

The Legacy

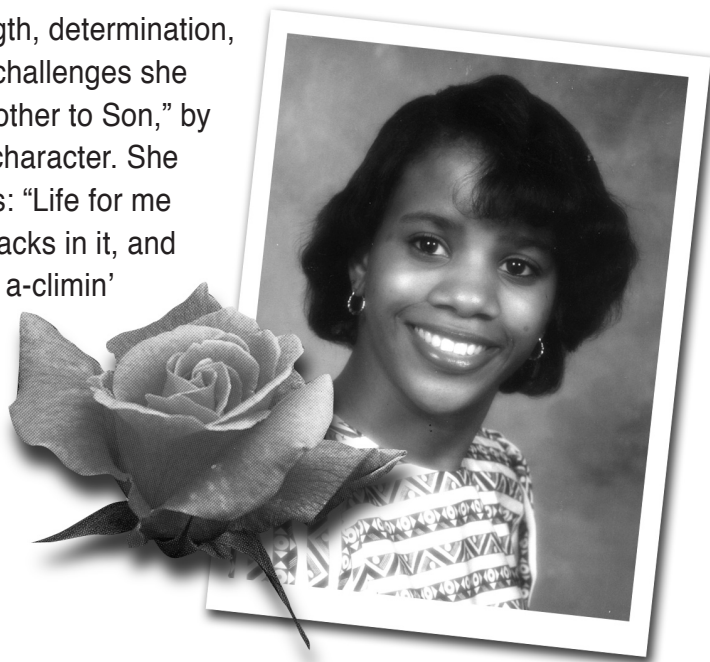
LESLIE K BEDFORD

Leslie was born on September 30, 1966 to George Bedford and Phyllis Williams Bedford. She was the oldest of three children, a senior at the University of Texas at Dallas, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and a 911 Emergency Operator for the City of Dallas. She was also a member of the Marsalis Avenue Church of Christ.

Leslie's dream was to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Administration and work as an Administrator in various levels of government. She never achieved her dream because she was murdered on September 11, 1992, when she stopped to pick up a co-worker in need of a ride to work. While waiting in front of her co-worker's house, three assailants (ages 13, 14, and 21) approached her car and attempted to rob her. Leslie courageously tried to drive away, but they senselessly and cowardly shot her in the back. Her caring voice was silenced and her dreams were shattered, but her legacy continues today because she touched so many lives during her brief lifetime.

Though small in stature, she was gifted with a big heart, radiant smile, and a selfless spirit. She generously shared these gifts with loved ones whom she mentored and encouraged to achieve their dreams. Her family affectionately called her their "super glue" because she tried to reunite people and mend relationships. She was a concerned and compassionate voice as a 911 Emergency Operator in providing assistance and comfort to strangers during times of crisis.

Leslie is remembered for her strength, determination, and self-motivation in meeting the challenges she faced in life. Her favorite poem, "Mother to Son," by Langston Hughes, epitomizes her character. She was often heard quoting these lines: "Life for me ain't been no crystal stair. It's had tacks in it, and splinters..., but all the time I's been a-climin' on..., and life for me ain't been no crystal stair."



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

This year has presented an opportunity to explore and create a new look in developing and maximizing the potential of girls. LKB's strong foundation honors all those who helped throughout the years, and upon this cornerstone we are confident of our future. LKB has proven resiliency in surviving and thriving in the best and worst of times. It is a tradition that honors the visionary and creative leadership that defines LKB.

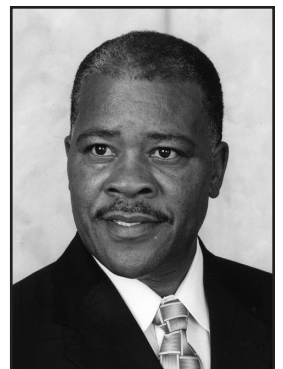
LKB has a great deal to be proud of in the wonderful people with whom we are so fortunate to work with: the confident leadership of our Board of Directors, the commitment of our Professional Women's Networking Group, the dedication of our grass-root supporters, and the generosity of our sponsors. All of them have contributed to LKB's excellence, and the wealth and breadth of their collective experiences have played a role in our 2009/2010 accomplishments:

- ◇ Invested in LKB's professional development by participating in the Dallas Women's Foundation Leadership Institute.
- ◇ Started the process of publishing 2010 LKB leadership curriculum and will make it available to schools and other interested organizations in 2011.
- ◇ Made significant strides to reframe and rebrand LKB, which began with redesigning the website.
- ◇ Developed an operations manual for the LKB Professional Women's Networking Group.
- ◇ Increased number of LKB graduates who return to mentor girls after completing college.
- ◇ Revisited fundraising strategies and raised funds to sustain, and in some cases, boost program capability.
- ◇ Enhanced community collaborations to expand resources in delivery of services.
- ◇ Awarded \$6,000 in academic scholarships to LKB graduates.
- ◇ Touched the lives of approximately 500 girls through leadership academies, after school and summer programs, camps, workshops, family initiatives, career days, and other special events.

