

IBWA

Los Angeles

International Black Writers & Artists, Inc.

30th Anniversary Conference 1974 - 2004



International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles

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Contact IBWALA
323.964.3721
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International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles

International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles is a 501 (c) 3 grassroots, nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting, motivating, educating and inspiring artists, writers and performers.

The likes of Terry McMillan, Eric Jerome Dickey, Octavia Butler and many more have been influenced by and have influenced others within the organization.

Founded in Los Angeles in 1974 by Mrs. Edna Crutchfield and other black writers, IBWALA is a network of authors, publishers, visual artists, educators and community members dedicated to making sure our writers and artists are published, read, seen, and heard. We provide workshops and conferences designed to improve skills, knowledge, and career opportunities for artists of all media.

Our organization has also published books including poetry anthologies, "76th & San Pedro" (1976), River Crossings (1988) and "Griots Beneath the Baobab" (2002).

IBWALA is devoted to fulfilling the need for information, resources and services locally and abroad to those who value the unique contributions of writers and artists among the diaspora. Our vision is to expose and recognize writers and artists of color to ensure we are sought as a viable pool of talent -- nationally and internationally.

IBWALA has a consistent source of information and resources as well as providing cultural outlets, scholarships, publishing opportunities and more.

IBWALA celebrates its 30th Anniversary this year.

P.O. Box 43576 Los Angeles, CA 90043
www.ibwala.org

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Contact Press Prep for more information
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30-year-old Writers and Artists Group Unveils Web site

The International Black Writers & Artists of Los Angeles have helped to birth and provide a stage for modern day novelist legends as Terry McMillan, Eric Jerome Dickey and Octavia Butler. The group has been so busy continuing its mission to educate, inspire and publish the writings and artwork of its members and colleagues, that IBWA/LA hasn't been able to create a home on the Web until now.

In light of the information age, and the group's 30th Anniversary Year, IBWA/LA has published a comprehensive Web site for its members and visitors worldwide, offering writing, art and performance events, tips and resources to web surfers located at www.ibwala.org.

The Web site is also going to be the major force behind the group's upcoming annual summer conference and workshop series at the newly dedicated EPICC (Exposition Park Intergenerational Cultural Center) facility in Los Angeles which promises book signings, poetry readings, workshops and a keynote address in the many genres of the arts.

Member and former executive director of the organization, L.A. Hughes said, "the Web site is our re-introduction to the diaspora and it is our hope that we are able to touch many more souls and reconnect with those who we've helped, and who've helped us along the way."

Aside from the usual, the Web site features

- Membership applications
- Links and resources for writers and artists of all genres
- A daily updated calendar of board member, standard member and community-wide events sponsored by IBWA/LA
- An online store for purchasing memberships, event tickets and books published by the organization and a place for organizations and individuals to make donations

For more information about the group, email info@ibwala.org, call 323-964-3721, or send correspondence to: POB 43576, Los Angeles, CA 90043.

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Press Release

Grassroots nonprofit celebrates 30 years in Greater Los Angeles community

International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles hosts anniversary event August 12-14, 2004

Los Angeles, CA, June 26, 2004 : New York Times Bestseller Eric Jerome Dickey, Broadcast personality Tavis Smiley and L.A. Weekly writer Erin Aubry will gather August 12 – 14 to discuss the future of black organizations for readers, writers, artists, educators and activists during the International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles 30th Anniversary Conference and Workshops.

Held at the Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center (EPICC) located at 3980 Menlo Avenue (near Vermont and Martin Luther King Blvd.), the gathering will feature book signings, discussions, workshops, vendors and a closing semi-formal awards dinner and dance banquet honoring Danny Bakewell for his recent acquisition of the *Los Angeles Sentinel* hosted by 94.7 FM The Wave's Pat Prescott.

The conference and workshops will include a panel of non-fiction writers, screenwriters, and will feature a free youth poetry workshop led by "Poetri" from HBO's Def Poetry Jam and Broadway tour and book signing by actress and author T'keyah Crystal Keymah ("In Living Color" and "Cosby").

General admission is free and open to the public which includes the book and health and wellness pavilion, but pre-registration is required. Paid admission to the event includes the Friday night poetry slam, also hosted and featuring "Poetri," Saturday morning continental breakfast, workshops and discussions, and the awards dinner and dance. Admission can be purchased a la carte, or all at once.

IBWALA has been in the community for three decades sponsoring free writers and artists workshops, awarding UCLA Extension scholarships to bone up on skills and has helped birth novelists like Eric Jerome Dickey, screenwriters including Donald Bakeer ("South Central") and has received strong support and mentorship from master's including sci-fi writer and "Genius Award" winner, Octavia Butler ("Parable of the Sower").

For more information or to register, go to www.ibwala.org, or email conference@ibwala.org. You can also call (323) 964.3721.

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Press Release

***New York Times* bestseller to sign books and lead writers workshop**

Eric Jerome Dickey, who releases his 11th novel "Drive Me Crazy" this month, will share the secret to his success

Los Angeles, CA, June 26, 2004: Eric Jerome Dickey, former Crenshaw resident, comedian, substitute teacher and now veteran novelist will share the ups and downs of becoming a successful writer during the International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles 30th Anniversary Conference and Workshops August 12-14, 2004.

