

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FOUR YOUTH FROM THE ALBUQUERQUE AREA WILL
COMPETE IN KANSAS CITY AT THE NATIONAL ACT-SO COMPETITION
(Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics)
July 8th thru 12th , 2010**

Demetrius Moore 14, Nelson Monterrosa Diaz 17, Darrius Evans 16, and David Ishmael 17, all members of the local ACTSO youth program qualified to participate in the national ACTSO contest to be held in Kansas City, Missouri in four areas: Math, Science, and Engineering, Humanities (Original Essay/Playwriting), Performing Arts, and Visual Arts. Each student won a gold medal, or first place at the local competition hosted May 1st at Victory Christian School in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque.

Demetrius Moore will compete in Biochemistry, Mathematics, and Painting: Chemistry of Genetics, Statistics, and Digital Art rendered on a canvas.

Nelson Monterrosa Diaz earned the opportunity to compete in dramatics based on an original play he wrote called, "Where is My Son".

Darris Evans' work is a sculpture piece called "Almost Lost" as a self-portrait of his interpretation of the relationship between today's teenager and the entertainment industry.

David Ishmael is a graduating senior from United World College, hopes to win scholarships and financial prizes for black and white photography (film). This is his second and final year to compete in ACTSO.

All students qualify to gain scholarships, internships, computer equipment, and cash.

Hundreds of 9th-12th grade students from across the nation will compete in the areas of Science & Mathematics, Humanities, Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Entrepreneurship. These students work for months, sometimes years to polish their individual presentations and technical reports. The standard of performance among the competitors is exceedingly high at 95% for gold medalists.

The Albuquerque ACTSO Program also sponsors a rocketry program for 7th-12 graders as part of Team America Rocketry Challenge or TARC that takes place at Victory School from September to May each year. This team has to design, build, and test a rocket to meet certain specifications. These students were commended by NM Congressman Heinrich for their outstanding performance at the qualifying rounds this past April.