

Special Thanks are Extended To...

The Hon. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland
The Hon. Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor of Maryland
Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary, Department of Human Resources
Randa Hudome, Chair, Maryland Commission for Women

Program Co-Sponsors

Maryland Commission for Women
Girl Scouts of Central Maryland
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The 2003 Women of Tomorrow Selection Committee

Diana M. Bailey
Mary Burkholder
Marian Daniel
Dr. Fran Tracy-Mumford, Chair

The Staff of the Maryland Commission for Women

Dory Stacks, Executive Director
Rose T. Fragua, Deputy Executive Director
Alexis Turrentine, Policy Analyst
Stella Anderson, Office Secretary

The Governor's Council on the Status of Girls is a unit of the Maryland Commission for Women.

Governor's Council

On the

Status of Girls

Presents the

2003
Women of Tomorrow
Awards
Ceremony & Reception

Tuesday, May 20, 2003
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thomas V. "Mike" Miller Senate Office Building
President's Conference Center, West
Annapolis, MD

2003 Women of Tomorrow Awards Ceremony

Welcome & Introductions

Diana M. Bailey
Governor's Council on the Status of Girls

Delegate Jean B. Cryor
President Elect of the Women Legislators of Maryland

Introduction of Selection Committee

Dr. Fran Tracy-Mumford
Governor's Council on the Status of Girls

Introduction of Honorees

Marian Daniel
Governor's Council on the Status of Girls

Nicole Turner

Winner of 2002 Women of Tomorrow Award

Ebony Ellison
Winner of 2002 Women of Tomorrow Award

Closing Remarks

Diana Bailey
Governor's Council on the Status of Girls

Reception to Follow

Mission

The Governor's Council on the Status of Girls will monitor the well being of Maryland's Girls, advise government and advance solutions in order to empower girls to realize their fullest potential.

Key Result Areas

❖ Monitor, Evaluate, and Report on the Status of Girls.

To identify the forces, conditions and societal patterns that obstruct and those that promote the growth and development of girls in Maryland and to review, analyze and report on the need for, and availability of resources to address the needs of girls.

❖ Advise and Evaluate Government

To advise government in the development of

legislation, policies and procedures that will serve the best interests of Maryland's girls and empower them to reach their full potential.

❖ Promote Solutions

To promote solutions throughout society, including the government, the private sector and communities which address the identified needs of Maryland Girls.

Members

Catrice Alphonso	Jodi Finkelstein
Diana Bailey	Denese Maker
Pam Cranston	Tamara Phoenix
Marian Daniel	Dr. Fran Tracy-Mumford
Cheryl DePinto	

Governor's Council on the Status of Girls Overview

Established in June 2000, the Governor's Council on the Status of Girls is a 19-member, Governor-appointed council with a vested interest in the health and well being of Maryland's girls. It was formed in response to the November 1999 report by the Steering Committee of the Girls of Women Initiative entitled: "Setting the Agenda for the 21st Century". As mandated by the Executive Order, the Council has responsibility for:

- Identifying the forces, conditions and societal patterns that obstruct the growth and development of girls in Maryland.
- Investigating the need for, and availability of resources to address the need of girls;

- Providing leadership needed to recommend legislative, policy and procedural changes that would help Maryland's girls realize their full potential, now and in the future;
- Making recommendations to the appropriate State agencies or legislature; and
- Establishing a reporting system to measure the extent to which State laws and polices are carried out in the best interest of Maryland's girls.

The Council has the cooperation of all the State executive departments and agencies in the performance of its duties.

Vision

The Governor's Council on the Status of Girls envisions a social, political, economic and educational environment that promotes optimum growth and development of Maryland's girls. When girls are reared in a society that embraces equality, they will achieve their full potential and grow to be healthy, productive and successful women.

2003 Women of Tomorrow Honorees

GRADES 6 ~ 8

First Place

Ladonna Brown

Lombard Middle School, Baltimore City

Honorable Mention

Falasha Culpepper

Gaithersburg Middle School, Montgomery County

GRADES 9 ~ 10

First Place

Donielle Avery Simons

Charles Herbert Flowers High School

Honorable Mention

Jackelyn Raquel Lopez

Bishop McNamara High School, Charles County

GRADES 11 ~ 12

First Place

Catarina Rivera

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Prince George County

Honorable Mention

Ashley Michelle Nathanson

Arundel Senior High School, Anne Arundel County

6th – 8th Grade, Honoree

Lombard Middle School

LaDonna A. Brown is our school's Salutatorian for the graduating class of 2003 this June. She has maintained her high academic record while carrying out her work at home, school and in her immediate neighborhood. LaDonna is an active member of the following school programs: The National Junior Honor Society, the BCCC Talent Search program, the SHOUT peer helper group, the school's Teen Court, and the school's Debate Team. Both our school's SHOUT team and the Debate team won the citywide first place honor this year. LaDonna wants to study medicine in pursuit of a career as a mortician or a forensic pathologist.

