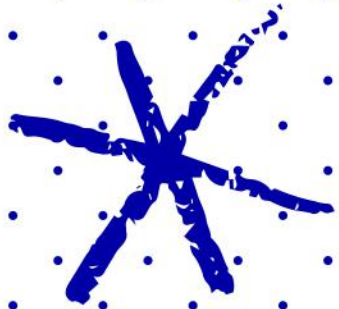


“I think it’s a really good thing to have someone looking out for you!”

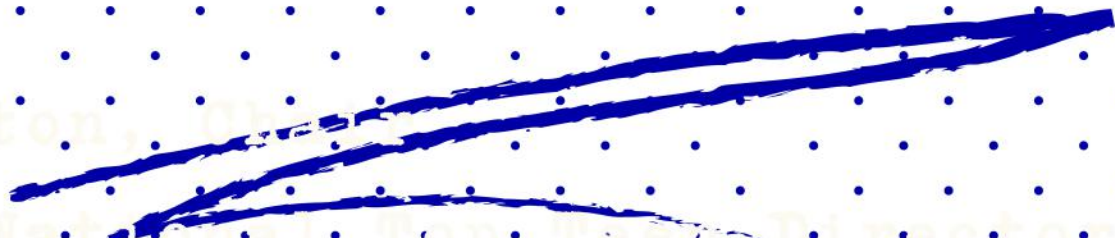
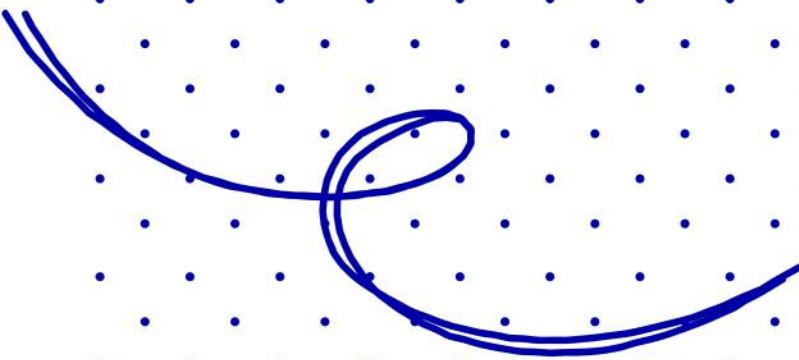