Stay tuned for exciting future developments! As we build upon LKB's strong foundation, we will rebrand, reframe, and produce more success stories.



Phyllis J. Bedford
PRESIDENT/CEO



Geroge Bedford
VICE PRESIDENT

Our Board of Directors



Tonnette Easter
**HUMAN
RESOURCES**



Libbie Terrell Lee
**STRATEGIC
PLANNING**



Patrice Holmes
PUBLIC RELATIONS



JoeEtta Williams
MARKETING



Donna Mitchell
**PROGRAMS
DEVELOPMENT**



Renotta Smith
**FINANCE
ADMINISTRATION**



Cheryl Smith
PUBLIC RELATIONS



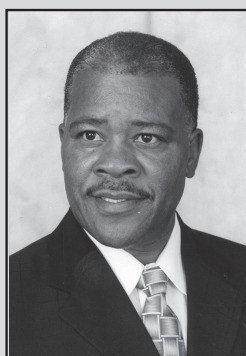
Ruth Williams
**HUMAN
RESOURCES**



Our Officers



Phyllis Bedford
PRESIDENT



George Bedford
VICE PRESIDENT



Pamela Hutson
GEN. COUNSEL



J. Michael Badger
**CHIEF FINANCIAL
OFFICER**



Anita Bedford
**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Our Professional Women's Networking Group

PWN Group of the **Leslie K Bedford Memorial Foundation** is a group of business and professional women. Their purpose is to promote and enhance the status and influence of girls and women by providing them with opportunities for personal and professional development.



Beverly McIver
DIRECTOR



Pamela Hutson



Sheila Barron



Anita Bedford



Miche'La Jolly



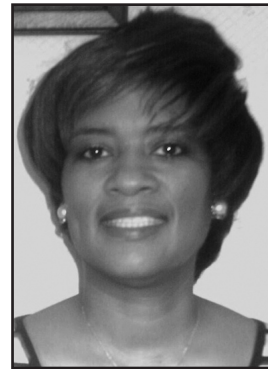
Kenecia Cook



Nona Fisher



Dorothy Davis



Michelle Mason



Judy Hooper



Odessa Johnson



Rosie Taylor



Angela Taylor



Tammy Yahiel

The Board extends its appreciation to **Pamela Hutson** for her leadership as PWN Group Director, 11/2007 – 05/2010.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to assist girls ages 10 to 25 to develop and maximize their potential so that they may be productive in a competitive society.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to focus on the whole person, as girls transition to womanhood, providing enrichment tools and academic opportunities to expand their horizon, and academic scholarships to achieve their dreams.

HOW WE ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION AND VISION

The Foundation provides curriculum based, age appropriate leadership programs that nurture and empower girls to create a personal development plan to make good decisions. You can identify a girl who has committed herself to our leadership programs. She is growing and striving to demonstrate the ten highly effective habits of a self confident and determined LKB girl:

1. **Embraces Her Uniqueness and Positive Identity**
2. **Develops Supportive Relationships**
3. **Empowers Herself to Grow**
4. **Manages Herself and Her Time Wisely**
5. **Sets Expectations and Challenges Herself to be the Best**
6. **Believes in and Stays Committed to Her Core Values**
7. **Gets Involved in Her Community**
8. **Takes Advantage of Opportunities and Experiences**
9. **Develops and Practices Effective Communication Skills**
10. **Creates and Follows Her Personal Development Plan**



The Professional Women's Networking Group mentors the girls, works closely with them to identify their goals, and develops a plan to accomplish them.





MEET LBK'S 2010 PARADE OF LEADERS

Spotlight

GRADUATES AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

MYESHA B. COOK

We are pleased to introduce Myesha, a 2010 graduate of Franklin D. Roosevelt High School (with a 2.9 GPA) and the LKB LACE Academy (Leadership And Creative Expressions). She plans to attend Stephen F. Austin State University and major in Journalism in the fall. LKB is awarding her a \$2,000 academic scholarship.

In Myesha's own words...

I started the Junior Academy in the 7th grade at O. W. Holmes Middle School. During this point in my life I was always sad, angry, or just unmoved by everything. I felt as though I had no friends. I would come to the meetings, sit and say nothing. Slowly I began to absorb the knowledge the women had to share. In a way I was discovering my true self, and I began to establish real friendships.

I moved to high school and felt brand new, no longer shy and quiet, but an outgoing socialite. When I transferred to another high school, I went back down because this was a different school. Ms. Bedford told us it is not about the outside, but the inside. I just wasn't feeling it. We would do exercises on what we liked about ourselves on the inside. Somehow I could always write down things like smart, honest and real, but I never believed what I had written.

People talked down to me, until one day I was arguing with a boy and he called me fat. I said to him, "You know what, that's the only thing you can say about me because I'm beautiful, real and smart. You're not on my level!" Later, I realized that what I had said was true. I finally got it!

Overall, LKB Academy has taught me so much from loving myself to career planning. I really love the academy and the people. I will absolutely miss it.

Her mentor, Pamela Hutson says...

MYESHA....."One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation" - Arthur Ashe. Whenever you find yourself doubting your ability to achieve your goal, remember that your time with LKB has prepared you to face life's challenges and know that you have all you need within you to succeed.



