## LOCAL



[Pictured from left are DO THE WRITE THING youth, DILEXXUS MATHIS, TIERRA SALES and WILLIAM MILLIGAN, signing copies of their book at CBCF Author's Pavilion. The youth are being considered by the NAACP Awards nominating committee in the literature category).

# Do the Write Thing Youth Being Considered By NAACP Image Awards Nominating Committee

Do The Write Thing Foundation of DC sponsors poetry writing, publishing, songwriting, video production and job readiness workshops for African-American youth that attend DC Public Schools. The youth write poetry and learn every aspect of the publishing process. They learn how to change their poems into songs and record in a portable recording studio. They produce video role-plays that teach the do's and don'ts of workplace conduct.

Since publishing their book of poems, the youth have been participating in Youth Poetry Slams at BusBoys and Poets Restaurant and booksignings. Do The Write Thing youth were the only teens selected to sign copies of their book at the prestigious Black Caucus event. Now they are being considered by the NAACP Image Awards nominating committee in the literature category.

Their book of poems, *Our Planets, Ourselves* features two types of poems: free verse plus peace and dream haikus. Sprinkled throughout the book are the student's favorite quotes from President Barack Obama. The youth were given the difficult task of writing solar cycle poems using the Theory of Interplanetary Evolution (TIE) as a metaphor for the stages of human life. TIE debunks the 12/21/2012 doomsday predictions. TIE asserts that Earth will simply continue its evolutionary transition into Mars on December 21, 2012 and humans will evolve into Martians millions of years from now.

Members of the public can support Do The Write Thing of DC, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, not-for-profit by pledging support during workplace campaigns: United Way and DC One Fund Drive (#8195); Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #77516). For further information, go to www.dothewritethinginc.org.