



# KUUMBA STORYTELLERS OF GEORGIA

## Kuumba 2023 Affiliate Report

Submitted by Kuumba President – Chetter M. Galloway

In 2023, Kuumba continued its partnerships and participation in community activities. Our organization had a combination of both live and virtual programs. In the following pages, are the highlights from yet another successful year of us telling it well in the A-T-L!

Some activities included:

Josie Bailey and Renee Brown attending the Black Storytelling Residency in Wilmington, DE.

Kuumba Ramblers, Deborah Strahorn, Christine ArinzeSamuel, Josie Bailey, Gwendolyn J. Napier, and Chetter Galloway sharing stories every Saturday at The Wrens Nest.

LaDoris Bias-Davis, Gloria Elder, Deborah Strahorn, Renee Spratling, Vincent Cheeks, John Doyle, and Chetter Galloway took part in Capturing the Spirit of Oakland at Historic Oakland Cemetery, portraying the lives of its Black Residents buried there.

Kuumba youth aka The Tattle Tales, told at several virtual programs and conducted a Youth Storytelling Workshop at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Georgia Storytelling Festival.

Kuumba Members plan on attending the annual NABS Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

In December, Kuumba's annual Pre-Kwanzaa celebration will be sponsored with support by the The Delta Community Credit Union.

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E-mail: [info@kuumbastorytellers.org](mailto:info@kuumbastorytellers.org)

Web: [www.kuumbastorytellers.org](http://www.kuumbastorytellers.org)

Facebook: Kuumba Do-Tell

## Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia Mission Statement

To preserve the African oral tradition, provide awareness on the cultural history of African and African American people, and to serve as an educational resource for the community.



# STORY SWAP

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023  
2PM-4PM EST ONLINE**

**STORIES OF ALL GENRES WELCOME!  
NINE MINUTES OR LESS**

**REGISTER AT:  
[TINYURL.COM/KUUMBASWAP2023](https://tinyurl.com/kuumbaswap2023)**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[KUUMBASTORYTELLERS.ORG](https://kuumbastorytellers.org)  
[INFO@KUUMBASTORYTELLERS.ORG](mailto:info@kuumbastorytellers.org)**





# OF GEORGIA KUUMBA STORYTELLERS

*Presents The 22nd Annual Historical Black Portraits*

## Treasures of Greatness

**Sunday, February 19th**

**3PM - 5PM LIVE!**

**Southwest Arts Center (Black Box Theater)**

**915 New Hope Road SW | South Fulton, GA 30331 | 404-613-3220**

**Get Tickets \$25 at [kuumbatreasures2023.eventbrite.com](https://kuumbatreasures2023.eventbrite.com)**



**Featuring: Chetter Galloway, Marsha Holden, LaDoris Bias-Davis, Esther Culver,  
Quinn Allen-Smith, Christine B. ArinzeSamuel, Brenda Griffin, and Vincent Cheeks  
The Drum Company – Brad Mason & Brother Yusef Crowder**

***Youth Under 7 Free***



***Youth Ages (8 to 17) - \$10***

**For more information – [info@kuumbastorytellers.org](mailto:info@kuumbastorytellers.org) or 404-698-3455**

**Visit us at [kuumbastorytellers.org](https://kuumbastorytellers.org) (Program subject to change)**



Seating and other accommodations to patrons with disabilities are available. Requests for special accommodations must be made at least 48 hours in advance by calling Fulton County Arts and Culture 404.613.3220





ANDRE DICKENS  
MAYOR



## CITY OF ATLANTA

55 TRINITY AVE. S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-0300  
TEL (404) 330-6100

February 19, 2023

Greetings:

As the 61<sup>st</sup> Mayor of Atlanta, it is my pleasure to congratulate The Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia during the 22<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Historical Black Portraits Program*.

The City of Atlanta is proud to be home to a vibrant cultural community full of talented groups of individuals such as yourselves. For more than 25 years, your organization has worked to preserve and celebrate the African cultural history of our communities.

I am grateful for your participation in the 2022 Atlanta Jazz Festival, produced by the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs. Your professional and inspiring storytellers have entertained and educated residents and visitors at Atlanta's schools, festivals, museums, and much more. It is an honor to recognize your sensational efforts and celebrate your achievements during this event.

On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I extend best wishes for a memorable occasion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andre Dickens", written in a cursive style.

Mayor Andre Dickens



# Auburn Avenue Research Library On African American Culture and History

A Special Library of the Fulton County Library System

## STORYTELLING EVENT



## Tales from the Stacks

### A Storytelling Tribute to Akbar Imhotep

Featured tellers include Gwendolyn Napier;  
Jerry G. White, Esther Culver, Ladoris Davis  
and Mama Koku



**3:00 PM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023**

In collaboration with Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia, the Auburn Avenue Research Library will host Tales from the Stacks: A Storytelling Tribute to Akbar Imhotep.

