



# The Future of **CHANGE**

These young people are determined to bring about positive change after seeing what their role models accomplished.



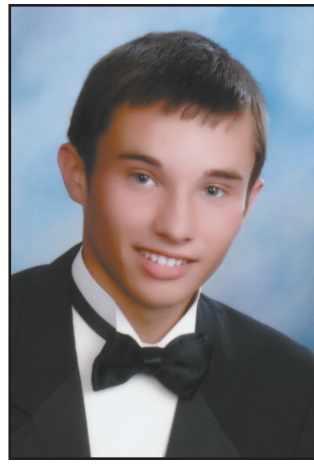
**Teresa Danso-Danquah**  
CENTRAL REGION  
Henrico High School  
Richmond, Virginia



**Wesley Chavis**  
EASTERN REGION  
Frank W. Cox High School  
Virginia Beach, Virginia



**Kanchana Sthanumurthy**  
NORTHWEST REGION  
Potomac Falls High School  
Sterling, Virginia



**Blake Rogers**  
SOUTHWEST REGION  
Turner Ashby High School  
Bridgewater, Virginia



**Shanell Byrd**  
NORTH CAROLINA  
Washington High School  
Washington, North Carolina

**B**y reading and writing about African-American leaders they admire, these students learned a lot about change and what it takes to make it happen. They learned how words can make a powerful difference. They learned the importance of never quitting in the face of hardship and prejudice. Most of all, they learned to see the possibilities in themselves and the future changes they can make. These are the winners in Dominion's 2010 Strong Men & Women: *Excellence in Leadership* series student writing contest.

Their essays earned them laptop computers and grants for their schools. And for further inspiration, they were able to meet and talk with some of the African-American leaders Dominion has been honoring for the past 20 years. From one generation to the next, a legacy of change is passed on.

The Strong Men & Women: *Excellence in Leadership* series, celebrating its 20th anniversary, is an annual series sponsored by Dominion to honor the contributions of influential African-American leaders. In conjunction with this series, Dominion is helping prepare future leaders by providing student scholarships and grants, as well as resource material for schools. To learn more about the series, its honorees and resource materials, visit [dom.com](http://dom.com), keyword: strong.



**Dominion**



**Strong Men & Women:  
*Excellence in Leadership* series**



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS OF LEADERS  
FEATURED IN WINNING ESSAYS

**1920s**

Zora Neale Hurston becomes a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance, an influential group of African-American writers and artists in New York.

*Winning essay by Wesley Chavis*

**1940s**

*Time* magazine describes George Washington Carver as the "Black Leonardo da Vinci" to commemorate his remarkable life and inventions.

*Winning essay by Blake Rogers*

**1960s**

The Reverend Pauli Murray co-founds NOW, the National Organization for Women.

*Winning essay by Kanchana Sthanumurthy*

**1980s**

Marita Golden publishes her memoir, *Migrations of the Heart*, and establishes herself as a powerful voice in African-American literature.

*Winning essay by Teresa Danso-Danquah*

**2000s**

Dr. Benjamin Carson Sr., receives the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his work in pediatric neurosurgery.

*Winning essay by Shanell Byrd*

