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Teen Excellence 2017

Burlington County Times

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/teenexcellence/teen-excellence/article_c719f46c-3a4a-11e7-870b-7f731c7f17af.html

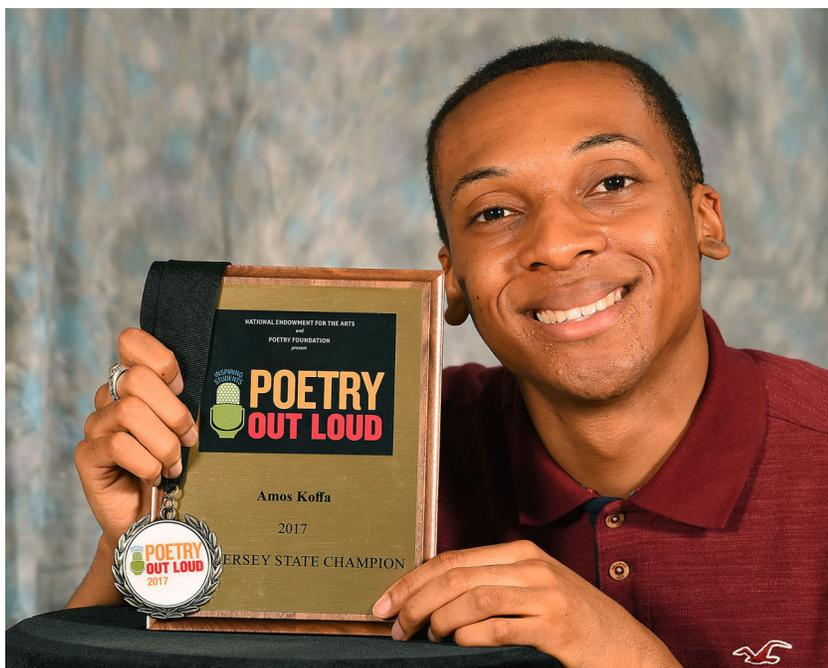
Teen Excellence 2017

Martha Esposito Jun 4, 2017

They are the best of the best.

The 24 high school students who were selected for this year’s Teen Excellence recognition program are in a pretty exclusive club. Since the Burlington County Times founded the program in 1995, 712 outstanding teens have been honored, and more than 2,000 have been nominated.

1 of 24  



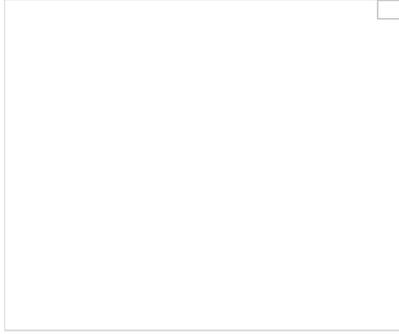
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Amos Koffa, BCIT-Medford

Jun 4, 2017

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Amos Koffa’s journey to self-acceptance has provided inspiration for powerful poetry.



Each year, educators and community members are asked to nominate exceptional teens, those who show leadership both in the classroom and out. The teens are required to craft an essay about the accomplishments of which they are most proud, while their nominators write letters explaining why these students are a cut above.

A panel of judges then studies the nominations, and has the difficult task of choosing the winners. This year's judges included Anika Ragins-Riley, executive director of Rowan College at Burlington County Foundation; Elise Mac-Bello, senior director, annual campaign, YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties; and Lori Smith, former marketing manager of the Burlington County Times.

Teaming with the BCT to celebrate the winners is the YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties, the program's co-sponsor.

Special thanks to the Enterprise Center at Rowan College at Burlington College for hosting the Teen Excellence awards reception on June 7.

While Teen Excellence lets everyone congratulate the winners, the people who inspired them every step of the way — their families, teachers and mentors — deserve well-placed kudos, too.

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Martha Esposito