Honoring the legacy of a renowned master storyteller, poet, and puppeteer Akbar Imhotep, this event will feature local storytellers who will celebrate the rich oral tradition of storytelling rooted in African culture and history and the lived experiences of Black people.

Akbar Imhotep was a revered master storyteller and community activist based in Atlanta, Georgia. Akbar was born on December 22, 1951, in Perry, Georgia, and graduated from Houston High School in 1969, and went on to receive his B.A. in Liberal Arts from Paine College (1973). His artistic journey began in 1975 when an interest in poetry led him to Neighborhood Arts Center in Atlanta. Under the tutelage of Ebon Dooley.

In addition to his work as an artist, Akbar Imhotep made great contributions as a community activist in Atlanta. His affiliations past and present include Metro Atlanta Kwanzaa Association (MAKA); Atlanta Area Toastmasters, Universal African American Peoples Organization, National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS) and Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia.

Citizens needing reasonable accommodations due to a disability, including communications in an alternate format, please contact Gloria Strong, at 404.613.4010 or by email at [gloria.strong@fultoncountygga.gov](mailto:gloria.strong@fultoncountygga.gov).  
For TDD/TTY or Relay Access: dial 711.  
[www.afpls.org/aarl404.613.4010](http://www.afpls.org/aarl404.613.4010)

### Presented in collaboration with



101 Auburn Ave NE,  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404.613.4010

THIS PROGRAM IS FREE AND  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



## Kuumba Ramblers at The Wrens Nest!







## Genealogy Workshop & Book Discussion

### *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi

A novel spanning 8 generations from the slave trade to the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Presented by **Dr. Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr.**

**March 4, 2023**

**11:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**West Mitchell St. CME Church**

**560 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Atlanta**

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest

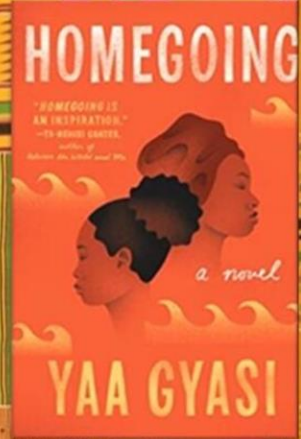





KUUMBA STORYTELLERS  
OF GEORGIA

NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT <sup>for the</sup> **ARTS**  
 **BIG READ**  
Managed by Arts Midwest

[arts.gov/neabigread](http://arts.gov/neabigread)



  
**Shrine  
of the Black  
Madonna**  
Cultural Center & Bookstore  
*Serving the Community Since 1970*

**MEDU**  
BOOKSTORE

Thank You  
To our  
Community  
Partners

*West End Readers  
Book Club*



Hillside International Truth Center Book Lovers Book Club

  
**BOOK LOVERS  
MINISTRY**

Reading Spirits  
Book Club

  
**Chick-fil-A**



GWINNETT COUNTY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY



# Personal Stories n3d



## **Everybody Has a Story to Tell!**

**Learn how to imagine, write, and expand your personal narrative into three parts.**

**Join Deborah the Storyteller to create a "Trilogy of Stories," that evoke emotion, touch the spirit, and resonates with audiences.**

**Start your personal journey.**

**Saturday, April 8, 2023 2pm-4pm EST**

**Virtual Workshop - \$20**

**REGISTER AT [STORIESN3D.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.storiesn3d.eventbrite.com)**



**KUUMBA STORYTELLERS  
OF GEORGIA**

**FOR ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT  
[INFO@KUUMBASTORYTELLERS.ORG](mailto:info@kuumbastorytellers.org)  
[KUUMBASTORYTELLERS.ORG](https://www.kuumbastorytellers.org)**



Our combined program honoring fathers and mothers!



# KUUMBA STORYTELLERS OF GEORGIA

**Kings and Queens**  
**The winds beneath our wings!**



**Sunday, June 11th 3pm - 5pm EST**  
**A Virtual Storytelling Extravaganza**  
**Tickets \$15**  
**[kuumbakingsandqueens.eventbrite.com](http://kuumbakingsandqueens.eventbrite.com)**

  <b>Gloria Elder</b>	  <b>Tre Thomas</b>	  <b>Laila Thomas</b>
 <b>Mama Linda Goss</b>	 <b>Kory T. May</b>	 <b>Marsha Holden</b>
 <b>Vanora Legeaux</b>	 <b>Barry Stewart Mann</b>	 <b>Esther Culver</b>

[kuumbastorytellers.org](http://kuumbastorytellers.org)



## Mayor's Summer Reading Club!



## Kuumba in the Community for Juneteenth 2023!







OF GEORGIA

# KUUMBA STORYTELLERS

Professional Development Workshop

Facilitator Ilene Evans

Saturday, August 12th 2PM-4PM EDT On ZOOM


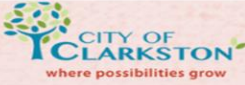
Tickets are \$20 at [kuumbaworkshop.eventbrite.com](https://kuumbaworkshop.eventbrite.com)



We will focus on building layers for our presentations of historical figures and breathing life into the portrayals of your ancestors.

