

Women of Tomorrow

If you can dream it,

you can achieve it, and



You can change the World.



Maryland Commission for Women

The Maryland Commission for Women (MCW) was created in 1965 and established as an independent agency by an act of the Maryland General Assembly in 1971. It is a 25 member diverse group of citizens appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate from among persons interested in the improvement in the status of women. The commission's membership represents the geographical regions and diversity of the state. Members are appointed for terms of four years. The commission is housed in 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.

Commissioners

Honorable Patricia Cornish, Chair, Talbot County
Honorable Lynn Fitrell, Vice-Chair, St. Mary's County
Wandra Ashley-Williams, Howard County
Homayara Haque Aziz, Anne Arundel County
Sylvia Butler, Baltimore City
Lillian Cruz, Montgomery County
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Velvet Johnson, Prince George's County
Varsha Mathur, Charles County
Ginger Miller, Prince George's County
Betsy Ramirez, Prince George's County
Anita Riley, Carroll County
Debbie Risper, Baltimore County
Toni Sandridge, Washington County
Cara Tenenbaum, Montgomery County
Kathleen White, Secretary, Calvert County
Dr. Kathleen White, Baltimore County
A. Diane Williams, Prince George's County



Honoring the 2014 Women of Tomorrow

Honorees

GRADES 7-8 HONOREES

First Place

Eden Williams

Milton Somers Middle School, Charles County

Honorable Mention

Sadia Nourin

Argyle Magnet Middle School, Montgomery County

GRADES 9-10 HONOREES

First Place

Claire Hudson

Perryville High School, Cecil County

Honorable Mention

Achol Odolla

Digital Harbor High School #416, Baltimore City

Harleigh Maxine White

Huntingtown High School, Calvert County

GRADES 11-12 HONOREES

First Place

Delanee-Alexis Coley

New Town High School, Baltimore County

Honorable Mention

Mercedes Myrick

Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts, Baltimore County



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 leadership, 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 these young women.

Affirmation shared by:
Jennifer Jones, Chair
Prince George's County Commission for Women

Our Deepest Fear

*Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear
is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness,
that most frightens us.
We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous,
talented and fabulous?
Actually who are we not to be?
You are a child of God.
Your playing small doesn't serve the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking
so that other people
won't feel insecure around you.
We are all meant to shine as children do.
We were born to make manifest
the glory of God this is within us.
It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.
And when we let our own light shine,
we unconsciously give other people
permission to do the same.
As we are liberated from our own fear,
our presence automatically liberates others.*

Marianne Williamson

A Return to Love: Reflections on the Principles of "A Course in Miracles"

2014 Women of Tomorrow Awards Ceremony

June 26, 2014
Sheraton Hotel, Annapolis MD
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Welcome & Introductions
Patricia Cornish, *Chair*
Maryland Commission for Women

Greetings

Bonnie Ariano
Special Assistant, Department of Human Resources

Introduction of Selection Committee
Lynn Fitrell, *Co-Chair*
2014 Women of Tomorrow

Introduction of Honorees
Betsy Ramirez, *Co-Chair*

Message from U.S. Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Lynn Fitrell, *Co-Chair*

Keynote Speaker
Laura Gamble, *Regional President*
PNC Bank, Greater Baltimore

Closing Remarks
Lynn Fitrell & Betsy Ramirez, *Co-Chairs*
2014 Women of Tomorrow

Patricia Cornish, *Chair*
Maryland Commission for Women





LAURA L. GAMBLE
REGIONAL PRESIDENT
PNC BANK, GREATER MARYLAND

Laura L. Gamble is regional president of PNC Bank, Greater Maryland. In this role, she is the senior banking executive in the region accountable for the growth of PNC's core business in Greater Maryland.

Before joining PNC in April 2012, she was founding partner of Skipjack Partners LLC, a women-owned business consultancy. Prior to Skipjack Partners, Gamble spent more than 20 years in banking, the most recent seven years as president, Bank of America, Maryland. In addition to her role as Maryland president, she led a variety of businesses within Bank of America in Commercial Banking, Treasury Management and Wealth Management.