MYESHA B. COOK

Spotlight

GRADUATES AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

GABRIELLA L. DORSEY

We are happy to introduce Gabby, a 2010 graduate of Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School (with a 3.4 GPA) and the LKB LACE Academy (Leadership And Creative Expressions). She plans to attend the University of Southern California and major in Advertising in the fall. LKB is awarding her a \$2,000 academic scholarship.

In Gabby's own words...

Being a member of the leadership academy since 7th grade, I have learned a lot, and have been successful in my journey to womanhood. I no longer see the academy as an organization, but as a second family - A family full of sisters that I can rely on and a group of leaders that I view as mother figures.

The academy has taught me the importance of time management by having women from different careers visit with us during sessions. By networking with these women, I gained resources I can turn to for advice and help in the future.

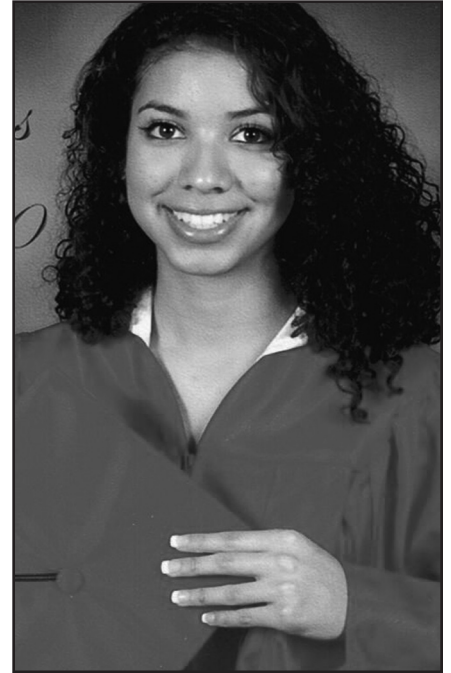
The academy stresses the importance of etiquette. Throughout the years I have been taught how to do such things as eat properly, dress presentably, and walk as a lady should. The LESLIE Pageant is a prime example of how the academy prepared me to be a lady.

Most importantly, the academy taught me leadership skills that will last a life time. These leadership skills helped me to show my individuality and to become a better leader. They will follow me throughout my future so I will be successful in fulfilling my life goals.

I will always remember the opportunity that I was given in the Leslie K Bedford Leadership Academy, knowing that everything I was taught will help me to be successful in the things I aspire to do. Everything I experienced helped me to be a stronger and more successful young lady.

Her Mentor, Pamela Hutson says...

GABBY....."If I had the choice of educating a boy or a girl, I would educate the girl. If you educate a boy, you educate one, but if you educate a girl, you educate a generation." - Unknown. You are part of a legacy of young women who will impact a generation of young ladies to come. I'm confident that you will be a trailblazer and a future leader.



GABRIELLA L. DORSEY

Spotlight

GRADUATES AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

D. JASMINE GORDON

We are grateful to introduce Jasmine, a 2010 graduate of Edward S. Marcus High School (with a 3.9 GPA) and the LKB LACE Academy (Leadership And Creative Expressions). She plans to attend Harvard University and major in Computer Animation in the fall. LKB is awarding her a \$2,000 academic scholarship.

In Jasmine's own words...

I have grown exponentially over my six years in the Leslie K Bedford Leadership Academy. One of the first lessons I learned was how to build self-esteem. Before I knew it, I was participating without being asked, both in LKB and in the classroom.

My first major leadership role was assigned in my third year in the LACE Academy - Graphics and Publications Leader of the 2007 Teen Summit entitled ARAP (Abusive Relationships Among Peers). The following year I was elected Project Leader of the 2008 Teen Summit entitled PRIDE (Practicing Respect In Daily Experiences).

Six years after my first encounter with LKB, I am 17 years old and about to graduate from High School in the top 3% of my class. I am known among my friends and peers as a confident, respectful, intelligent young lady who is more than willing to share her opinion or take the lead on important projects. With all of the gifts given to me by the mentors and mentees in LKB, I am more than prepared to take college life by the horns and be the best person that I can possibly be.

Though I am sad to leave such a big piece of my life behind, I am also anxious to share what I have learned with my peers and generations to come. No matter what happens from this point on in my life, I can always look back and see how blessed I am to have been given the opportunity to learn and grow under the wings of the Leslie K Bedford Leadership Academy.

Her Mentor, Beverly McIver advises: Remember that the procrastinator is consistently more exhausted and stressed than the person who executes the plan in accordance with her time line.

Her Mentor, Nona Fisher shares a family quote: I would like to encourage you with a quote from my father, "Learn all you can about everything you can for as long as you can."



D. JASMINE GORDON

Discovery Academy Program

ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Discovery Academy is a leadership and educational program of the Leslie K Bedford Memorial Foundation for 4th and 5th grade girls. It supports the individual needs of girls as they are taken on a fun filled discovery journey to cultivate higher levels of social interaction, leadership behavior and self-esteem.



