



**Quad County
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Quad County Urban League Recognizes Class of 2010 and
Welcomes Home Accomplished Alum**

AURORA – “Journey to Greatness” is the theme of this year’s Tomorrow’s Scientists Technicians and Managers (TSTM)/Project Ready Awards and Achievement Banquet, hosted by the Quad County Urban League. The Banquet honors the leadership and academic efforts of program participants and celebrates the high school seniors headed off to college.

The Banquet is Friday, June 11 at Gaslite Manor, located at 2485 Church Road in Aurora. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the program begins at 6:30.p.m.

“All 18 of our seniors are going straight to college, this fall,” said Theodia Gillespie, Quad County Urban League President and CEO. “We are so proud of the students’ determination and hard work that has prepared them, not just to receive a higher education, but to succeed in this next phase of life.”

TSTM is a college readiness program for minority middle and high school students. Over the last 28 years more than 800 youth have gone through the TSTM program to tackle more challenging course work, give back to their neighborhoods and schools through community service, and to explore careers in business and the science, technology, engineering, and math fields where minorities remain dramatically underrepresented. TSTM’s complementary program, Project Ready, focuses activities on academic enrichment, personal development and leadership skills. Both TSTM and Project Ready serve youth in grades 6 to 12. The TSTM/Project Ready class of 2010 includes 79 students from 16 Fox Valley area school districts.

The guest speaker for the 2010 TSTM/Project Ready Banquet is East Aurora High alumnus and TSTM Class of 1986 graduate Dr. Frazier Wilson. Now a resident of the Houston area, Wilson has worked for Shell Oil Company for over 15 years. Wilson currently serves as Vice President, Shell Oil Company Foundation and Manager, Social Investment, Shell Oil Company, where he is responsible for overseeing corporate and foundation contributions and employee giving, education and environmental outreach programs.

“East Aurora School District 131 is very proud that one of our alum, Dr. Frazier Wilson, is returning to Aurora to inspire the next generation of young leaders,” said Clayton Muhammad, Director of Community Relations for District 131. “His accomplishments in life are proof that education and dedication are the foundation of success. “

Prior to joining Shell, Wilson worked in education as a teacher, volunteer and mentor. He holds a Bachelor of Science in accounting from Jackson State University and an MBA and Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Texas Southern University. In 1999, Wilson opened and served as director for the Houston Shell Youth Training Academy, a partnership with Houston

Independent School District to develop employability skills for high school youth through training and internships.

“He not only is an example to the students,” Muhammad, said of Dr. Wilson, “but also to the community as a whole. His success highlights the longstanding partnership between the Quad County Urban League and East Aurora School District 131 and underscores the necessity for community collaborations.”

Tickets for Quad County Urban League’s Annual TSTM/Project Ready Awards and Achievement Banquet are still available -- \$40 for individuals and \$400 per table. For tickets or additional information, contact Dorletta Payton at 630-851-2203, x238 or dorlettapayton@qcul.org.

About the Quad County Urban League

Founded in 1975, the Quad County Urban League helps secure equal opportunities for all disadvantaged persons and people of color, including African Americans, women and persons with disabilities. Quad County Urban League serves DuPage, Kane, Kendall and Will Counties in Illinois. Visit www.qcul.org.

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