I chose this poem for my photo because I felt that it showed the real natural beauty of this photograph. I may not be a model and I may not look like the girl you would usually see on the front page of Seventeen magazines but I am a "beautiful black women" and I am the future of my people. My intelligence and determination will take me to far places.

Kathleen Charles, 12 Stamford High School

Photographed by: Juliana Ferraro, 12 Stamford High School

By Vernon J. Davis Jr.

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOUR BEAUTY IS SURPASSED

BY NONE

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOU'RE SENSUOUS

SPLENDOR IS LIKE THE SHINING SUN YOUR

WONDROUS WAYS COME FROM YOUR SOUL

WHICH NO ONE MAN MAY HOPE TO CONTROL

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOU ARE THE GUIDING

HOPE OF OUR PEOPLE

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOUR MIND MAINTAINS

YOUR GLORIOUS POWER

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOUR SPIRIT IS

LIKE A SHINING CHURCH TOWER WHICH POINTS THE

WAY TO HEAVEN ABOVE AND WHICH

SEEKS TO FIND TRUE LOVE

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOU ARE THE GUIDING

HOPE OF OUR PEOPLE

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOUR TIME IS LIKE A

PRECIOUS COMMODITY

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOUR EBONY WILL IS

STRONG AND FREE SO TAKE YOUR PRECIOUS TIME

AND YOUR DETERMINED WILL AND USE THEM BOTH TO

EMPHASIZE WHAT YOU REALLY FEEL

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, YOU ARE THE GUIDING HOPE

OF OUR PEOPLE

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN, IN YOU LIES OUR FUTURE!