Discovery Academy Program

MAPLE LAWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students from Maple Lawn Elementary benefited from a valuable mentoring relationship with middle school girls. LKB paired girls from Thomas J. Rusk with these elementary girls to provide a hands-on opportunity to develop their leadership skills, learn the importance of community service, and help the younger girls build self-esteem. These middle schoolers understood what they were going through because they had once been in their shoes.



IMAGE Academy

PAUL DUNBAR LANCASTER-KIEST LIBRARY

The IMAGE Academy is a leadership and education program of the Leslie K Bedford Memorial Foundation for 6th – 8th grade girls. It provides girls like these from O. W. Holmes Middle School with positive support and direction at a critical time in their lives when they are developing a true sense of their own self worth and purpose. It encourages them to make healthy choices, resolve conflict positively, and build strong interpersonal and intrapersonal skills.

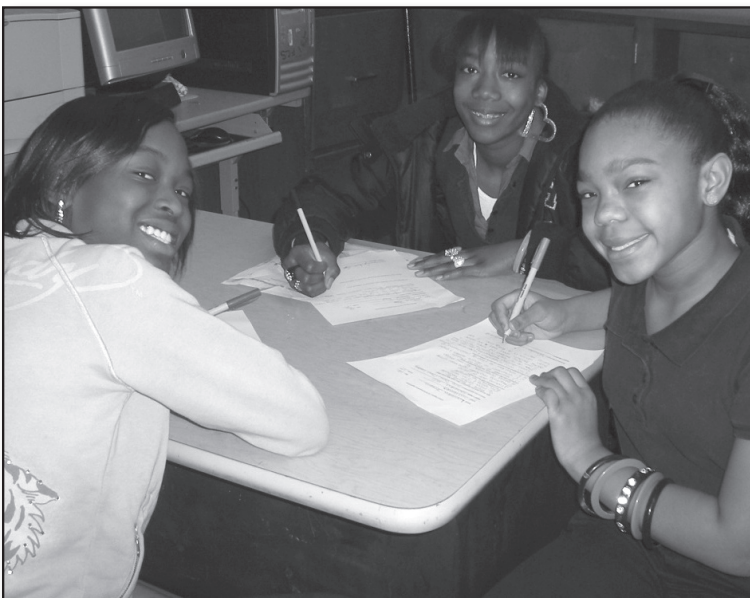


IMAGE Academy

T.J. RUSK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Girls from T. J. Rusk participated in an IMAGE Summer Program. They engaged in fun and creative activities such as reflections, arts, crafts, and movie clips to guide discussions for problem solving. These activities develop a girl's self-esteem and foster a sense of her own uniqueness.



LACE: Leadership and Creative Expressions

WOMEN'S MUSEUM: AN INSTITUTE FOR THE FUTURE

The Lace Academy is a leadership and educational program of the Leslie K Bedford Memorial Foundation for 7th through 12th grade girls. LACE links the girls, their families and the community together in leadership and creative expressions. Lace is symbolic of the attributes that girls should embrace such as self love, feminine grace, elegance and strength (girl power). Using this symbolism, the academy helps to bring out the best in girls, their LACE.



A Message from...

2009 MISS LESLIE

What a blessing it is to be crowned Miss LESLIE 2009 in the first Pageant! Taking my first walk, I began to realize what had just happened, and thought of all the new and exciting opportunities that were sure to come my way. Few moments in life make you experience emotions like I felt. It's the best daydream a girl could ever ask for.

I was introduced as the pageant winner at my church, Adam Chapel AME, where I was re-presented with my crown, ribbon, and Miss Personality Award, and had to tell the reason I won and what LACE was about. I have a passion for working with children and I am excited I was able to share my experiences with many of them during my reign.

This has been one of the most exciting, rewarding, and memorable experiences of my life. **Happy, FUN, Positive, Understanding, Sentimental, Thoughtful, a little Shy, Creative, Sweet and Confident, are all words that can describe me.** I am Miss LESLIE 2009, a Lady Exemplifying Strong Leadership in Excellence!



Chelsea Noni
Simon Bedford

**MISS LESLIE 2009
PAGEANT WINNER**

2009 JR. MISS LESLIE

My experiences as Jr. Miss LESLIE have been great. I have spoken to many groups of all ages, and have shared my poem, L.I.F.E. This poem just speaks to the main obstacles of LIFE.

Writing this poem has helped me get through LIFE as Jr. Miss LESLIE. My duties as Jr. Miss LESLIE were to speak for different events that I chose. I spoke in Little Rock, Arkansas for the Soar-E (***Students Optimums Are Realized thru Excellence***) program, North Dallas Bible Fellowship for their teen girls' praise dancers, Uptown village in Cedar Hill Joy Parade events reciting my Life poem, and at the Mother Daughter Brunch reciting another original poem titled "***A Letter to My Mother***". I also represented LKB as Jr. Miss LESLIE at the City of Dallas' annual Teen Summit where the actor, author Hill Harper was the speaker.

Participating in the LKB academy and becoming Jr. Miss LESLIE helped to further motivate my confidence. I have enjoyed my reign as Jr. Miss LESLIE in the first pageant, and wish much luck and success to the Jr. Miss LESLIE's to come.