West Suburban Chicago Chapter

Director wonderful

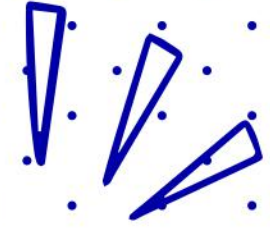
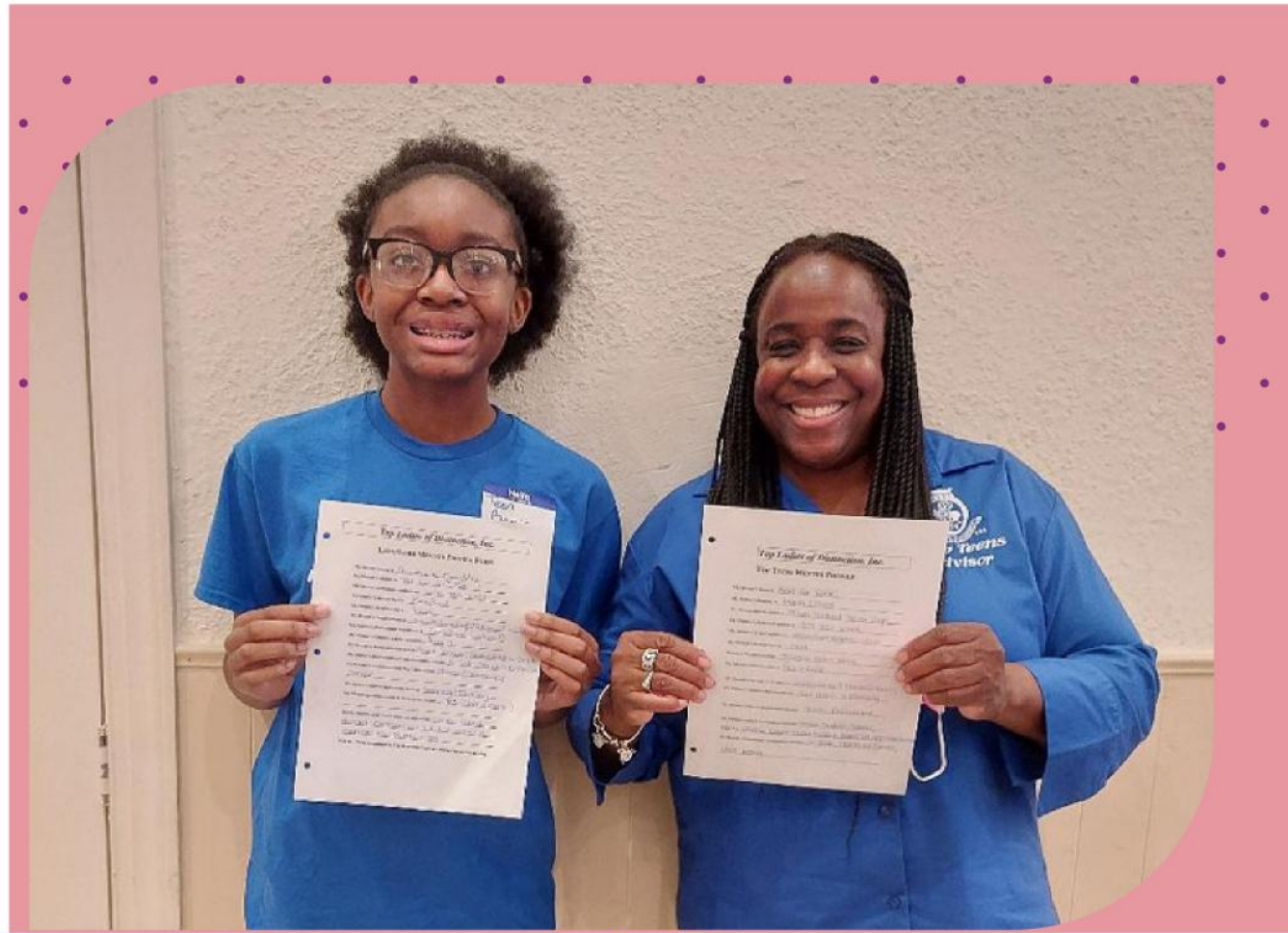
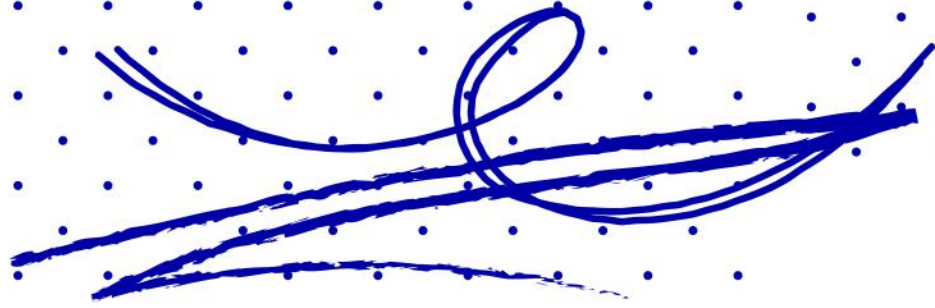


