

For Immediate Release

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Nationally known authors are coming to Dallas for Tulisoma; *South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival is Aug. 27-29 at the African-American Museum*

Dallas - Award-winning authors, poets and artists will again come to Dallas for the eighth annual Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival. The free event will begin at 2 p.m. Aug. 27 with the Heart and Soul Tour of South Dallas historical sites and landmarks, led by Councilmember Carolyn R. Davis.

Book readings, storytelling, writing workshops, spoken word poetry, panel discussions, performances, the new addition "Sweet Talk" sweet potato pie contest and the annual Sunday Gospel Brunch will be held Aug. 28-29 at the African-American Museum in Fair Park. More than 30 local and regional authors will be participating, and books and merchandise will also be for sale during the event.

This year's Tulisoma authors include:

"Helping our children to develop a passion for books and reading is more important than ever," Councilmember Davis said. "The South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival is a celebration of reading, and I encourage families to instill the joy of books in their children and make reading a regular part of their family activities."

Tulisoma, a Swahili word meaning "we read," will be based at the African American Museum at Fair Park, but it will include activities at various South Dallas locations. The festival was launched in 2003 to promote literacy and highlight businesses and arts in South Dallas.

This year's Tulisoma authors will include:

Vaunda Micheaux Nelson: Author of several children's books, including *Always Gramma*, selected by the Children's Book Council as a Notable Children's Trade Book in the field of social studies; *Mayfield Crossing*, *Beyond Mayfield*, and her most recent book, *Almost to Freedom*. Her poetry has been published in *Cricked* and *Cicada* magazines. She has been a teacher, newspaper reporter and school librarian and is currently young adult librarian at a New Mexico public library.

Karen E. Quinones Miller: An Essence best selling and NAACP Literary Award nominee, Miller has written five Essence bestselling novels for Simon & Schuster, Warner Books, and Grand Central Books: *I'm Telling*, *Using What You Got*, *Ida B.*, *Satin Nights* and *Passin'*. Born and raised in Harlem, she is a graduate of Temple University and a former reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Associated Press and a correspondent for People Magazine. She is also included in the book *Literary Divas: The Top 100+ Most Admired African-American Women in Literature*.

Corey Dade: Reporter in the Atlanta bureau of the Wall Street Journal, he joined the Atlanta Press Club's board of directors in 2008 and is President of the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists. At the Journal, Corey covers politics and economics across the South. His previous assignments have included Hurricane Katrina, Delta Air Lines' bankruptcy, the Virginia Tech shootings and the 2008 presidential campaign. Previously Corey has worked at the Boston Globe, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Detroit Free Press and the Miami Herald. He is a frequent commentator on Fox News, National Public Radio, CNN, Headline News and CNBC.

Rosalyn Story: A violinist with the Fort Worth Symphony, her first book, *And So I Sing: African American Divas Of Opera and Concert* (Warner), inspired the PBS documentary *Aida's Brothers and Sisters: A History of Blacks in Opera*, in which she appeared as feature narrator. She has written on music and art for *Essence*, *Emerge*, *American Visions*, *Stagebill* (the magazine of Lincoln Center), *Opera News*, and *The Crisis* magazines.

Queen Afua: Nationally known herbalist and holistic health specialist and author of *Heal Thyself for Health and Longevity*. Her essays and articles have appeared in *Essence Magazine*, *The Amsterdam News*, *Caribbean Life* and other publications. She has also appeared on numerous television and radio programs and lectures extensively on holistic medicine. She has also served on *Essence's* Holistic Health Practitioner's Think Tank and was featured in the January 2000 issue.

To register for the Heart and Soul Tour or for more information call (214) 926-3799 or email gaytha.davis@dallascityhall.com. The tour will depart at 1:45 p.m. from City Hall Plaza. For a list of tour sites and festival details visit www.tulisoma.com.

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