Honoring the 2010 Women of Tomorrow
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GRADES 7-8 HONOREES

First Place
Emily Brooke Zimmerman
Walkersville Middle School, Frederick County

Honorable Mention
Madeline L. Henwood
Northern Middle School, Calvert County

GRADES 9-10 HONOREES

First Place
Asmi Panigrahi
Atholton High School, Howard County

Honorable Mention
Josephine Ann Grant
Francis Scott Key High School, Carroll County

GRADES 11-12 HONOREES

First Place
Allegra Hawkins
Easton High School, Talbot County

1st Honorable Mention
Thuy-Vy Duong
Rockville High School, Montgomery County

2nd Honorable Mention
Bianca C. Datta
Thomas S. Wootton High School, Montgomery County
Maryland Commission for Women

The Maryland Commission for Women (MCW), created in 1965 and established as an independent agency by an act of the Maryland General Assembly in 1971, is a member diverse group of citizens appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House. The Commission's membership represents the geographical regions and diversity of the state. Members are appointed for four-year terms. The Commission may have up to 25 members. The current Commission has a roster of 20 members. The Commission is staffed by the Maryland Department of Human Resources.

MISSION
The Maryland Commission for Women (MCW) advises government, advances solutions, and serves as a statewide resource to expand social, political and economic opportunities for all women.

VISION
All Maryland women have full social, political, and economic equality.

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The Women of Tomorrow Awards

The Women of Tomorrow Awards was established in 1997 to honor and acknowledge extraordinary young women that have demonstrated a commitment to community service and academic excellence.

Maryland will continue to flourish because of our future women leaders and their unceasing commitment to the community. The Women of Tomorrow Awards gives us the opportunity to honor these remarkable young women.

These young women are selected for honor through a process that begins with an annual statewide call for nominations. An independent, all-volunteer selection committee reviews the applications and selects six young women; two per grade grouping.

Poem by:
Ciara M. Coleman
Deer Park Middle Magnet School

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
Women of Tomorrow
Awards Ceremony 2010

June 30, 2010
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Welcome & Introductions
Helen Holton, Chair
Maryland Commission for Women

Secretary Brenda Donald
Department of Human Resources

Introduction of Selection Committee
Victoria Goldsborough, Co-Chair
2010 Women of Tomorrow

Introduction of Honorees
Susan Elgin, Commissioner
Anita Riley, Commissioner
Kathleen White, Commissioner

Presentation
Keynote Speaker Pastor Sheryl D. Menendez

Message from U.S. Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin
Kristen Soper, Assistant to Senator Barbara Mikulski
Joyce Leviton, Assistant to Senator Ben Cardin

Closing Remarks
Classie Hoyle, Co-Chair
2010 Women of Tomorrow
Helen L. Holton, Chair
Maryland Commission for Women

Reception to Follow
Emily Brooke Zimmerman

Resides in Walkersville, Maryland and is a student of Walkersville Middle School. In March 2005, Emily was diagnosed with T-Cell ALL Leukemia. She is a patient at Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Baltimore.

Throughout her experience, many organizations blessed Emily. Her vision is to give back to those that supported her. She is an advocate for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society (LLS) where she has helped raise awareness of blood cancers. In 2007, Emily formed a fundraising team called “Emily’s Flying Piggies” which raised approximately $30,000. Former Washington Redskins Hall of Famer, Bobby Mitchell selected Emily as the 2008 “Patient Hero” for his annual Golf Tournament. During the three day event, Emily helped over 45 NFL Hall of Famers raise over $60,000 for LLS.

Although Emily missed most of her elementary schooling, she was determined to keep pace with her classmates. Today, she maintains a 4.0 GPA and is a 7th grade honor student. She aspires to be a Child Life Specialist.

Her positive attitude makes people gravitate toward her. She encourages her friends to join in fundraising events that support the LLS and other local pediatric cancer organizations.

Emily has enjoyed playing the piano for the past five years. Her parents attribute her passion for music as another means of therapy. Now that spring has arrived, you will find Emily on the golf course. Emily loves playing golf, where the highlight has been putting for 2008 Redskins Hall of Famer Art Monk.

Her determination, positive energy and leadership skills have made Emily what she is today!
Resides in Calvert County and is an 8th grade student at Northern Middle School. Growing up in an Air Force family, Madeline has learned to adapt and overcome the many challenges she has faced. She spent the first two weeks of her life in the neonatal unit at Thomas Jefferson Hospital.

As the youngest of four daughters, Madeline learned early on to push herself to exceed expectations and to speak up for herself. Despite missing school regularly due to her medical condition, Madeline has managed to maintain a 3.75 GPA this year while taking all honors courses. She received high honors for her academic performance in 6th and 7th grades. She assumes a leadership role both within the classroom and in her extracurricular activities. She displays exceptional character and is a positive role model in her school. She has been a Student Government Association delegate throughout middle school and is a peer mediator and peer tutor. She has also been on the Poms squad, serving as co-captain in the 7th grade and captain this year. Her Poms squad won first place in their county competition this year and last year.