For more information on Ilene Evans visit her website at [vfte.org](https://vfte.org)

Once again, Kuumba partners with CDF Community Action!




# 10TH ANNUAL CLARKSTON TELL ME A STORY FESTIVAL

Children's Cultural, Language,  
and Literacy Celebration

SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 19, 2023  
11AM - 3PM

GEORGIA PIEDMONT TECHNICAL  
COLLEGE  
CONFERENCE CENTER  
495 N Indian Creek Dr,  
Clarkston, GA 30021

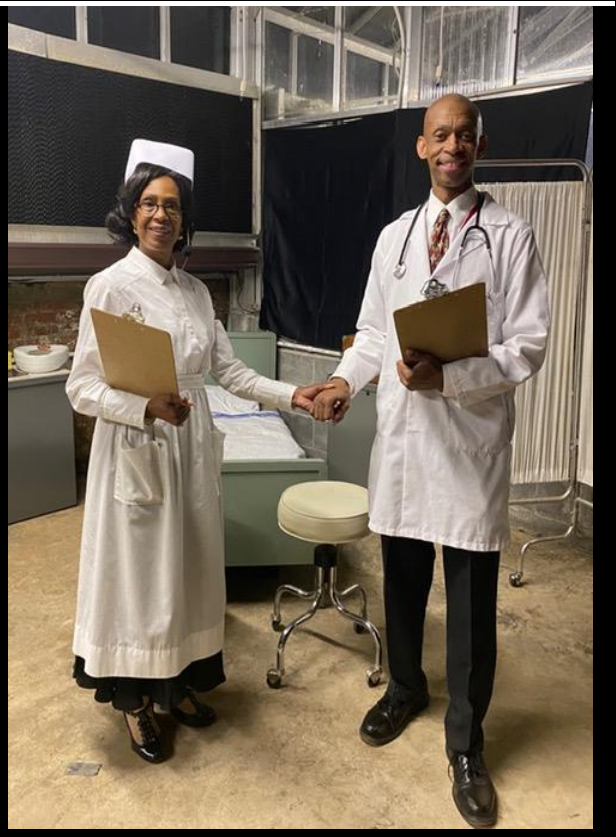
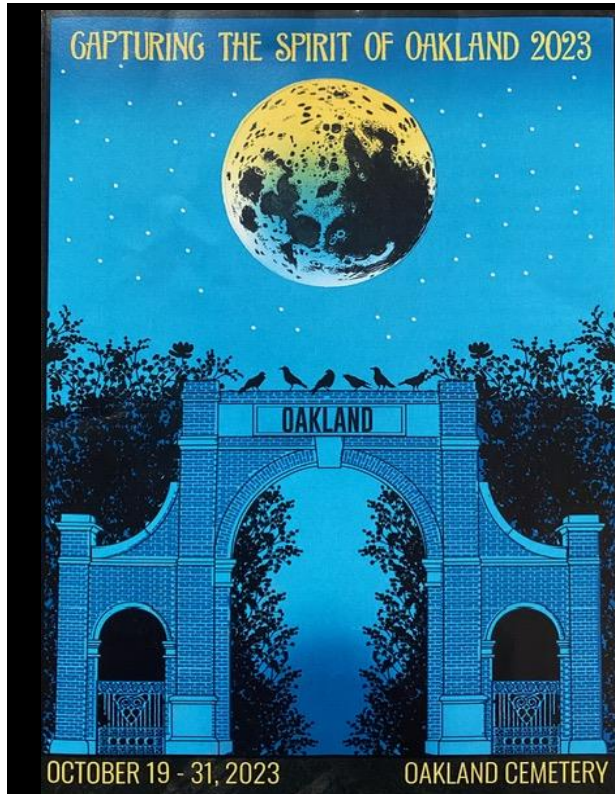


<https://cdfaction.org/>





## Kuumba Members Portraying Residents of Oakland Cemetery!





 KUUMBA STORYTELLERS  
OF GEORGIA

# Kwanzaa FUSION

 *a storytelling & drumming workshop*

**Saturday, Dec. 16 | FREE!**  
1:30 - 4:30 PM  
ArtsXchange, 2148 Newnan St.  
East Point, GA 30344  
[info@kuumbastorytellers.org](mailto:info@kuumbastorytellers.org) | [kuumbastorytellers.org](http://kuumbastorytellers.org)

 Delta Community  
CREDIT UNION