Terika Spencer
Paige Williams
**JR. MISS LESLIE
2009 PAGEANT
WINNER**



Mistress of Ceremony

PATRICE JANELLE HOLMES

Patrice Janelle Holmes is a 2004 honors graduate of Cedar Hill High School and the LKB Leadership Academy, and a Christian Debutante at New Birth Baptist Church.

Ms. Holmes went on to Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas where she was president of The Sam Houston Chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists, initiate advisor and historian for the Delta Upsilon Chapter of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity, historian of the 2007 Emmit J. Conrad Leadership Program and founder and president of The Phenomenal Woman, a women's organization. She graduated in May, 2008 with a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication with an emphasis in print journalism and a minor in sociology.

Upon returning to Dallas, Ms. Holmes became a freelance writer for Desoto Today Newspaper and eventually became a staff writer for *The Dallas Weekly*. Ms. Holmes gave back to the LKB Memorial Foundation as a Board Member, and as a mentor and facilitator for the leadership programs. After about a year of service, Ms. Holmes was accepted at Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.



The Judges

CYNTHIA FUGGENT



Cynthia Fuggent has been involved in Dallas community activities for over 30 years. She is a professionally trained pianist and has received multiple music awards, including local and state recognition as a pianist and organist. Cynthia has worked in the Legal profession for over 26 years as a legal assistant for large law firms. During her tenure with law firms she has always been an assistant to managing partners and top decision makers.

Ms. Fuggent is a dedicated Christian and has been actively involved in the music ministry for several churches throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth community. In addition to being an accomplished musician, she is also a contralto in the renowned South Dallas Concert Choir.

Cynthia is the mother of two adult children. Her daughter is currently serving her country as a Staff Sergeant in the Air Force and her son is a college student. She is the widow of Retired Air Force Tech Sergeant, and Dallas County Sheriff's Department, Detective William Fuggent.

ERIC JOHNSON



Eric Johnson graduated from Harvard in 1998 and accepted a position as Legislative Assistant to State Representative Yvonne Davis in Austin, Texas. Eric then earned a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. In 2003, he returned to Dallas and was admitted to the State Bar of Texas.

After two years with McCall, Parkhurst & Horton LLP, he joined Haynes and Boone, LLP. Eric left Haynes and Boone, LLP in 2007 to form The Law Office of Eric L. Johnson. Eric volunteers with the Dallas Independent School District, and serves on the boards of several organizations in the Dallas community. Eric was named one of the “Five Outstanding Young Dallasites” by the Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce in 2007, and one of Dallas’ “40 Under 40” by the Dallas Furniture Bank in 2009. His latest accomplishment is being elected State Representative for House District 100.

LISA GARZA



Lisa Garza comes from a long line of master Dutch craftsmen, restaurateurs and farmers. She is one of the owners of **Suze Restaurant** and catering. It was here that she was able to fully develop her award winning signature, service and style, as well as hone her culinary skills.

Lisa’s love for design began at the age of five. By the age of 8, she was pretending to be Julia Child, acting out TV style cooking demonstrations for her captive audience of one, her great grandma. At 16 Lisa began working in the restaurant industry, as a food runner, hostess and prep cook. By 17 she embarked on, a 15 year culinary arts apprenticeship with Executive Chef, Gilbert Garza.

Designing aprons was initially inspired by her vintage collection dating back to the 1800’s. Her first apron was made by her grandmother. It was this grandmother that inspired her to dream big, and they often cooked together. Lisa has dedicated her life to the art of service, feeding others, and giving from the bottom of her heart.

LIBBIE TERRELL LEE



Libbie Terrell Lee is an established leader in the areas of professional development, program design and evaluation, strategic planning and grant writing. Ms. Terrell Lee’s experience and knowledge of State and National standards relating to program strategies has gained her national attention and enables her to effectively provide products to clients of culturally diverse backgrounds.

She is the owner of LTL International, a Human Resource and Business Management company designed to provide comprehensive services in the areas of public speaking, strategic planning, non-profit management, coaching, staff development, technical writing and political consultation. For more than 10 years, she directed the Dallas Community Youth Development, a successful delinquency prevention initiative that collaborated with neighborhood and faith-based organizations in communities identified as having high incidences of juvenile crime.

The 2nd Annual Miss and Jr. Miss LESLIE Pageant

An Evening of Stars:

“LADIES EXEMPLIFYING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN EXCELLENCE”

MAY 22, 2010 – 6 P.M.

