



## Virginia's Young Advocate of the Year Award

June 4, 2008

Dear Applicant:

There are thousands of teens across Virginia working hard every year in their communities and throughout the state, making significant efforts in the area of tobacco-use control. We at Prevention Connections would like to honor a student by recognizing his or her efforts in this area.

Over the past year many young Virginians have demonstrated leadership savvy by partnering with their schools, community services organizations, the Y St. Campaign and the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation (VTSF), as well as many other organizations. These students work tirelessly and make contributions that will one day help to create a tobacco-free Virginia.

Prevention Connections would like to celebrate and honor our first annual **Young Advocate of the Year**; this award will be presented at The Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Grantee Training Conference on Sept. 24, 2008, in Newport News.

The Virginia Youth Advocate of the Year will receive:

- Scholarship valued at \$2,500 for the college of their choice
- A day at the General Assembly with the American Cancer Society lobbyist
- A nomination to the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids' Youth Advocate of the Year Award (national award )
- The Youth Advocate will also participate in tobacco-use prevention activities with Prevention Connections

Attached is the application for the award. Once all applications have been received, the prospective youth advocate will be contacted in order to set up a phone interview with the Prevention Connections Awards Committee. When interviews are complete, the committee will make its recommendations to the Board of Directors and the youth will be notified of the Board's decision.

If you would like to discuss the application or its process, please call Rita Angelone at (804) 371-2589 or Edda Collins Coleman at (202) 626-8331. Applications are due to Prevention Connections no later than 5 p.m. Sept. 12, 2008.

Thank you for your efforts in reducing tobacco use in Virginia and making Virginia a healthier place to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edda M. C. Coleman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Edda" being the most prominent.

Edda Collins Coleman, Committee Chair  
Board of Directors

## Prevention Connections

*Improving Virginians' Health Through Tobacco Use  
Prevention and Reduction Activities*

# 2008 Virginia Youth Advocate of the Year

The Virginia Youth Advocate of the Year, sponsored by Prevention Connections, honors the outstanding work of one of Virginia's leading youth advocates for the prevention and reduction of tobacco use. Virginia's youth have worked tirelessly to improve the environment through public education, outreach to policy makers and work with their peers. These youth have made a difference in the tobacco control efforts across Virginia.

Do you know such a student? Are you actively involved in promoting a smoke-free community? Nominate someone you know or even yourself today! Nominees must be high school Seniors for 2008-2009. Complete the attached nomination form and return it to the Prevention Connections address below by **September 12, 2008** for consideration. Faxes and emailed submissions are acceptable as well.



### **The Virginia Youth Advocate of the Year will Receive:**

- ◆ \$2,500 college scholarship
- ◆ A day at the Virginia General Assembly with a Lobbyist
- ◆ An opportunity to work "in the trenches" with area tobacco control efforts
- ◆ Automatic entry to the National Youth Advocate of the Year Award sponsored by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

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### **Recognition Event**

This year's winner will be announced and receive an award at the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation's Annual Conference in Newport News, VA on September 24, 2008.

Organizations from across the state will be present to congratulate the winner of the 2008 Virginia Youth Advocate Award.

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### **Prevention Connections**

701 E. Franklin Street  
Suite 501  
Richmond, VA 23219

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[www.preventionconnections.org](http://www.preventionconnections.org)

# 2008 Virginia Youth Advocate of the Year NOMINATION FORM

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_ 08-09 Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees must complete the following questions and attach to the nomination form:

1. In 500 words or less, describe your tobacco control work experience and any efforts you have made on reducing tobacco use and/or policy changes.
2. In 250 words or less, explain why working with tobacco control efforts is important to you.
3. Provide a list of the three most important activities in which you are currently involved or have been in the past. For example, 2 years as secretary of the student council; 2 years as member of Y Street.
4. In 250 words or less, describe the tobacco control work you plan to do in the coming year.
5. Please list 3 references (names and contact information) and describe your relationship.

Send your completed nomination form and attachment to PREVENTION CONNECTIONS at the address below by **September 12, 2008**. Make sure to keep a copy for your records.

Nominees must be high school seniors for the 2008-2009 school year.

Call or email Prevention Connections at the numbers below if you have any questions.



**Prevention Connections**

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