Gamble has a long history of civic and philanthropic involvement. Currently, she is a trustee of the Baltimore Community Foundation, the Sheppard-Pratt Health System, Mercy Health Systems, Greater Baltimore Committee, Ready at Five, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Lovely Lane United Methodist Church and a director of the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance.

Gamble was named one of "13 People to Watch in 2013" by the Baltimore Business Journal and was recognized as a member of Baltimore's Power 20 in 2009. She also was named a Most Influential Marylander in 2009 and one of the Top Women in Maryland in 2007 and 2003.

Gamble earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.





Maryland Commission for Women

A Commission of the Maryland Department of Human Resources

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Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Theodore D. Butler
Secretary

Patricia Cornick
Chair

June 26, 2014

To the 2014 Women of Tomorrow Awardees:

On behalf of the Maryland Commission for Women, we congratulate all of you on your well-deserved award as a Woman of Tomorrow. Many of you have already begun to blaze the trails in which others will follow. As you embark upon your endeavors in and outside of the classroom, we hope that you remember all the women who blazed so many paths for you to follow.

In all of you, as with those women and girls before you, we see strong leaders, active community servants and quiet "Sheroes." We look forward to seeing your names in lights on several fronts and we wish you all continued success in all areas of your lives. If we can be of any assistance with issues that advance solutions to expand social, political, and economic equality for women and girls, please do not hesitate to contact the Maryland Commission of Women.

Enjoy your recognition and leverage it to forge ahead.

Women of Tomorrow, if you can dream it, you can achieve it and You can change the World.

Warmly,

Lynn Fitrell, Co-Chair
2014 Women of Tomorrow

Betsy Ramirez, Co-Chair
2014 Women of Tomorrow

Advancing Solutions for Maryland Women



Last year Awardees 2013

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

Grade 9th – 10th

Whytne Brooks, Honoree, North Hagerstown High School
Kimberlie Sage, Honorable Mention, McDonogh High School

Grade 11th – 12th

Angela Brooks, Honoree, Forest Park Senior High School
Ellen Slattery, Honorable Mention, Arundel High School



Past Women of Tomorrow Honorees (continued)

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

Donielle 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
Shauntair Thompson, Honorable Mention, Dundalk High School

2005

Grades 7th – 8th

Lindsay Marie Smith, Honoree, Southampton 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
Alison Leigh Menke, Honorable Mention, River Hill High School

2007**Grades 7th – 8th**

Jonece Marguerite Layne, Honoree, Kenmoore Middle School
Kelly Ann Gallagher, 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, Randalltown 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

2010**Grades 7th – 8th**

Emily Brooke Zimmerman, Honoree, Walkersville Middle School
Madeline Henwood, Honorable Mention, Northern Middle School

Grades 9th- 10th

Asmi Panigrahi, Honoree, Atholton High School
Josephine Grant, Honorable Mention, Francis Scott Key High School

Grades 11th -12th

Allegra Hawkins, Honoree, Easton High School
Bianca Datta, 1st Honorable Mention, Thomas S. Wootton High School
Thuy-Vy Duong, 2nd Honorable Mention, Rockville High School

2011**Grades 7th-8th**

Michelle Horne, Honoree, Chesapeake Public Charter School
Alexandra Comegys, Honorable Mention, St. Ursula School

Grade 9th -10th

Josephine Grant, Honoree, Francis Scott Key High School
Tyra Hooper, Honorable Mention, Bryn Mawr School

Grade 11th -12th

Ilana Price, Honoree, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School
Megan Toms, Honorable Mention, Frederick County Career & Technology Center
Carson Wigley, Honoree, Worcester Preparatory School
Meredydy Good-Cohn, Honorable Mention, Garrison Forest School

2012**Grades 7th-8th**

Mackenzie Chapman, Honoree, Piccowaxen Middle School
Mackenzie Peperak, Honorable Mention, Boonsboro Middle School

Grades 9th-10th

Claudia Alarco, Honoree, James Hubert Blake High School
Sabrina Donnick, Honorable Mention, City Neighbors High School

Grades 11th-12th

Christina McIntyre, Honoree, Bel Air High School
Emily Peterson, Honorable Mention, Atholton High School
Luz Camargo, Honorable Mention, Frederick County Career & Technology Center

2013**Grade 7th-8th**

Danyell Pender, Honoree, Inner Harbor East Academy for Young Scholars
Eelaaf Zahid, Honorable Mention, Annapolis Middle School

Grade 9th-10th

Taylor Gresham, Honoree, Grace Brethren Christian School
Delaney Hancock, Honorable Mention, Great Mills High School

Grade 11th-12th

Regina Tompros, Honoree, Meade Senior High School
Diana Vanessa Perez, Honorable Mention, Oakdale High School

The Maryland Commission for Women congratulates each exceptional young woman nominated for this award.