EMCEE: PATRICE HOLMES

Opening Prayer*Sheila Barron*
Welcome/Occasion*Kenecia Cook*
Introduction of Stars.....*Patrice Holmes*
Introduction of Judges.....*Pamela Hutson*

SOUTH DALLAS CONCERT CHOIR

Shoot for the Stars (Business Wear)*Pageant Contestants*
Star on the Rise (Casual Wear).....*Pageant Contestants*

STAR TALENT

Star Status (Formal Wear)*Pageant Contestants*

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Ms. Phyllis Williams Bedford & Mr. George Bedford

Awards and Certificate Presentations*PWN Group*

INTRODUCTION OF 2009 MISS & JR. MISS LESLIE

Crowning of 2010 Miss & Jr. Miss LESLIE

Miss Chelsea Bedford & Miss Terika Williams

Closing Remarks*Beverly McIver*

Closing Prayer*Odessa Johnson*

Parade of Joy

UPTOWN VILLAGE AT CEDAR HILL

LACE and LESLIE Pageant Winners participated in the Uptown Village “2009 Parade of Joy” to kick off the holiday season. Following the parade, they performed their winning talents in the Parade of Joy talent show.



Father/Daughter Forum



WILLIE WASHINGTON

During the 2010 **Father/Daughter program** we were introduced to the concept of blessing one another. The facilitator for the event was **Willie Washington**, President of Restore Our Image, Inc & Real Black Men, Inc.

In communicating the blessing, we practiced some important elements including a meaningful touch, the spoken word, attaching high value, and making an active commitment. We were moved by the display of love and affection as we observed fathers and daughters blessing one another. They physically touched, held hands, hugged, and kissed. They blessed the success of each other's professions, studies, dreams, and relationships, and made a commitment to help each other's blessing become a reality. The daughters were given a keepsake box to hold their blessings.

The full import of our experience cannot be communicated using this event synopsis; so we "pay forward" the lessons learned and encourage anyone reading these words to take time to purposefully bless someone you love.



Catch the Spirit:

CELEBRATING THE MOMENT WITH MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS

Mothers and daughters catch the spirit to celebrate the moment at the 2010 Mother Daughter Brunch.

You can see it in their eyes, in tender hugs and long goodbyes, a love that only moms and daughters know. You can see it in their smiles, through passing years and changing styles, a friendship that continually seems to grow. You can see it in their lives, the joy each one of them derives, in just knowing that the other one is there to care and to understand, lend an ear or hold a hand, and to celebrate the memories they share.

– Author Unknown



Big Sister For a Day

Big Sister For A Day is an opportunity for young women to give little girls a chance to experience some magic by bringing them into their lives for a one-day activity. The young women came together as a group to have fun and create lasting memories with the girls at the Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future. They watched movies, made crafts and engaged in other fun activities.



Fire Department

LKB MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

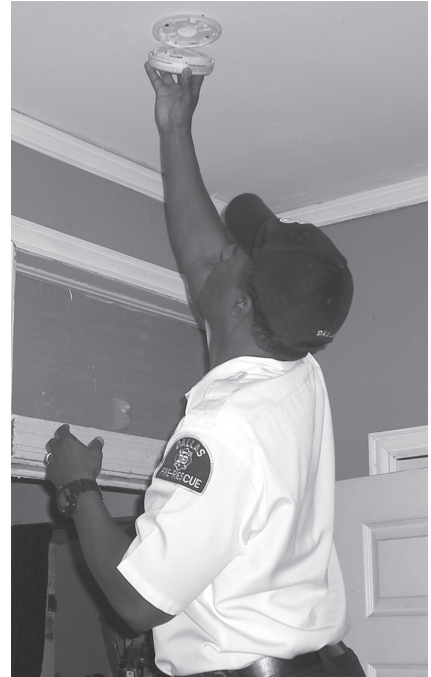


Working with Dallas Fire and Rescue, LKB participants, parents and PWN Group rose early on a Saturday morning to help install 400 smoke detectors in a neighborhood identified as having a high rate of injury from home fires. The ages of our volunteers were 5 and up.

As we walked the neighborhood, we knocked on doors, helping to install smoke detectors, test existing detectors, gather pertinent data, and explain, in English and Spanish, the importance of having a fire escape plan. We met an amazing group of people: a community of families, helping each other to improve their

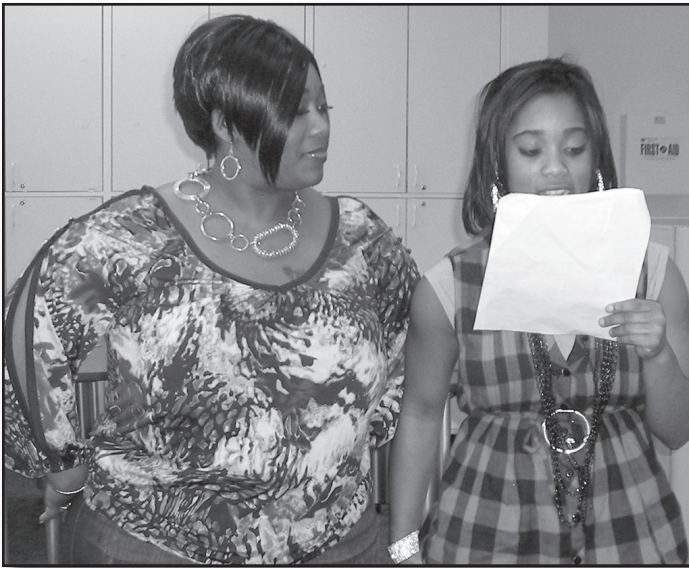
homes and their lives. The smoke detectors and educational materials were added improvements. This community service project was a positive and valuable experience for both the recipients and the volunteers. We left feeling that we had made a difference!





