

MISSION

Top Teens of America is a co-educational program which includes cultural academic and civic activities, volunteer service projects and other worthwhile community endeavors. Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. (TLOD) devises guidelines to help Teens develop tools for effective participation in society, build a better self-image, and develop a better concept and appreciation of ethnic and cultural groups. Top Teens of America membership exceeds 5,100 members nationally.

Membership in this organization shall be granted to any teenager sponsored by an active member of TLOD or any two active members of TTA in good standing. The age for active membership shall be from 13 to 19 years of age. Membership requirements include induction into a local chapter and payment of dues for the current year. If you have a true willingness to serve and would like to be a member of an organization that is "Tops in Service", the highest pinnacle in the concept of service rendered to mankind, then TTA is for you. The "Sugar Hill" Manhattan Pearls Chapter of TTA extends an invitation to you to become a member!

For Additional Information Contact:

Lady Jennifer Watler, TTA Advisor
topladyjwat@gmail.com

or

Lady Jasmine Glover Smoak,
Service to Youth Advisor
jasminegloversmoak@gmail.com

"Sugar Hill" Manhattan Pearls Chapter Officers 2023-2024

President
Lady Brenda L. Jones

1st Vice President
Lady Marilyn McDonald-Hendricks

2nd Vice President
Lady Valerie Evans

Treasurer
Lady Stacey Meads

Financial Secretary
Lady Liza Bowers

Recording Secretary
Lady Taniqua Huston

TTA Advisor
Lady Jennifer Watler

Sgt. At Arms
Lady Keisha Creft



Lady Brenda L. Jones
President & Chapter Organizer



TOP TEENS OF AMERICA™ (TTA)



Provides opportunities for wholesome development of youth through activities that will enhance educational, social, moral, spiritual, cultural, and economic development.

Motto: Participation Is Our Foundation as Leaders of Tomorrow

Sponsored By:
Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
"Sugar Hill" Manhattan Pearls Chapter

Our Website

www.manhattanpearlstlod.org

www.tlodinc.org

www.area2tta.org



Teen Joshua Davenport
Area II TTA President

History

In 1964, the eight founders of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.'s (TLOD's) primary objective was to help alleviate the moral and social problems engulfing the youth in our communities. This was done via a youth organization. In 1968, while meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, the membership of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. decided that the group should have an official name. Lady Cordelia Mackey, President of the Texarkana Twin City Chapter, suggested the name of Top Teens of America. The name was adopted. In 1969, there was a need to form a Top Teens of America group in each chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction. A committee was appointed and resultantly, the first National Top Teens of America convention was organized. The Houston Chapter of Top Ladies and Top Teens hosted a meeting to organize the National Top Teens. Teen representatives from all Top Teens of America chapters were in attendance. Under the guidance of the first National Director of Top Teens of America, Lady Willie Lee Glass, the first National Convention of Top Teens of America was held in Houston, Texas in 1969. Over 300 Top Teens were in attendance. Top Teen Harnell Price of the Rose City Chapter, Tyler, Texas, was elected as the first National TTA President. At this convention, the purposes of TTA were defined.

The TTA projects have expanded over the years to include:

- Participation in the NAACP
- Sickle Cell Disease Awareness
- Participation in the UNCF
- March of Dimes
- Participation in NCNW
- Mentoring Programs/TLC
- Participation in the TLOD Literacy Program

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENT(S)

Interest Meeting: Date TBD

In 1983, the TTA program was further expanded to include a collaborative project with the National Foundation March of Dimes. The program was known as Teens Outreach Program and Service (TOPS), a peer education program designed to inform our teens about drugs, alcohol abuse, sexually transmitted disease and birth defects through workshops, seminars and conferences. Parents were encouraged to participate. TOPS through education has also enabled youth to make critical decisions regarding their lives.

In 1996, the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation and Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. extended its youth peer education through a newly developed program known as Healthy Choices: Your Future and You. A TTA/MOD guide was written and circulated to all TLOD chapters to assist them with implementation of this health conference program. The major purpose of this program focuses on leadership development, critical decision making, adolescent health issues and support of Walk America.

The "Me and My Mentor" program was initiated in 1995. Every Top Lady was encouraged to personally touch the lives of Top Teens through one-on-one nurturing and the development of relationships that foster mutual trust and respect.

Since 1968, thousands of youth in secondary schools, nationally and internationally have benefitted from membership in Top Teens of America

MISSION

Develop future leaders through empowerment, education, and selfless service. We strive to inspire others and enhance our community by promoting service to others, teamwork, collaboration and respect

PURPOSE

- To encourage high academic scholarship
- Enhance social graces, leadership and fellowship abilities
- Enhance pride in self, home and community
- Encourage participation in workshops which address current trends
- Work collaboratively with other organizations to reach mutual goals
- Develop deep concern for senior citizens, the status of women, community beautification, and community partnerships
- Encourage appreciation for ethnic and cultural heritage



Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated (TLOD) is a professional, humanitarian, organization organized in Tyler, Texas, in 1964. There are local TLOD chapters throughout the United States. Each chapter of TLOD sponsors a Top Teens of America" (TTA) Chapter.