

Press Release

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Distinguished Young Women of Florida Scores Two Perfect Tens!

- *Holder of 19 World Martial Arts Titles, Florida's Caitlin Mosley makes top ten at national Distinguished Young Women scholarship program*
- *Distinguished Young Women of Florida breaks top ten in scholarships provided at state level*

Mobile, AL, June 26, 2011—Caitlin Mosley took Mobile, AL by storm, garnering a place in the top ten Distinguished Young Women of America participants from over 14,000 nationwide. Mosley was evaluated in five categories to earn this important distinction, including a personal interview, a fitness routine, an evaluation of her scholastics, an extemporaneous speaking category called self expression and a talent presentation, for which she showcased her 2nd degree black belt by performing martial arts forms featuring a weapon known as a bow. In addition to the full-tuition scholarship she received to Troy University, the college of her choice, via the program, Mosley has received over \$9,000 in cash scholarships. Equally as important, Mosley had the transformative experience that the Distinguished Young Women program is known for and joins a 54 years-in-the-making network of women touched by the program—leaders in many fields who will support Caitlin's educational and professional development. Caitlin plans to attend Troy University and subsequently attend medical school to become an Emergency room physician.

"Caitlin is an extraordinary young woman," says Distinguished Young Women of Florida 2011 chair, Angela Kendall-Dempsey. "I have learned so much from her self-assurance and poise and commitment to every task she takes on. She is truly a role model to young women and deserves this recognition and," she laughingly continues, "I probably wouldn't want to meet her in a dark alley or make her too mad at me – I've seen her spin that bow!"

The Distinguished Young Women of Florida program also garnered a top ten position in the nation in cash scholarships given. Since moving the program to Winter Garden, FL, the organization has gone from 39th position to 14th in 2010 to 10th in 2011 thanks to statewide sponsors like DRB Benefits, FPL and Dermazone Solutions' Kara Vita and West Orange/Central Florida community sponsors like the City of Winter Garden, the Garden Theatre and Fishback, Dominick, et al.

Says Flagship sponsor and fundraising chairman for the organization David Billsborough of DRB Benefits, "The first time I sponsored this event, I did it largely because a friend asked me to. But to renew as a sponsor, I had to *believe* in the mission of the program. These young women are driven and motivated to excel in scholarship, leadership and talent and that drive and motivation should be recognized in the form of scholarships that go strictly to their continuing educational development. That's exactly what the Distinguished Young Women programs do, and why I am proud to put my charitable donations towards a program I can believe in!"

Mosley is an accomplished young martial arts champion, holding a 2nd degree black belt and 19 World Martial Arts Titles. She has been featured 5 times on ESPN for her martial arts forms. Caitlin tied in her martial

arts expertise in presentations to Boys and Girls Clubs during national “Be Your Best Self Week”. Mosley is also president of Students Working against Tobacco & Health Occupations Students of America, 2011 Anchor Club Member of the Year, a National Honor Society Student, in Beta and holds myriad other leadership and academic honors.

Distinguished Young Women of Florida is an official preliminary of the Distinguished Young Women national program which showcases and honors young women in scholarship, leadership and talent. This 501 C-3 scholarship program inspires high school girls to develop their full, individual potential through a fun, transformative experience that culminates in a celebratory showcase of their accomplishments. High school seniors compete in five categories: scholastic achievement, interview, talent, fitness and self-expression. Each girl has the opportunity to win individual scholarships in these categories and overall awards will be given for the young women who reach the highest achievement in the combination of all five categories. In Florida, over \$15,000 in cash scholarships and the opportunity to earn over \$2 million in college-granted scholarships was awarded to these young women. Sponsors like flagship sponsor DRB Benefits, FPL, Dermazone Solutions and the City of Winter Garden make possible the awarding of these scholarships. National sponsors include the City of Mobile, Mobile County, Encore Rehabilitation, Spanx Foundation, Mobile Gas: a Sempra Company, Alabama Power Foundation, and Regions Bank.

Founded in 1958 in Mobile, Alabama, now Distinguished Young Women, is the largest and oldest national scholarship program for high school girls. During its 54 years of operation, the program has provided life-changing experiences for more than 700,000 young women. Last year Distinguished Young Women provided more than \$63 million in cash and college scholarships opportunities.

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