All About Me

All About Me celebrates the collaborative creative talents of LKB Girls and in some cases, their mothers. Throughout the academy girls learn that loving themselves and believing in their own abilities build self confidence. When girls love themselves, they will be elevated to appreciate their worth, motivated to increase their value, and inspired to accept who they are (strengths and weaknesses). Each girl is unique in every way. Her exclusive finger print makes it unmistakably clear.



Kiara Williams and her mother wrote a creative story to bring awareness to typhoid fever.

Today is my lucky day; I'm about to spread myself away. T-Pain is the name, because I drive people insane. Let's go inside to start this game; I'm here on the scene, I'm fly and dope; but to see me you must have a microscope. I'm here; I'm there; I'm everywhere. I'm your server; I'm your plate... Little do they know I'm about to contaminate. I enter and I work. My game is tight. They can't see me because I'm out of sight. The germs are ready to fight!! I'm looking for the next victim. They may be short or they may have height. I really don't care; I just need to drop this parasite. This is my life; this is what I do. I'm fly and dope, but to see me you must have a microscope...



LEFT: Roneishia Franklin recites the award-winning poem that she wrote.



RIGHT: Breanna Kelley likes to write and read poetry.



DeAngela Campbell and her mother modeled hairstyles that she styled.



Gabby Dorsey likes to compete in boat races called regattas. She is training to qualify for the Nationals in Ohio.



Badiyah Edwards says applying makeup is natural for her.



Terika Williams competes in 100 and 300 meter hurdles, and 400 meter relay.



Myesha Cook and her mother demonstrated the K-WANG dance.



Tatianna Abeni's passion is volleyball.

Rise to the Challenge

LKB GIRLS MAKE THEIR DREAMS COME TRUE



Deandra Haltom

My name is **Deandra Haltom**, and I am a 2003 graduate of the LKB Leadership Academy. I graduated from Texas A & M University – Commerce in August 2009 with a degree in Management Information Systems.

My Proudest Moment: Graduating from college with three generations of my family there to see me walk across the stage.

My Accomplishments: I was Student Ambassador and Student Government Secretary for Mountain View College; Student Ambassador (Golden Leo), Resident Assistant, and President/Parliamentarian for National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs (NACWC) at A&M Commerce; and President of the Theta Nu Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta.

I **rose to the challenge** because the mentors at LKB really stressed that I could accomplish my goals and I never forgot. When I left the Academy I was armed with poise and confidence. Prior to LKB, I was very shy and quiet. I became highly involved in several organizations in high school and college, and was called upon to speak at various events. Without LKB’s Toastmasters program, I would never have been able to deliver a speech. I learned the importance of giving back at LKB, and made a difference by working in the community with my sorority and NACWC.



Britanya Lewis

My name is **Britanya Lewis**, and I am a 2004 graduate of the LKB Leadership Academy. I am currently attending Texas Woman’s University, majoring in Fashion Merchandising. I plan to graduate in December 2010.

My Proudest Moment: I followed in my mother’s footsteps in becoming a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

My Accomplishments: Working towards my Bachelor’s Degree in Fashion Merchandising and being so close to my graduation date is a major accomplishment.

I **rose to the challenge** to overcome the adversities of misconceptions against me while obtaining my degree. I always remembered that LKB had instilled in me the confidence to not let these “misconceptions” burden me, but to use them as motivation to succeed. LKB helped me with my fear of public speaking, and to this day I still use tips and pointers I learned from LKB when I am preparing and giving presentations. I am involved in the community because LKB has placed in my heart to do so. I thank all the women who mentored and helped me grow and mature into the young woman I am today. I feel it is my duty to help someone else!



Tianikwa Haywood

My name is **Tianikwa Haywood**, and I am a 2001 graduate of the LKB Leadership Academy. I graduated from Union University, Jackson TN in 2007, with a degree in Business Management Marketing

My Proudest Moment: When I graduated college. Another proud moment was the day I married my best friend, the one that has been with me through it all, Willie McDonald. He has been my back bone through all my ups and downs.

My Accomplishments: I was involved in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and participated in various community service projects, such as the development of the Annual Black History Program at Union University. I was second in my Management training class, and have been honored as Assistant Manager of the Quarter.

I rose to the challenge with each of my above accomplishments. The Academy helped me with my public speaking. I had the honor of being Vice President of the Academy's Lady Gavel Club, an affiliate of Toastmasters International. Through it I learned to speak with confidence, self discipline, and self worth. All these attributes helped me to be the proud confident woman I am today. I would like to thank Ms. Bedford and the foundation for helping me at an early age to appreciate my self-worth, and to find the woman within. deliver a speech. I learned the importance of giving back at LKB, and made a difference by working in the community with my sorority and NACWC.



Amber Venerable

My name is **Amber Venerable**, and I am a 2002 graduate of the LKB Leadership Academy. I graduated from Howard University in 2006 with a degree in Print Journalism.

