



NAACP ACT-SO KICK OFF & Orientation

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

4:00 P. M. – 7:00 P.M.

**James P. Austin Community Center
315 Dr. MLK, Jr., Blvd. Lake Wales, FL**

Come celebrate with us.

Kwanzaa

*A Celebration of Family,
Community and Culture*

Bring fruit to share with all.

Adults, bring a handmade gift for a youth.

**Sponsored by NAACP Lake Wales Branch 5109
P. O. Box 4035, Lake Wales, FL 33859**

**For more information, please call Wanda Howard
(863) 678-3176.**



WWW.NAACP.ORG

NAACP



October 30, 2018

Dear Community Partner:

Now more than ever it is clear that it is going to take an entire village to educate a child. As the illiteracy and dropout rates continue to increase and African-American high school students consistently rank low on national tests and in college enrollment, the need for programs that challenge and encourage their academic and artistic development also increases. We recognize your hard work and dedication to motivate our students toward a high level of learning and we are committed to becoming a part of your team.

The NAACP ACT-SO Program was developed to enhance and showcase the academic and artistic achievement of high school students of African descent just as we do their athletic achievements. Since 1978, ACT-SO has:

- Challenged students to excel and consistently put a spotlight on their efforts and successes;
- Raised the standard of excellence and expectation among our youth,
- Promoted a climate of academic and artistic development
- Mobilized the adult community to serve as mentors and coaches for students in the areas of STEM, humanities, performing arts, visual arts and business.

ACT-SO is a yearlong enrichment program starting in January that culminates in a local and national competition where students compete for scholarships and prizes totaling over \$250,000. ACT-SO, the "Olympics of the Mind", seeks to promote positive self-esteem, academic and artistic excellence, and positive interaction between our youth and the adult professional community. We need your help in making our outreach efforts successful. There are three things that you can do:

- Let the people know about the ACT-SO program (you may share a hard copy or have this letter emailed to their address);
- Encourage the people to identify youth who may benefit from participating in the ACT-SO program; and
- Encourage the people to become coaches, mentors, judges and to support participating students by helping them develop their projects and rewarding and recognizing their participation in ACT-SO.

It is important that students know about this opportunity and resource designed to help them achieve their dreams. I can be reached at (863) 604-9303 or wandafayehoward@gmail.com for further information and for a formal presentation.

Sincerely,

Wanda Faye Howard
ACT-SO Chairperson
President, NAACP Lake Wales Branch 5109
Enclosure: student application 2018-19

**NAACP Lake Wales Branch 5109
P. O. Box 4035
Lake Wales, FL 33859-4035
(863) 604-9303**