First Place

Eden Williams



Eden Williams is a 4.0 GPA eighth grade student at Milton M. Somers Middle School located in La Plata, Maryland. She is in Gifted Education classes and earns Honor Roll every quarter. Eden previously attended private school during her elementary school years. One of the challenges she has had to overcome in her life was making the adjustment from private school to the public school system for middle school. She lives in Port Tobacco, Maryland with her dad, grandparents and older sister. She participates in numerous after school organizations including National Junior Honor Society, Emerging Young Leaders, Student Council, Friends of Rachel, Spanish Club and the Basketball Team. During her sixth and seventh grade years, Eden participated in the County Track Meets. She has also represented the Student Council group by attending the Maryland Association of Student Councils Convention in Ocean City, Maryland with a select group of other members.

Eden attends St. Catherine's of Alexandria Church where she is a lector, altar server, and volunteer for the food pantry. Eden has had the opportunity to help others in need, including feeding the homeless through the "So Others May Eat" organization in Washington D.C., cleaning the area around her school through Adopt-a- Road and Earth Day Cleanup, and visiting local nursing homes where she read and played games with residents. Eden has been recognized in the *Maryland Independent* newspaper for accepting the resolution supporting the respect for the rights of all people during African-American History Month in February, 2014 at the Charles County Board of Education. She was also featured in the newspaper on April 16, 2014 after attending the *Unity in Our Community: Diversity* program held at North Point High School where she met Fox 5 News anchor Sarah Simmons and Lt. Governor Anthony Brown. As a member on the panel, she discussed the meaning of her community, changes that are needed, and the impact that she's had in her community.

Eden's devout passion for music has driven her to play piano, guitar, and to participate in her school's choir. She is an accomplished musician who has won several competitions for her piano skills. In her free time she enjoys reading, cooking and playing with her dog, Shorty. Her future career goals include joining the Diplomat Corps or possibly being elected into political office, while also expressing her musical talents. After graduation from high school, Eden hopes to be accepted into the University of Maryland and Columbia University. For musical education and interests, Eden would love to attend the Peabody Conservatory of Music at John Hopkins University or the Juilliard School of Music. Other goals include strengthening her community service while balancing her social life as well. Eden is truly an inspiration to all of her friends and family.



Sadia Nourin

Sadia Nourin is currently a student in Montgomery County with great ambitions of becoming a computer programmer. She is also the secretary of her school's SGA (Student Government Association), and the captain of the tennis club.

Her heritage dates back to a small country named Bangladesh which is located in Asia. Having moved several times, she is now residing in the state of Maryland. Here she attends **Argyle Magnet Middle School**. In 6th grade, curiosity got the best of her and when she saw the chaotic tennis courts in the school, she decided to fix them and create a tennis club (with the help of her friends). It took 5 months of crude work, but in the end it was worth it. Now Argyle has a tennis club and they meet after school.

When she first came to Argyle, she started doing SSL hours (volunteer work required in Montgomery County schools) with her counselor. With a few other students an anonymous change group (volunteer club) was formed with her in charge. This club has helped with drama and bullying problems at her school. Recently, they helped raise money for the Philippines when Typhoon Haiyan struck and they gathered school supplies for a nursery school in Sierra Leone. Furthermore, they helped spread awareness of high school choices next year.

She joined the SGA in 6th grade and was a normal member until the end of the year came. She became a candidate for the SGA secretary and won the election. She is also running again for a second term as secretary.

This year she has participated in the Montgomery County Science Fair with a team of three. She has also submitted in two games that she programmed (one with a team and one by herself) to the **STEM Fuse Got Game Competition**.