Dickey, who releases "Drive Me Crazy" July 20 will sign copies of his novel and participate on a panel featuring publisher/writer Hazel Harrison on the tricks and tools of maintaining a successful writing career under harsh deadlines and publisher's guidelines.

In the late 80s, Dickey was awarded a scholarship by IBWALA to attend UCLA Extension writing courses and soon after wrote his first screenplay "Cappuccino," followed by his first novel, "Sister, Sister." Dickey, also a member of IBWALA, has lent his expertise on several other books including, "Griots Beneath the Baobab: Tales from L.A." which was published by IBWALA in 2002.

IBWALA has been in the community for three decades sponsoring free writers and artists workshops, awarding UCLA Extension scholarships to bone up on skills and has helped birth novelists like Eric Jerome Dickey, screenwriters including Donald Bakeer ("South Central") and has received strong support and mentorship from master's including sci-fi writer and "Genius Award" winner, Octavia Butler ("Parable of the Sower").

In addition to Dickey's workshop, the three-day conference and workshops will also feature:

The conference and workshops will feature:

- *Non-fiction, screenwriting and publishing workshops*
- *Poetry slam hosted by and featuring "Poetri" from HBO's Def Poetry Jam*
- *Free youth poetry workshop led by "Poetri"*

more

- *Health and Wellness pavilion featuring massages, treatments for writers and artists*
- *Book signings featuring T'keyah Crystal Keymah ("In Living Color," "Cosby," and "That's so Raven")*
- *Semi-formal awards dinner dance emceed by 94.7 the Wave's Pat Prescott and the Crenshaw High School Jazz Band led by Al Tarver*
- *Regional vendors featuring African-themed art, clothing and books*

The conference will take place at the Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center at 3980 Menlo Avenue in Los Angeles near Vermont and Martin Luther King. Pre-registration is required for fee and no-fee events. Log onto www.ibwala.org to register or for more information. Or call 323.964.3721.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T'keyah Crystal Keymah, actress, author <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicist Claudio Dellano <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Claudiadellano@yahoo.com ▪ 818-908-5309
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PHOTOS COURTESY JEFF SHAW

TAKEN DURING

IBWALA'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOPS:
WHERE WE WERE, WHERE WE ARE, AND WHERE WE ARE HEADED:

*IS THERE STILL A NECESSITY
FOR BLACK ORGANIZATIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY?*

**AND THERE'S EVEN
MORE ...**

- **MONTHLY MANU-
SCRIPT CRITIQUE
WORKSHOPS**
- ***BLACK EXPRESSIONS*
NEWSLETTER / LITER-
ARY MAGAZINE**
- **UCLA EXTENSION
SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **INFORMATIVE WEB
SITE**
- **AND OPPORTUNITIES
GALORE!**

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International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles

To:

International Black Writers & Artists
Los Angeles



WWW.IBWALA.ORG

International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles

INTERNATIONAL BLACK WRITERS & ARTISTS LOS ANGELES IS A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO, SINCE 1974, HAVE BEEN DEDICATED TO MAKING SURE OUR WRITERS AND ARTISTS ARE READ, SEEN, HEARD AND PUBLISHED.

WHO WE ARE

WE ARE A GROUP OF VOLUNTEER ENTHUSIASTS, EDUCATORS, ASPIRING AND ACCOMPLISHED AUTHORS AND ARTISTS, AND PEOPLE WHO VALUE, APPRECIATE OR ARE INSPIRED BY THE CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND HISTORY ATTRIBUTED TO THE BLACK DIASPORA OR "THE BLACK EXPERIENCE."

WHAT WE DO

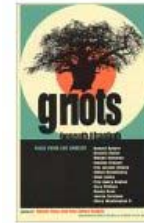
IBWALA PRODUCES FREE OR AFFORDABLE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIUMS AND CONFERENCES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAREER PATHS FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS WHO MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE EXPOSED TO SUCH RESOURCES.

WE PROVIDE ACCESS TO VISUAL, LITERARY AND PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS, BROADENING OUR AUDIENCES AND BROADENING PERSPECTIVES ON THE INTERNATIONAL BLACK EXPERIENCE.

WE PROVIDE MENTORING, SPEAKERS, EVENTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO MOTIVATE YOUTH AND ADULTS TO PURSUE LEARNING, LITERACY AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT.



ANTHOLOGIES WE'VE PUBLISHED INCLUDE *A BLACK VIEW OF THE BICENTENNIAL* (1976); *76TH & SAN PEDRO* (1984); *RIVER CROSSINGS: VOICES OF THE DIASPORA* (1994); AND *GRIOTS BENEATH THE BAOBOB: TALES FROM LOS ANGELES* (2002).



OTHER ACTIVITIES OF IBWALA HAVE INCLUDED SPONSORING WRITING AND ART COMPETITIONS, CURATING AND EXHIBITING ART SHOWS, PRODUCING AND STAGING SPOKEN WORD FESTIVALS, ORGANIZING THEATER PARTIES, AND CREATING OTHER VENUES FOR INTEGRATED OR COOPERATIVE PRODUCTIONS AND PERFORMANCES (INVOLVING WRITERS, VISUAL ARTISTS, SPOKEN WORD ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, DANCERS, CRAFT PERSONS, ETC.)

ARCHIVAL PHOTOS FROM THROUGHOUT
IBWALA'S 30 YEAR TENURE

