



◀ **Tavis Smiley: "Building A Better Tomorrow For Our Youth"**

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**Tavis Smiley, host of The Tavis Smiley Show and correspondent/contributor on ABC's Prime Time Thursday, Good Morning America, CNN, and the ABC Radio Network, established the Tavis Smiley Foundation in 1999 to encourage, empower and enlighten black youth. Using his earnings as an author, talk show host and commentator, Mr. Smiley seeded the foundation's cornerstone program, Youth to Leaders (Y2L) to provide leadership development opportunities, technological resources and training to Black youth.**

**Today's Y2L is a nationwide series of one-day leadership development conferences. It has sparked the creation of the National Mentor Program, Youth Ambassadors, and in 2003, the National Leadership Summit.**

**Following the tragedy of 9/11, Mr. Smiley collaborated with fellow philanthropist, Tom Joyner to establish the Tavis Smiley Foundation/Black America Web Relief Fund. The initial \$20,000 investment in the fund began a joint effort that raised more than \$850,000 through the Tom Joyner Morning Show. The endeavor has provided direct support to more than 2,300 individuals affected by the tragedy.**