Area IV

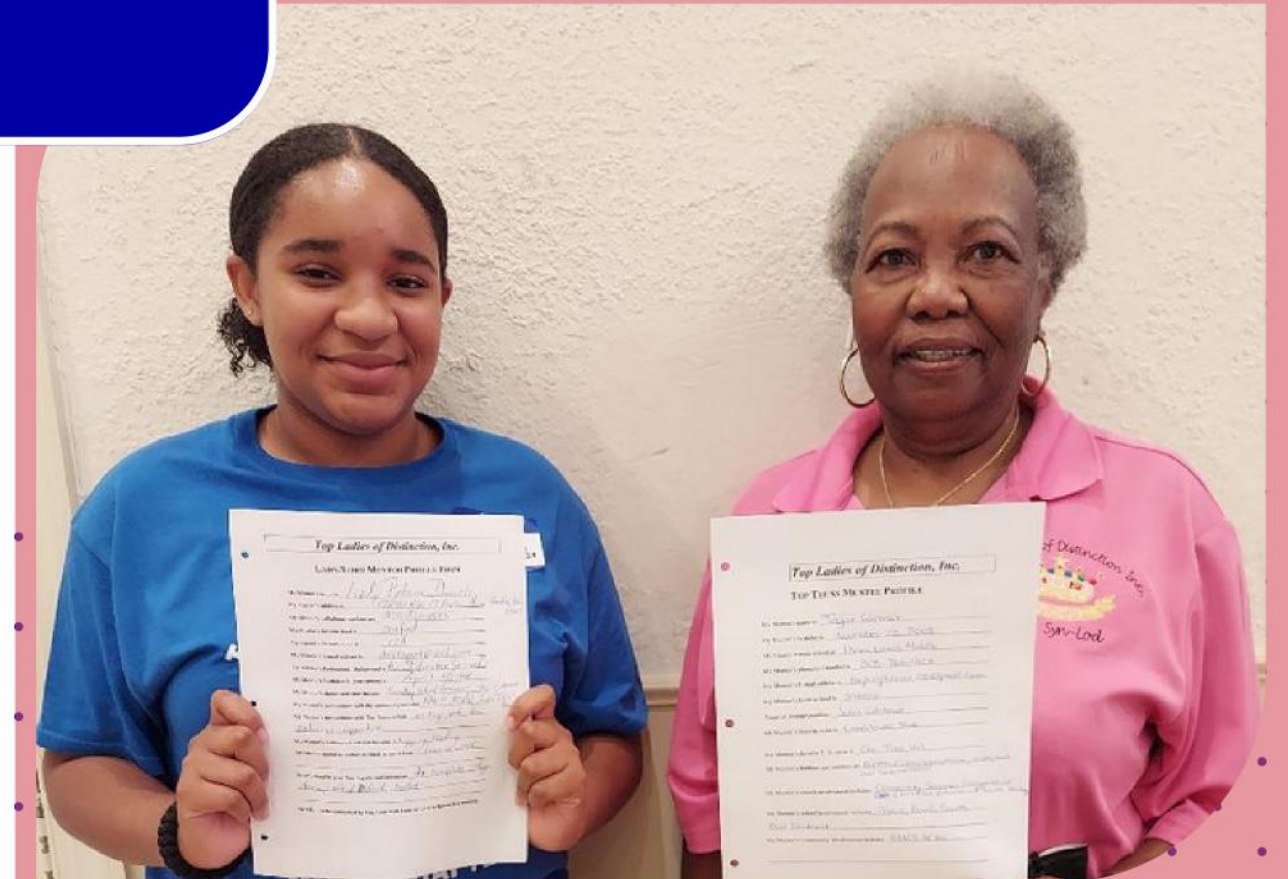