She is involved in ballet, jazz, lyrical, musical theater, and pointe, and dances every day during the week. In addition, she spends many weekends at her dance studio rehearsing for upcoming dance competitions. She also volunteers time instructing younger dancers.

Madeline was born with a congenital birth defect that affected her bladder, kidneys, digestive system, and spinal column. She has had almost a dozen surgeries thus far. Despite this, she has always been driven to do the best she can in all endeavors and she demonstrates an exceptional inner strength. While she has frequent doctor’s visits and has endured a countless number of procedures and surgeries as a result of her disability, no one would even know that she experiences sickness and pain on a daily basis because her spirit and commitment remain steady and strong.

In recognition of her dedication, determination, and leadership Madeline received Northern Middle School’s “Iron Will” award last year. When she grows up, she hopes to become a pediatric surgeon so she can help improve the lives of children who face some of the same medical hurdles that she has had to clear.
Asmi Panigrahi

Asmi has consistently maintained a position on the Principal’s Honor Roll throughout her middle and high school years. She secured first place in Theoretical Chemistry Division at the Howard County Math, Science, and Technology Fair 2008. She was awarded first place prize at the Baltimore Science Fair 2009 Division I and received first place in Excellence in Science from Towson University Fisher College of Science and Mathematics. She is also a recipient of the Women’s Society of Engineer’s Award of Excellence. She is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and National Spanish Honor Society. She received the 2009 English Department Award, 2009 Social Studies Department Award, and the 2009 Emerging Leader Award at Atholton.

Through her passion for Indian Classical and folk dance, which Asmi has been learning since age 9, she seeks opportunities to give back to the community. She has performed at various fund-raising programs for local as well as global causes, including Haiti Relief, Celiac Research, and Operation Military Kids. Asmi is a recipient of the Atholton High School Music Award, and is a 1st violinist in the top ranking AHS Orchestra, which has received the high ratings at Howard County Adjudication and the North Carolina Spring Festival. Asmi is an involved and enthusiastic member of her Sunday school organization, Chinmaya Mission Washington Regional Center (CMWRC), and is an active participant for CMWRC Service Projects. Asmi is a year-round senior swimmer on the Columbia Aquatics Association.
Josephine Grant

Resides in Taneytown Maryland and is a fifteen year old freshman at Francis Scott Key High School. In 2008, at age 13, Josie started her own foundation, Josie’s Smiles for Pediatrics, in hopes of making pediatric patients smile. She began by using her own money to purchase items for patients and continues to contact individuals, local and national companies to encourage them to make donations of toys, books, candy, baby items, and more to her foundation. Through this endeavor, she has provided items valued over $16,800 to the hospital. Josie continues to plan for future projects and hopes to someday involve other students and hospitals.

She has accumulated approximately 800 service hours since the summer of 2006. During middle school, she spent two years volunteering at Lorien Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center, helping with the elderly, as well as helping with young children at a nearby daycare. Additionally, she has walked for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in Indiana and Maryland, helped at the Brain Injury Association’s Eat-A-Peach bike-a-thon, volunteered at SERVV International, and other community events. Josie devotes her free time trying to make a difference.

Josie has maintained honor roll status since elementary school, even while taking accelerated and honor level classes. She currently is a member of her high school’s Key Club and was one of the members to represent her club at the 2010 Capital District Key Club Convention. Josie was an active participant in her middle school’s S.H.O.U.T (Students Helping Others while Understanding Themselves) Club and its Culture Club, attending the 10th Annual Middle School Leadership Conference. In addition, she was a member of her high school’s freshman basketball team.

Josie’s efforts and determination have led to the receipt of several awards. Along with being an Honorable Mention Honoree for the Maryland Commission for Women’s 2010 Women of Tomorrow Award, she is a Bronze Distinguished Finalist as sixth runner-up in Maryland’s Prudential Spirit of Community Award. Josie is also the recipient of the President’s Volunteer Service Award, the Greer Foundation’s Tarlavsly-Price Youth Leadership Award, and in middle school, the Community Service Award and President’s Award for Educational Excellence.

Following high school, she plans to attend college, working toward a nursing degree, with the ultimate goal of working as a neonatal nurse in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.
Resides in Easton, Maryland where she is a 12th grade student at Easton High School and is ranked in the top 1% of her class. Her goals include studying mathematics and earning her PhD so she can go on to teach at a college in hopes of educating students of the next generation.