My Proudest Moment: My top three are 1) graduating from the greatest school in the world! the Mecca, Howard University; 2) achieving my goal of becoming a magazine photo editor (I have worked at Instyle, People, Essence, and Shape); and 3) Going to Southern Africa (Mozambique, Swaziland, and South Africa) to do a photojournalism fellowship for 4 months.

My Accomplishments: In high school and LKB, I dreamed of moving to New York and working in magazines and traveling the world. I accomplished both because of my dedication, ambition and undying love. Ms. Bedford's positive re-enforcement, encouragement, and programs to enlighten us as young women, helped so much as well! LKB is an amazing organization for young women.

I rise to the challenge every day. Nothing about my journey during college or after has been easy. But I've never given up because I have big dreams and they get bigger and bigger every year! LKB emphasized not taking no for an answer and following your passion. I've tried to do just that.

Spotlight

LEAH R. MARSHALL



LEAH R. MARSHALL

My name is **Leah R. Marshall**, and I am a 2004 graduate of the LKB Leadership Academy. I attended the astounding College of Education at the historically black university, Texas Southern University, where I majored in Education specializing in 4-8 English/Language Arts/Reading. I am a teacher at Kennemer Middle School in Duncanville.

The proudest moment I have had during my career is when one of my female students told me I was her role model and that I was the first teacher that really cared. In my eyes, these words from a student are priceless. It makes waking up and coming to work fulfilling and rewarding. It is the fuel that keeps me moving when things look dim.

A personal accomplishment I have had during my career is breaking down barriers that my students have as well as getting them to open up and begin to flourish. The communication skills I learned and perfected in the Leslie K Bedford Leadership Academy aided me in this obstacle. On a daily basis my communication with students is a vital necessity. Words have more power than we know. The things that we say can stay with a person for a lifetime and we never know it.

When I first started the Leadership Academy, I was timid. The skills were within me, yet I had not been introduced to an environment where I had to display them and rise above my comfort zone. At the conclusion of the academy I had flourished from a timid little girl to a confident and articulate young lady. Ironically, in my career with my students I had to rise to the challenge of steadily pushing them beyond their comfort levels to bring out their true potential just as I had to do. It worked! Many of them chose me as their most impactful teacher. The reason they chose me, in their own words, was because I consistently pushed them and refused to take anything less than their full potential.

Thank you LKB for the great impact you make on the lives of young ladies. Working with the youth daily I see the great value and dire need for such programs. I am Leah Marshall, a proud product of the Leslie K Bedford Leadership Academy!



Keeping Perspective

The LKB Board has a vision for the Foundation's ideal future. Prior to formulating a plan, they will establish what needs to be rebranded and the likely impact on the Foundation to select the best approach. Parents, participants, volunteers and supporters will be involved to ensure that any change takes these important stakeholders into consideration.

LKB's stellar leadership academies and programs have been very successful and will remain the same. What will be new is the repackaging of how they are presented locally and globally. Some of the new features being considered include girl friendly:

- **E-Learning**
- **Webinars**
- **Satellite academies**
- **Expanded partnerships**



As the Board contemplates options for a stronger and more global presence, they will ensure that LKB's name, image and identity continues to represent its mission, vision and core values. They will write goals and objectives, develop a strategic plan and create steps to achieve them.

What will be the outcome? The process of rebranding will secure the future of the Foundation. In order to survive, grow and thrive, LKB will stay abreast of current market trends, consistently looking at where its products are in the community and where its brand is in the client's minds.



2010 WOMEN'S INTERGENERATIONAL SUMMIT

September 11
2010

BRINGING WOMEN OF ALL AGES TOGETHER

The **Women's Intergenerational Summit** will celebrate and inspire community connections to support girls and women and strengthen families. Teenage and college women are engaging the world around them in vastly different ways from generations before. Presenters will engage the audience in a discussion of trends and challenges facing young women, and the benefits of preserving and disseminating the wisdom of the older generation to inspire new generations of young leaders.

Celebrate your day and your deeper perspective and connection at a summit filled with important and focused conversation to map out a plan that addresses current realities and opportunities for women. There will be networking, prizes and refreshments.



GRAND HALL
Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Lancaster Texas 75134

To sign up to receive more information about how you can participate, contact us at info@lesliekbedfordfoundation.org or www.lesliekbedfordfoundation.org.

SIGN UP TODAY!

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JOIN PWN GROUP TODAY.

We invite you to attend the New Membership Drive to meet our members, learn more about what we do, and join the networking group:

Saturday, July 10, 2010

Southside on Lamar,

1409 S. Lamar, Suite 211

Dallas Texas 75215

For more information, contact us at
pwn@lesliekbedfordfoundation.org.

PWN GROUP...

Exciting programs and events throughout the year to help girls and women:

Mentoring Component to educate, inspire and motivate girls to be successful.

Peer Networking Component to develop women through education, leadership training and resource sharing.

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Want To Become A LKB Girl?

To apply for the 2010/2011 Leadership Academies, visit the website at www.lesliekbedfordfoundation.org or call 972-230-1101.

WE VALUE YOUR INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS.



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