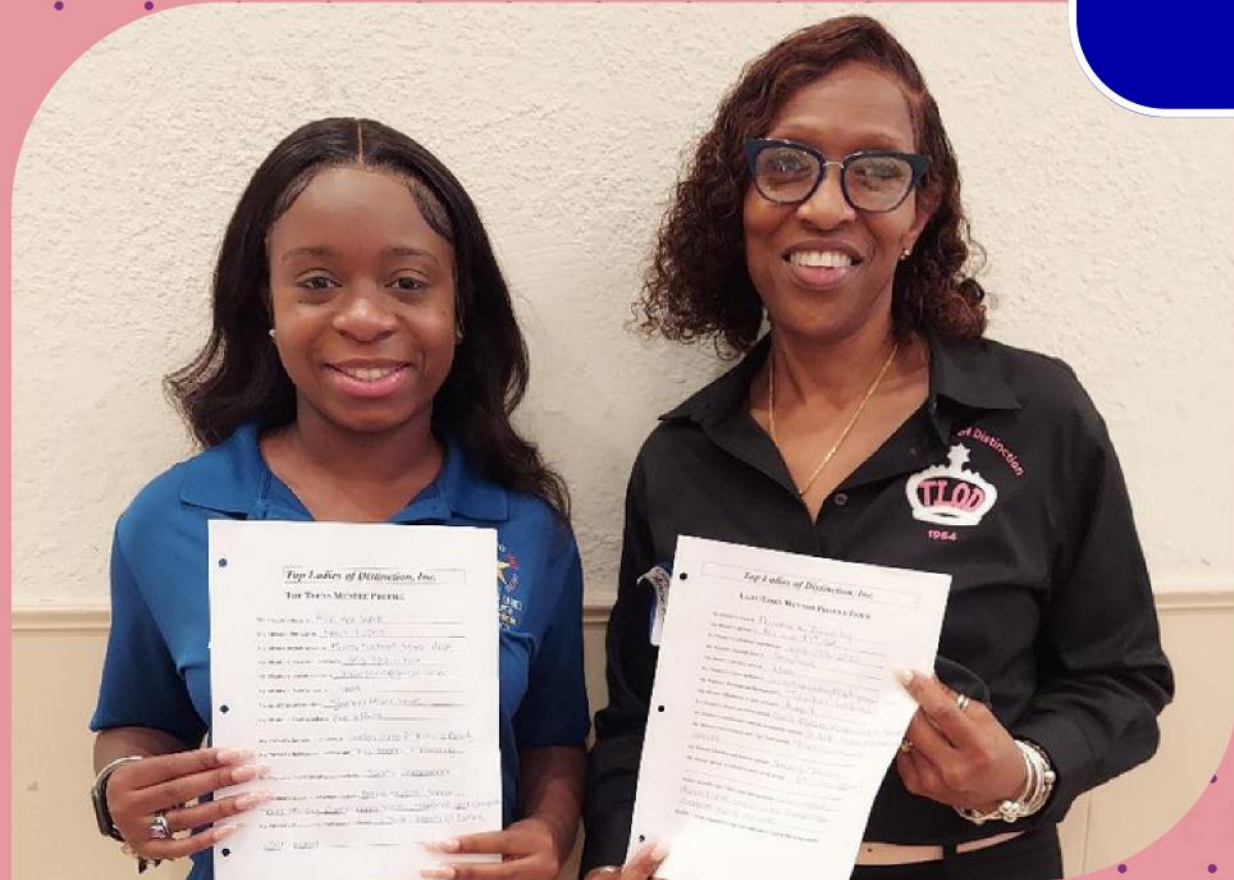


Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, UK

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director



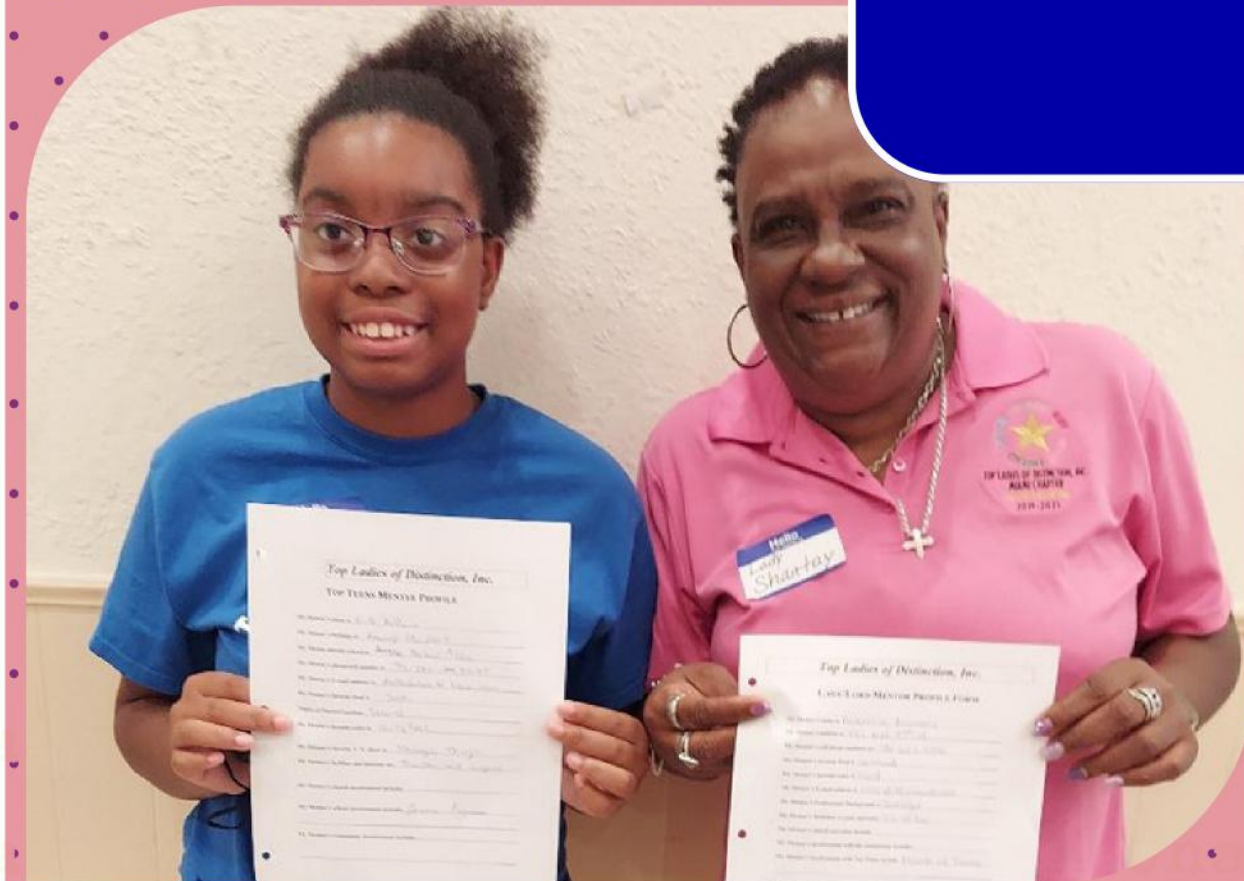

Miami Chapter

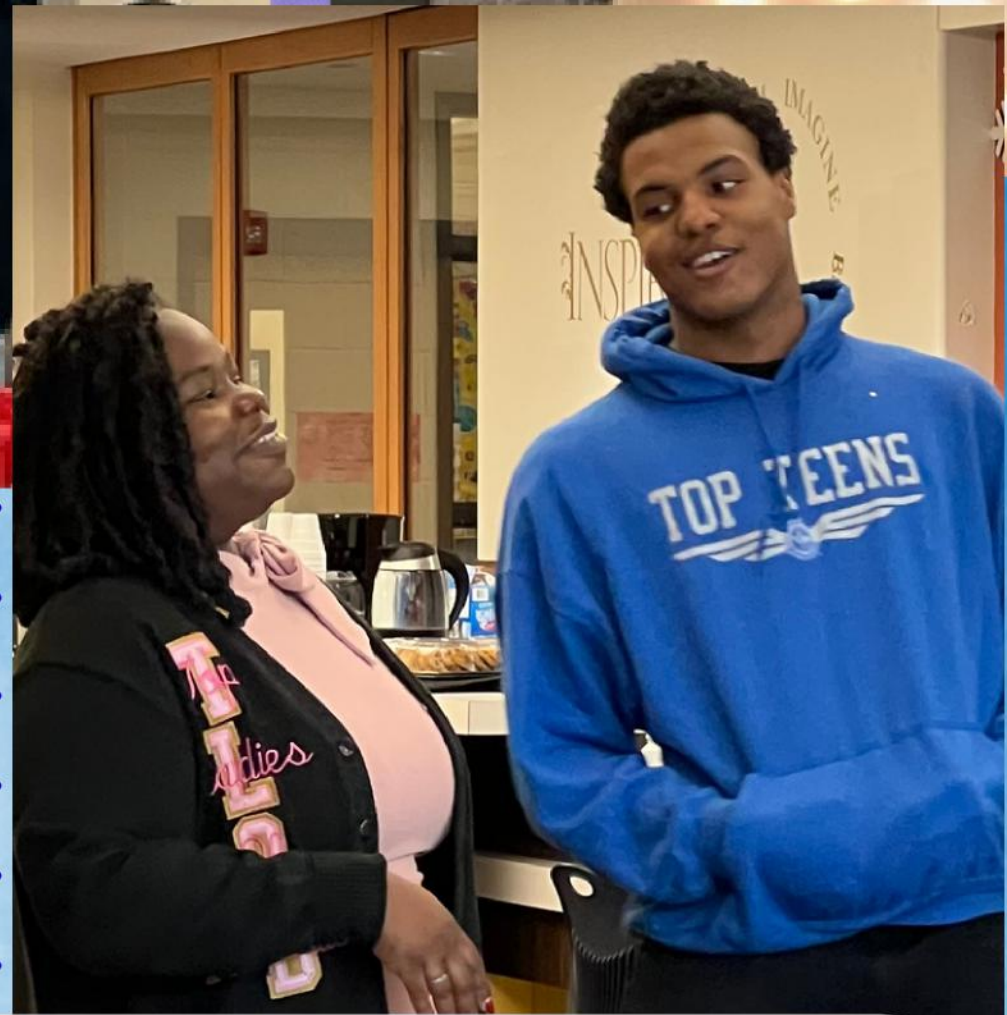


"My mentor Lady Patricia shares the same position as I do. This mentoring relationship has been beneficial because as Parliamentarian she has helped me to learn the Robert Rules of Order and other things so that I could be successful at my position in the our chapter."



Miami Chapter





Atlanta Peachtree Chapter



Raleigh Chapter



Wendell Chapter



COLA City Chapter

As a Mentee, one of my most memorable moments, was looking into the audience and seeing my Mentor, Lady Inger cheering for me as I was crowned Miss Freshman and Miss Congenitally during my high school pageant. Realizing that she cared about me beyond my being a TTA member, simply placed me on cloud nine.



North Atlanta Chapter



live
laugh
love






NewRock Chapter



My mentor regularly takes time out to spend time with me, whether it is a phone call, an encouraging text, or taking me out for lunch. My mentor is very supportive, she attends my volleyball games and has even taken me to a tournament hosted by her alma mater, Albany State University, where she introduced me to the head volleyball coach and previous players.