She has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her high school career, challenging herself by taking Advanced Placement classes. As an honor student, Allegra received recognition as an AP Scholar with Distinction and Maryland Distinguished Scholar.

Allegra has been actively involved in student government throughout high school, serving as Vice President of the sophomore class and Secretary of the junior class. This year, she is also treasurer of the Talbot County chapter of Junior Statesmen of America and President of Easton High School’s chapter of the National Honor Society. Additionally, Allegra is a mentor for a youth group of middle school girls at her church.

Figure skating since the age of 3, Allegra has been a member of the Metroliners Synchronized Skating Team in Bowie, Maryland for 10 years. As a member of the team, she has represented the state of Maryland at competitions locally and throughout the East Coast Region. For the past 4 years, Allegra has served as team captain. She is also an assistant coach for a beginner’s synchronized skating team in the Learn-to-Skate program at the Bowie ice arena. She has volunteered her time in the group lesson programs at both the Bowie Ice Arena and the Ice Warehouse in Easton. Allegra additionally pursues ice dance and “moves in the field” and is working toward completing her gold level U.S. Figure Skating Tests in both disciplines. She plans on continuing figure skating and synchronized skating in college where she hopes to skate on a nationally qualifying synchronized skating team.
Bianca Datta

Resides in Montgomery County Maryland and is currently a senior at Thomas S. Wootton High School. Bianca has earned over 530 volunteer hours by working in her area. She currently serves as the Captain of the Debate Team, the Editor-in-Chief of the Literary Magazine, an officer of the National Spanish Honor Society, and a lawyer on the Mock Trial Team. She plans to pursue environmental engineering in college before becoming a lawyer.

Aside from her coursework, Bianca is a socially conscious individual. She has spent the last few summers challenging herself on the swim team, teaching herself to play guitar, or volunteering at a local organization. She puts her full effort into everything she does—class work, friendships, and extracurricular activities. She has pursued the highest available courses, but her motivation stretches beyond the classroom. She is motivated to overcome the problems she encounters in day-to-day activities, but also the more far-reaching problems. She is not just prompted to act by her own issues, but rather by the issues of those around her and she finds the most satisfaction from helping her peers succeed. For this reason she is the National Publications Director of the student-run nonprofit organization, Operation Fly, which is dedicated to combating poverty and promoting the general welfare of society. She is also an active member of the Sierra Student Coalition after working as an intern and student leader for the Rockville Chapter of the Sierra Club.
Thuy-Vy Duong

Resides in Montgomery County and is a 12th grader at Rockville High School. Thuy-Vy, an International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme candidate, aspires to become a neurologist. She is a gifted writer, a reflective and critical thinker, and a classroom leader. She is a rare student who thrives on challenges of academic rigor and demonstrates her passion and commitment in everything that she does.

Over the course of Thuy-Vy’s high school experience, she has been recognized as an exceptional student. She has consistently maintained a 4.0 unweighted GPA and has been on the honor roll for the past four years. She has received the prestigious Wellesley Book Award and was recognized as a Maryland Distinguished Scholar Honorable Mention in Academics and Talents-in-the-Arts. She was selected as an intern at the National Institutes of Health after participating in a very competitive selection process. During her internship, she was given the opportunity to explore neurobiological science in her research project on migraine and presented her results at the NIH Summer Poster Presentation Program, 2009.

She is the president of the National Honor Society, where she coordinates tutoring programs and service projects required of all members. She has implemented tutoring programs within Rockville, at local middle and elementary schools and a nearby program to help Native American students. She also is the 1st violin section leader in the Symphonic Orchestra at Rockville’s Music Department, which has been recently selected as a 2010 Grammy Finalist.

Thuy-Vy is a role model and leader for other students. She has made a commitment to service and has implemented several service projects to help her community including Bear-A-Smile, a project in which she and three classmates collected gently used toys and books to donate to a local hospital and children’s center. She has volunteered at the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and regularly tutors various students in the community. Thuy-Vy is an active member at her church, Our Lady of Vietnam Parish, where she is the principal violinist in the choir. Twice she has participated in the Montgomery County and Maryland State Solo and Ensemble Festival, where she played a violin duet and received ratings of superior.
### Past Women of Tomorrow Honorees

#### 2000
- **Grades 6th – 8th**
  - *Lisa Cunningham*, Honoree, Catonsville Middle School
  - *Kelly Perl Klein*, Honorable Mention, Clarksville Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Pamela Hampton*, Honoree, Aberdeen High School
  - *Connie Taylor*, Honorable Mention, Atholton High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Catherine Hoang*, Honoree, Leonardtown High School
  - *Julie Hocker*, Honorable Mention, C. Milton Wright High School
  - *Ashley Wiggins*, Honorable Mention, Great Mills High School