6th – 8th Grade, Honorable Mention

Gaithersburg Middle School

Falasha R. Culpepper was born in Baltimore and has been raised in Montgomery County. She has 2 sisters and 1 brother. Falasha is a very healthy, strong, and talented young girl, surely on her way to being a woman of tomorrow, in spite of the circumstance surrounding the day she was born, May 9, 14 years ago. To imagine a one pound infant with a heart murmur who is now a member of an elite basketball team is unbelievable! This team, vying now for a regional championship, is in first place in 2

different leagues: the Rising Star and JV. Although Falasha is such an important asset to the team, she is modest and does not even know her own stats. She identifies herself simply as a member of this great team of high achieving girls and not as an individual girl. She has

Amy Gilbert
Shakeisha Glass
Jessica Grangier
Robyn Harris
Kela Harris
Amie Hernandez
Theresa Karsner
Caitlin Klueber
Anita Kohli
Holly Lance
Holly Laudenslager
Gina Lawrence
Kristen Mason
Mercelyn Matthews
Jessica McClurg
Alaine Nichols
Tara O'Connor
Brittani O'Neal Lucas
Ajima Olaghere
Faith Paulick
Brenda Perez
Devan Prescott
Margaret Riggs

Jennifer Schappert
Rebekah Schuppel
Juanjie (Joyce) Shen
Tyshika Showell
Jazmin Simmons
Georgia Stubbings
Brianna Taylor
Jade Winbush
Maggie Wolford

*I want to be a leader
One remembered in history
For her accomplishment and victories
For her knowledge and her philosophy*

*I want to be a leader
To make a difference in the world
Doing something revolutionary
Paving yet another way for us girls.*

*I need to be a leader
So they can say "without her, that wouldn't have
been"
So I can change the present day
And be proclaimed fearless, courageous, a heroine.*

Ciara M. Coleman
Deer Park Middle Magnet School

We would like to thank all the exceptional girls' nominated for this award. You have

accomplished a lot in your life thus far; you have the world in front of you. Believe in yourself.

Ana Armstrong
Laura Bailey
Mary Bakowski
Rachel Barksdale
Arielle Berg
Kristen Cooper
LeToshia Easterling
Kelsey Fogle
Carolyn (Claire) Fredericks
Tonya Fuller-Reed
Kendra Gaskins

been playing basketball for 5 years. While juggling time for these 3 activities, she has maintained a 3.8 GPA. Falasha is also a whiz in science and plans a career as a nuclear physicist. Her goal is to go to the University of Michigan. She loves to travel and has traveled quite a bit. One of her favorite places is Hawaii, where she once attended a science program for bright kids. Falasha is a very warm, friendly, and articulate person. To summarize, her Dad says, “she is the sweetest child in the world!”

9th –10th Grade, Honoree
Charles Herbert Flowers High School

Donielle Avery Simons a 10th grader and honor roll student in the school’s Science and Technology Program, an inductee into the National Honor Society and the Greater Washington Urban League’s Honor Society. In 2001 she was the recipient of the Outstanding Fundraiser award for Maryland Middle Schools awarded by the Society of Fundraising Professionals. Her volunteer activities have benefited struggling families and the homeless, and in the case of fundraising, the leukemia foundation. Donielle enjoys the art of dance and is a member of the Palmer Park Dance troupe and a member of her schools’ flags section of the marching band. She lives in Mitchelleville, MD with her younger brother, Kenneth and her parents Don & Kendolyn Simons.

9th – 10th Grade, Honorable Mention
Bishop McNamera High School

Jackelyn Lopez, born and raised in southern Maryland lives with her parents in Waldorf. She is a distinguished scholar and holds over a 4.0 GPA. Jackelyn has been honored with the Kodak Young Leader’s Award, and the Society of Women Engineer’s Award. In 2002 Ms. Lopez was awarded the Prince George’s County Statistical Society Award, and in 2003 won the

U.S. Patent and Trademark Society Award. **Jackelyn** holds the rank of senior scout in Girl Scouts of America, and her dream is to become an aerospace engineer. **Jackelyn Lopez** is an accomplished ballerina, committed community volunteer and respected member of her Bishop McNamara High School community.

11th – 12th Grade, Honorable Mention

Arundel Senior High School

Ashley Michelle Nathanson ranks first in her class of 461 students with a 4.489 GPA. This year, **Ashley** served as the student member on the Board of Education. She is one of two students in the entire United States who has full voting rights. **Ashley** has received a Maryland Merit Scholastic Award. She is a Commended Student by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. She is a Maryland Distinguished Scholar, a Capital Gazette Academic All-Star and received the Marjorie Holt Citizenship Scholarship for Scholars Award. **Ashley** will be attending Harvard in the fall. She plans to major in bio-medical engineering.

11th – 12th Grade, Honoree

Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Catarina Rivera has attained superior academic status with a cumulative 4.18 GPA on a 4-point scale. As a senior this year, she is taking five Advanced Placement

courses in the highly competitive Eleanor Roosevelt High School Science and Tech program and has a research internship at the United States Department of Agriculture. She received a 1500 on her SAT examination. She is an energetic young woman with character and is highly involved—spending time volunteering in her community and working as a summer camp counselor, as well as leading the Spanish Honor Society, founding the Karate Club, and performing piano selections within her school. She is a 2003 regional gold medallion winner for academic excellence, receiving the prestigious Hispanic Heritage Youth Award. She has been in the top 10% of the National Puzzle and Math Competition sponsored by Gallaudet University annually and has won this contest twice. **Catarina** has been awarded a full-tuition Robinson Scholarship and will attend Duke University in the fall.