NewRock Chapter

COOL



Winston Salem Chapter



Effingham Chapter

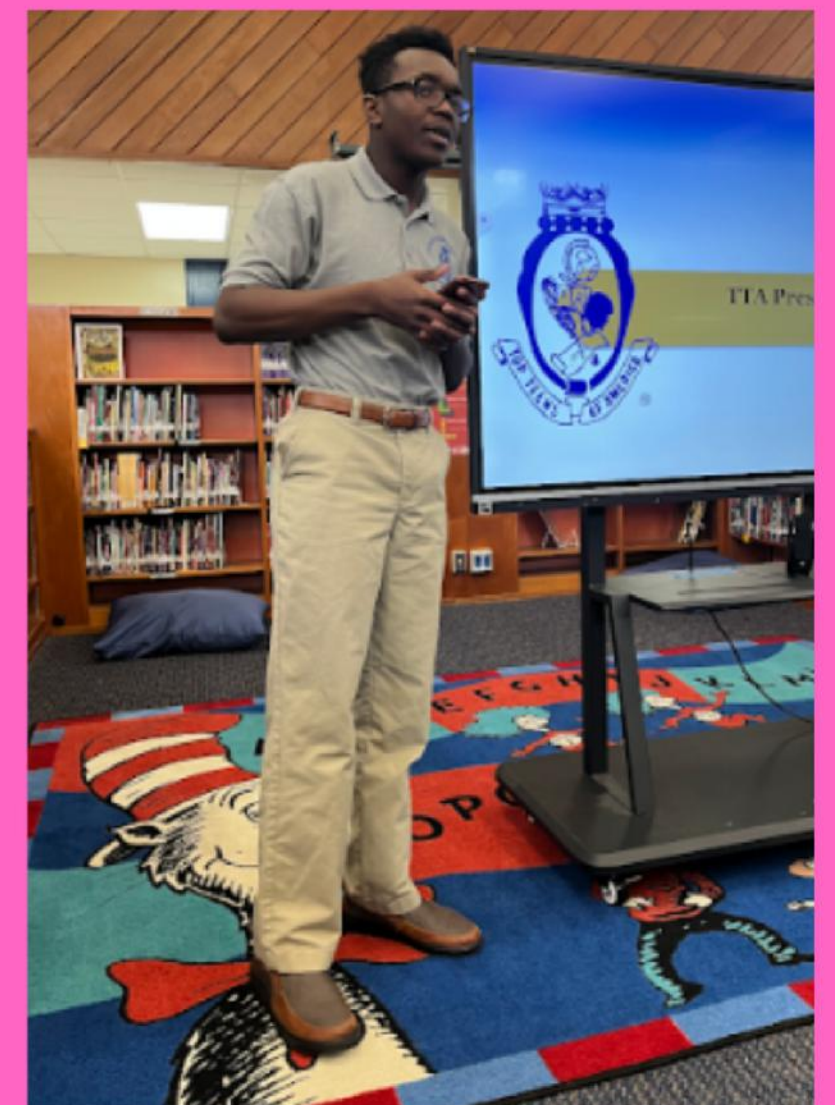
Me & My Mentor = Sisters Mentoring Sisters



How Nice! Our mentors gave us money to spend at Area IV Conference!



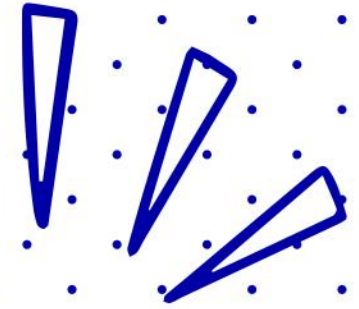
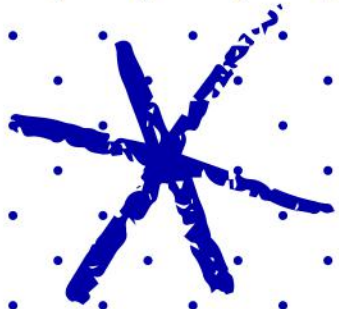
Me & My Mentor = Gwinnett South DeKalb Co Diamond TLOD & TTA Presidents