#### 2001
- **Grades 6th – 8th**
  - *Amanda Bory*, Honoree, Pine Grove Middle School
  - *Rashaunda Dickens*, Honorable Mention, Drew-Freeman Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Whytne Brooks*, Honoree, North Hagerstown High School
  - *Kimberlie Sage*, Honorable Mention, McDonogh High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Angela Brooks*, Honoree, Forest Park Senior High School
  - *Ellen Slattery*, Honorable Mention, Arundel High School

#### 2002
- **Grades 6th – 8th**
  - *Nicole Turner*, Honoree, Kettering Middle School
  - *Michelle McVey*, Honorable Mention, Aberdeen Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Ouqi Jian Richard*, Honoree, Montgomery High School
  - *Ebony Ellison*, Honorable Mention, Charles H. Flowers High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Catherine Denny*, Honoree, Leonardtown High School
  - *Kimberly Hung*, Honorable Mention, Richard Montgomery High School

#### 2003
- **Grades 6th – 8th**
  - *Ladonna A. Brown*, Honoree, Lombard Middle School
  - *Falasha R. Culpepper*, Honorable Mention, Gaithersburg Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Danielle Avery Simmons*, Honoree, Charles Herbert Flowers High School
  - *Jackelyn Raquel Lopez*, Honorable Mention, Bishop McNamara High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Catarina Rivera*, Honoree, Eleanor Roosevelt High School
  - *Ashley Michelle Nathanson*, Honorable Mention, Arundel Senior High School

#### 2004
- **Grades 6th – 8th**
  - *Erica Jackson*, Honoree, Ernest Everett Just Middle School
  - *Rachel Harbarger*, Honorable Mention, Trinity School
  - *Claire Baldi*, Honorable Mention, Trinity School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Victoria Moore*, Honoree, Salisbury School
  - *Michelle Bernard*, Honorable Mention, Easton High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Ashley Howeth Gunter*, Honoree, Worcester Preparatory School
  - *Shawtair Thompson*, Honorable Mention, Dundalk High School

#### 2005
- **Grades 7th – 8th**
  - *Lindsay Marie Smith*, Honoree, South Hampton Middle School
  - *Hannah Leigh Stone*, Honorable Mention, Plum Point Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Allison Michell Lewis*, Honoree, Thomas S. Wootton High School
  - *Alyssa Rebecca Vain-Callahan*, Honorable Mention, Severn School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Alyson Taylor Blum*, Honoree, Glenelg High School
  - *Jessica Kathleen Riley*, Honorable Mention, Archbishop Spalding High School

#### 2006
- **Grades 7th – 8th**
  - *Walesia Robinson Cates*, Honoree, Sligo Adventist School
  - *Erin Taylor Spencer*, Honorable Mention, Hereford Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Yelena Waldmann Dewald*, Honoree, Allegany High School
  - *Karly Marie Logsdon*, Honorable Mention, Hancock Mid-Senior High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Heather Ann Stone*, Honoree, Allegany High School
  - *Allison Leigh Menke*, Honorable Mention, River

#### 2007
- **Grades 7th – 8th**
  - *Jonece Marguerite Layne*, Honoree, Kenmoore Middle School
  - *Kelly Ann Gallager*, Honorable Mention, Trinity School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Tanzina Iman*, Honoree, Springbrook High School
  - *Georgette Anwi Ndamukong*, Honorable Mention, Glen Burnie High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Jennifer Danielle Oswald*, Honoree, Carver Center for Arts and Technology
  - *Kierstin Dawn Stevenson*, Honorable Mention, Beall High School

#### 2008
- **Grades 7th – 8th**
  - *Namrata Mohanty*, Honoree, John Poole Middle School
  - *Kierra McBeth*, Honorable Mention, Lindale Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *Aubrey Rose*, Honoree, St. John’s Preparatory School
  - *Adejire Bademosi*, Honorable Mention, Marriott’s Ridge High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Stephanie Onuoha*, Honoree, Largo High School
  - *Gabriella Biondo*, Honorable Mention, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology

#### 2009
- **Grades 7th – 8th**
  - *Kiauna Nickole Freeman*, Honoree, Matthew Henson Middle School
  - *Natalie Brosh*, Honorable Mention, Patterson Mill Middle School

- **Grades 9th – 10th**
  - *D’ymond Shantyl Dantzler*, Honoree, Randallstown High School
  - *Kelly Ann Marx*, Honorable Mention, Stephen Decatur High School

- **Grades 11th – 12th**
  - *Jasmine Adams*, Honoree, Northern High School
  - *Valerie Caplan*, Honorable Mention, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology Hill High School
The Maryland Commission for Women congratulates each exceptional young woman nominated for this award.

Special Thanks are extended to...
Biddle Street Catering & Events
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Paula Tolson, Communications Liaison, Maryland Department of Human Resources
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