

## Biography of Tamira A. Cole

Deemed as an inspiration, trailblazer and leader, Tamira Cole is a lover of life and all that it brings! Tamira, the reigning 2009 Miss Black Kentucky USA, has spoken to thousands as a motivational speaker, who has traveled, studied and mentored in nearly 30 states and several countries. Her platform YOUth in Action, seeks to develop, educate and mentor youth to become productive citizens. Her current initiative, Reach Out will partner teens from the United States with teens from Ghana to produce peer on peer relationships that foster personal growth and community action. In addition to the Reach Out Initiative, her provocative book, HUSH, is set to hit Amazon and Barnes & Noble online in early 2009.

Named by Glamour magazine as one of America's top-twenty two college women "who has creative talents, energetic leadership and the respect and confidence that inspires others," Tamira has been named to USA Today All-USA Academic College Team as one of the top 100 undergraduate students in the country, a semi-finalist in the Maybelline 5 Beauty Team Spokesperson and St. Ives! Live Beauty and Self-Esteem Panelist Searches, a Glamour magazine hero for extraordinary courage and community contribution, SHAPE magazine model of fitness, and a 14 year member of the National 4-H organization where she sat as a member of the Board of Trustees as the first ever Tennessee 4-Her to be appointed. Her success has been noted in various newspapers, websites and magazines across the country including Living the Fit Life and Gaiam.com.

Tamira has distinguished herself among a new generation of young women that empowers youth and activism! She has volunteered over 20,000 hours of community service for over 40 different nonprofit agencies and has garnered the Tennessee Higher Education Commission's Harold Love Award for Outstanding Community Service, a nominee for the National Jefferson Award for Public Service and National Volvo for Life Awards, named a national top ten finalist for the prestigious Harris Wofford Award for Outstanding Community Service, and a United States Congressional Bronze Medal for Youth Service.

A graduate and current graduate student of Austin Peay State University, Tamira has studied and presented lectures at Princeton University, Brown University, University of California at Berkeley, and Columbia University. **She has modeled for graphic designer and longtime friend, Electra Frederick of ElectraCity <http://www.electracity.net/models.html>.**

She has written for CosmoGIRL! and Seventeen magazines as a stringer/reporter. As a 2002 high school graduate, she received more than \$165,000 in scholarships and awards and was a writer for the CyHigh College Diary 101. Tamira has served the National Health Occupations Students of America Organization as the Region II National Vice President. She is the recipient of the Joebelle Holcombe Outstanding Panhellenic Alumna Award of Chi Omega Women's Fraternity. She is a former U.S. All-American Collegiate Scholar, National Target All-Around Scholar, and a L'OREAL's Woman of Worth Nominee.

Tamira is currently a member of the U.S. Public Service Academy's Tennessee Youth Advisory Council, a consultant for Girls for A Change, based out of California, and is pursuing her master's in education.