Lady Makela Hursefield & Teen Amir Barrie lead the Joint Chapter Meeting 4/16



**Gwinnett South DeKalb County
Diamond Chapter**

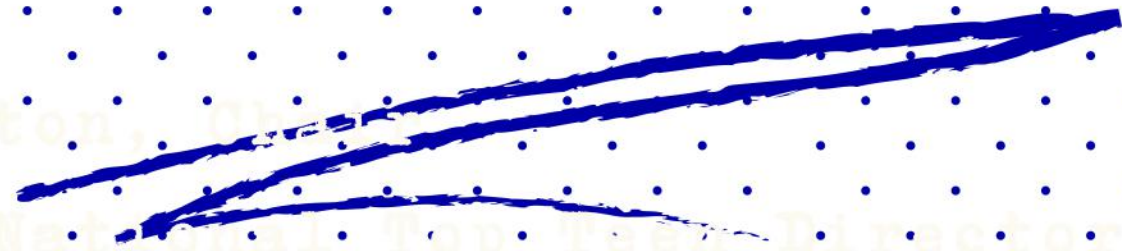


Area V



Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, UK

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director





"Since becoming a member of TLOD I have always enjoyed having a mentee. the interaction with my mentee is rewarding. Having a relationship with my mentee has become one of my greatest pleasures. We have not had been paired long but we definitely enjoy our time together and sharing positive quotes and our regular morning text messages."



Detroit Chapter



THANK YOU

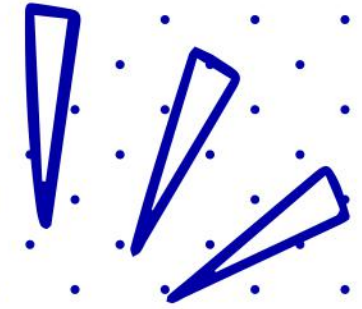
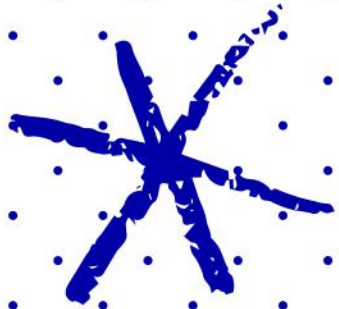


Detroit Chapter

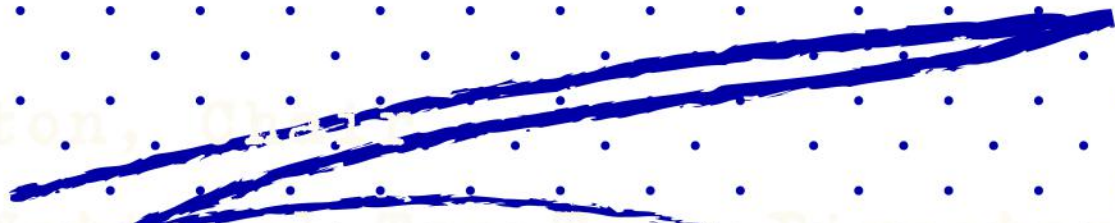
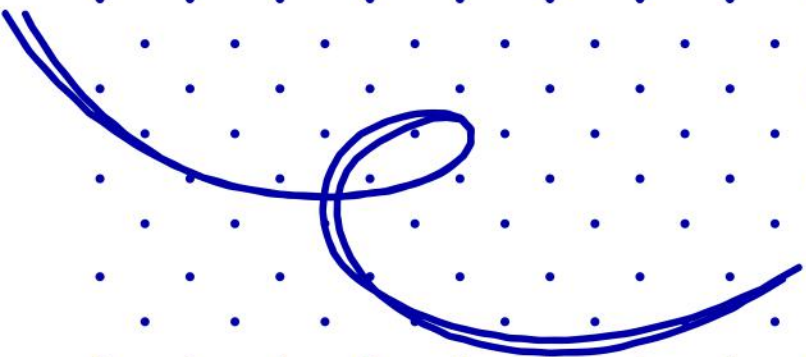


"Sharing of ideals and how to make working with TLOD/TTA Better."





Area VI



Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, UK

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director




Inglewood Chapter





Starlight Chapter



THANK YOU

Ledy Fendra Gillespie, Netio... Director



ME & my mentor

Lady Tiffany Walker-Walton, Chair

Lady Kendra Gillespie, National Top Teen Director

Lady Sharon J. Beard, National President & CEO