She has learned quite a bit of programming and owns a couple of blogs that display her hobbies. When she is not stuck to the computer screen, she is either playing with her younger brother or practicing her violin.



First Place

Claire Hudson



Claire is a 14-year-old freshman at Perryville High school. She is an active teenager, busy at school and within her community.

As a freshman, she earned the Most Valuable Player Award for her Junior Varsity Team and also played for Varsity field hockey where she lettered. She plays club field hockey (indoor and outdoor) for North Bay Field Hockey Club. This year, she went to the National Festival tournament in Palm Beach, Florida. Additionally, she ran indoor track in the winter. She qualified to run in the regional indoor track tournament this winter. She also runs outdoor track in the spring for the high school. In track, she runs sprints and is pole vaulting. Other than sports, she participated in the

high school play, where she sang in the musical, Beauty and the Beast. She is a part of Women's and Concert Choir. These choirs perform 4 times a year. She balances all of these activities while maintaining straight A's in honors classes at Perryville High school. She is a current member of the Junior National Honor Society. She will participate in the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) program next fall and hopes to become a civil engineer.

Outside of school and sports, Claire is also an active member in her community. She is very involved within her parish. Besides serving in church, she helps with regular parish fundraising events as well. She continues to serve Good Shepherd Parish's biannual festivals and bazaars. She regularly serves in the monthly luncheon at St. Agnes Church to raise money for the homeless food pantry. She volunteers weekly for St. Vincent De Paul which feeds the homeless in the area. There, she stocks the pantry and helps to collect food. Additionally, she has prepared meals and has fed and delivered food to the homeless. When able, she has also volunteered in the Challenge Program which allows for disabled kids to play baseball.

Claire really tries to make each day count. In school, she is lucky to be able to participate in so many wonderful programs – via the arts and via sports. Her school was the first in the area to offer STEM, and as an accomplished student, she hopes to capitalize on this established program. But, no person can have “vision of tomorrow” without seeing the “needs of today.” Because of this, it is important that Claire serve her community in order to make tomorrow's world a little brighter.



Achol Odolla



Achol Odolla is originally from Ethiopia and currently resides in Baltimore with her family. In 2003, the family had to move to a refugee camp in Kenya because it was not safe in Ethiopia for their tribe, the Anyuak, due to genocide that took place in Gambella, Ethiopia. Before they came to the United States they fled to Kenya and stayed in the refugee camp for about 6 years. Life in the refugee camp was hard.

English is her second language. She speaks Anuak at home. Despite the language challenges, Achol was inducted into the National Honor Society.

She is currently a sophomore at Digital Harbor High School. During her freshman year she joined the soccer team and track & field as a distance runner. This winter the team won Baltimore City championship.

Achol has been on the honor roll since middle school she has received a number of awards, including Outstanding Athlete of the Year, Perfect Attendance and Academic Excellence. She is planning to go to college to become a computer science major. She wants to gain knowledge and skills to be successful in life and help other people.

Last year she asked a teacher to give her some ideas about project she could work on that would help those who are suffering and don't have safe places to stay. She is aware that around the world today there are so many problems that need to be fixed. To do that she believes we all need to work together.



Honorable Mention

Harleigh White



Harleigh White, 14, lives in the Huntingtown area of Calvert County with her parents and her 17-year-old brother, Jarred. She attends Patuxent United Methodist Church where she is involved with youth group projects to raise funds to help fight malaria in Africa.

Harleigh is a freshman at Huntingtown High School, a starting varsity soccer player and a member of the Huntingtown High School indoor and outdoor track teams. Harleigh accompanied the Varsity Soccer team and Indoor Track Team to the state finals, helping the team win the state title. As a track member, she competed in long jump, triple jump, 4X100, 4X200, and 4X400 meter relays.

During the eighth grade awards ceremony, Harleigh received the President's Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence by maintaining a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Her grade point average was 4.0. She received an award for maintaining perfect attendance for 3 consecutive years, for participating in girls' track and girls' basketball and was voted by her teachers to receive the Mark Fisher Award for displaying Respect, Responsibility and Readiness to learn.

