



# ACT-SO

Alachua County NAACP

Rahkiah Brown, Alachua NAACP ACT-SO Chairperson



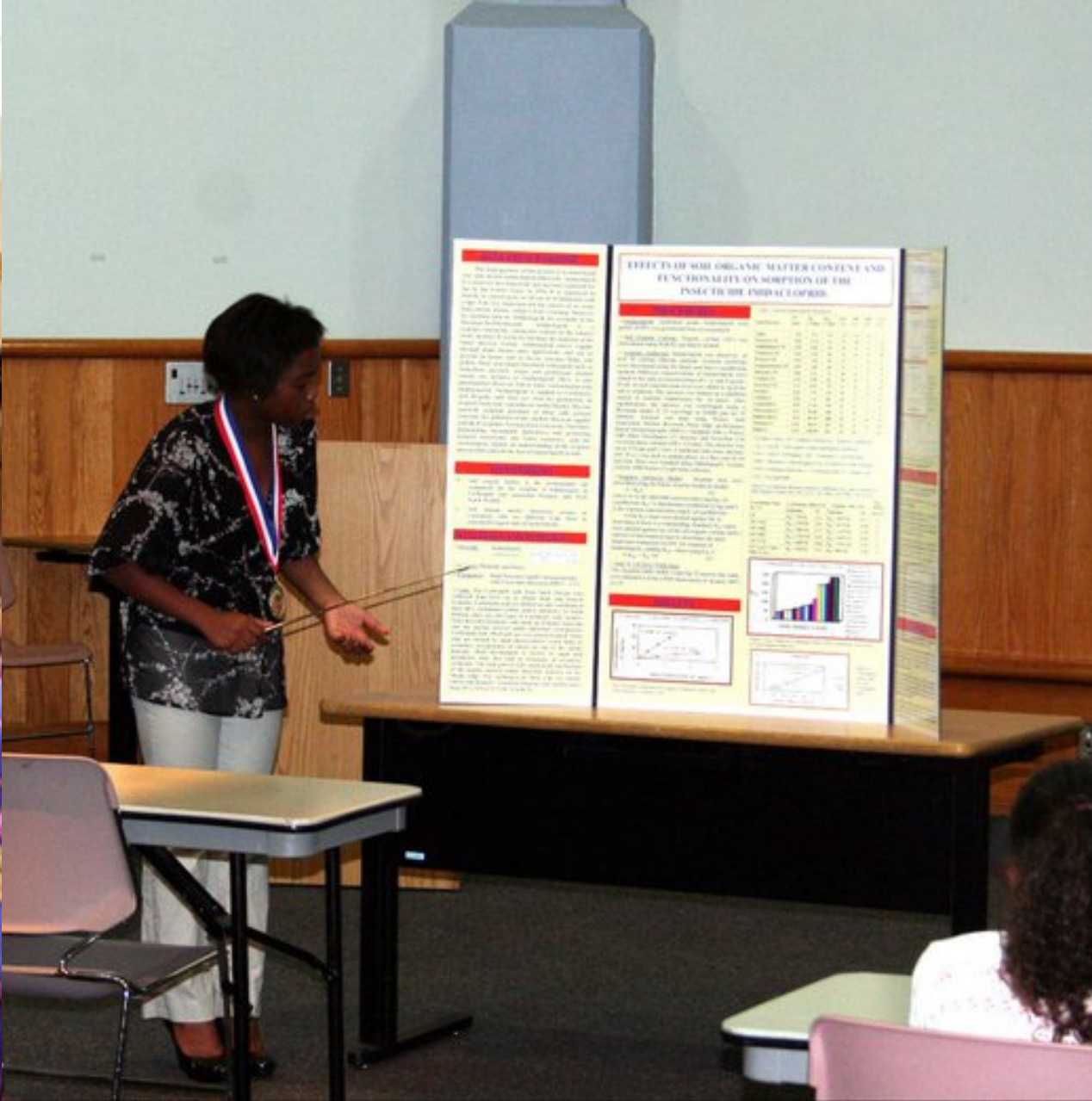


# About Me

- Director of Community Impact at United Way of North Central Florida
- Born and raised in Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- UF – Family Youth and Community Sciences
- ACT-SO Alumni, 2003–2006 National Competitor
- First ACT-SO Chairperson for Alachua County NAACP 2010–2012







# ACT-SO HISTORY

The NAACP ACT-SO was founded in 1978 by author and journalist Vernon Jarrett. The program is intended to provide recognition to young people who could demonstrate academic, scientific, and artistic achievement. At the time, entertainers and athletes were holding the highest popularity among youth and Vernon Jarrett wanted to showcase intellectual talents of black youth through an "Olympics of the mind." ACT-SO is an acronym for Afro-Academic Cultural Technological Scientific Olympics. Almost 300,000 students have competed in ACT-SO since its inception. ACT-SO includes 33 different competition categories in the STEM, humanities, business, visual and performing arts and culinary arts.



# ACT-SO Calendar

## AUG-OCT

- ACT-SO Season begins
- Local NAACP Unit Kick-Off
- National Chairperson's meetings

## Nov-Jan

- Unit intent forms due to Nationals
- Chairperson and planning committees begin planning for local competitions

## Feb-April

- Local competition planning
- Student, judges, coaches and mentors recruitment
- Local competitions and awards ceremonies completed by April 30th.

## May-July

- Local gold medalists prepare for nationals with the help of coaches and mentors.
- National ACT-SO Competition in July. Atlantic City, NJ July 2022.



# Who is eligible?

- High school students enrolled in grades 9-12
- U.S. Citizens of African descent
- Amateur in their area of competition

# Competition Categories

33 Competition Categories in STEM, Humanities, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Business and Culinary Arts

## STEM

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

## Visual Arts

Drawing  
Filmmaking  
Painting  
Photography  
Sculpture

## Business

Entrepreneurship  
Hospitality Management

## Humanities

Music Composition  
Original Essay  
Playwriting  
Poetry—Written  
Short Story

## Culinary Arts

Culinary Arts

## 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



# Local Competitions & Awards Ceremony



## Judges

Local professionals are recruited as judges for competitions. Judges must be professionals in their chosen category.



## Coaches

Coaches support students in preparing for the National Competition.



## Students

Students must register in advanced for the local competitions and follow all rules and guidelines for their category.



## Awards

Students are awards medals based on the point values from judges. Gold medal winners are eligible to attend the National competition.

Visit the Alachua  
ACT-SO Website  
WWW.ACTSOALACHUA.ORG

HOME WHAT IS ACT-SO ALUMNI STORIES COMPETITION PLANNING COMMITTEE

# ACT-SO

ALACHUA COUNTY



**TODAY'S YOUTH ... TOMORROW'S LEADERS**

CONTACT US: [info.alachuasos@gmail.com](mailto:info.alachuasos@gmail.com)



Visit the Alachua ACT-SO website for registration forms, competition guidelines, FAQ's videos and more.



# Next Steps

**Local Competition Saturday, April 23rd**  
**Registration Deadline: April 16th**

## Registration

- Download the registration form at [www.actsoalachua.org](http://www.actsoalachua.org)
- Register online at <https://www.jotform.com/build/220805676967065>



Join the ACT-SO Facebook event page on the NAACP website to keep up with information about the competition



Questions? Email [info.alachuaactso@gmail.com](mailto:info.alachuaactso@gmail.com)





**Thank you!**

**Questions?**

**Rahkiah Brown**  
**ACT-SO Chairperson**  
**[actso.rbrown@gmail.com](mailto:actso.rbrown@gmail.com)**