

**Long Beach Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People**

**P.O. Box 1594 Long Beach, CA 90801**

**Press Release**

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 15, 2009**

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**Naomi Rainey, President**

**Long Beach Branch NAACP'S Youth Council Member Emily Pearson Receiving "100 Young Leaders of the Decade Leadership Service" Award from Tavis Smiley Foundation**

Emily Pearson from the Long Beach Branch NAACP has been selected by the Tavis Smiley Foundation as a Youth Leader and she will be receiving a "100 Young Leaders of the Decade Leadership Service" Award. Emily Pearson is a Youth Council member and local Gold Medal ACT-SO winner in the area of Business; Emily is a sophomore at Renaissance High School for the Arts.

Emily Pearson is undoubtedly a young leader. In 2007, inspired by her mother's unfortunate diagnosis of four cranium aneurisms, 16 year-old Emily Pearson developed her own non-profit organization called "Friends into Saving Health" which provides in-home activities for the elderly, disabled, and the ill. It provides social stimulation as well as a companion for those who simply cannot leave their house due to poor health or old age.

Each year, Tavis Smiley Foundation's Youth to Leaders honors those leaders who have demonstrated stellar achievement in leadership and service. In recognition of its 10th anniversary, the Tavis Smiley Foundation is honoring 100 young leaders from Southern California who exemplify and embody the spirit of their mission: to enlighten, encourage and empower.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was formed in 1909 by a group of black and white citizens in response to injustices that many Americans confronted solely because of race. Today, the NAACP, the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the world, continues to focus major efforts at increasing voter empowerment, educational excellence, and individual responsibility, thus creating an infrastructure for economic and social development and new effective ways to develop young leaders.

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