Other awards include: an official citation for contributions as an outstanding citizen of Windy Hill Middle School; awards for Academic Excellence in Science, Spanish II, Reading and Language Arts and awards for Outstanding Citizenship in Social Studies, Band and Math.

She currently takes honors classes, third year Spanish and a Biomedical Science class, while being on the honor roll all three marking periods and being inducted into the Foreign Language Honorarium.

Her future goal is to play soccer and participate in track and field at a Division 1 college while earning an undergraduate degree in Science before attending medical school. She plans to become a great pediatrician.



First Place

Delanee-Alexis Coley



Ielanee-Alexis, the only child of Phyllis and Kirby Coley, is an 11th grade scholar at New Town High School in Baltimore County. She is an active member of New Town's National Honor Society, Student Government Association, Future Business Leaders of America, and is a member of the Parents Teachers Students Association. She is also the president of Le' Pearlz, a college and career readiness organization, in which she presents workshops for middle and high school students on how to be successful in their academic career.

She has been an honor student since kindergarten and currently has had a quarterly GPA of 4.86 each quarter this school year and an overall GPA of 3.7. Delanee-Alexis aspires to double major in Biology and Chemistry with a minor in Spanish, to become an Anti-Bioterrorist Agent and humanitarian.

She has been accepted to many selective summer programs such as the Naval Academy STEM Camp (three years in a row), the College Park Young Scholars' Discovery Program, and the Susquehanna Leadership for Entrepreneurship Program. Ms. Coley even had an internship with the Washington Post/Urban Journalism Workshop at the young age of 14, as a high school freshman, making her the youngest member to be accepted. She is also active at Studio A Modeling Etiquette & Dance academy as a dancer and model. Never ceasing to let a promising opportunity pass her by, Delanee-Alexis has won first place in the Sigma Gamma Rho Mwanamugimu scholarship, is the FBLA Baltimore County Public Speaking I 2013 winner, and Miss Baltimore County International 2010.

Delanee-Alexis is writing her second book, entitled "Simply A Young Lady with No Apologies", a guide to help teenagers take a bold and confident stance on being a young lady in the challenging 21st century. This remarkable young lady has received several awards such as the Principal's Honor Roll, Most Outstanding Junior Debutante and many others but she is most proud of her international global project entitled "Pure Thirst 4 Life". The goal of her water project is to raise \$20,000 in order to buy a well in Africa, ensuring a quality of life for the community and preserving generations to come.

She believes that by the grace of God, her possibilities are endless.



Honorable Mention

Mercedes Myrick



Mercedes Myrick was born in Buffalo New York and lived without her biological family until she was fourteen. In search of a “happily-ever-after,” she was reunited with her biological family and moved to Maryland in 2009.

Once in Maryland, Mercedes’ first goal was to transform herself into a better person. Her second goal was to prove that she could make a difference; not only in her life, but also in the lives of others by involving herself in school and her community. She wanted to see where the door of opportunity would lead her.

She went from a D student to almost a straight A student in just one year after moving to Maryland. As a senior in high school, Mercedes surpassed her own expectations as a student. She became Student Council Vice-President, National Honor Society Vice-President, SGA Public Relations Coordinator, Music National Honor Society Historian and Patapsco’s High Schools Army JROTC programs Battalion Commander. Mercedes maintained above average grades and was also an active member of the Orchestra Magnet program at her school as well as a three season athlete.

Unfortunately, her family situation destabilized. Despite that challenge, school became her home, her friends and teachers became her family. She says, “I became a person that I am proud of and that to me is my happily-ever-after.” Mercedes has been accepted at Wesley College in Dover, Delaware and will pursue a degree in Business Administration.



*The Maryland Commission for Women
congratulates each exceptional
young woman nominated for this award*

Special Thanks are Extended to...

The Friends of the Maryland Commission for Women
Maryland Department of Human Resources

Program Co-sponsor

PNC Bank

Contributors

Giant Foods

AARP

2014 Women of Tomorrow Selection Committee

Lynn Fitrell, *Co-Chair*

Betsy Ramirez, *Co-Chair*

Debra Bright-Harris, *Montgomery College*

Laura Bush, *CoverGirl*

Dr. Kathleen White, *Commissioner*

Christine Wray, *MedStar St. Mary's Hospital*

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