

# Houston ISD presents Brother 2 Brother Literary Symposium

October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Houston, Texas

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## Project Scope

The human condition has lost one of its most valuable resources; exploration within ourselves through the use of fiction novels. Some of the greatest observations of our lives are recorded in history by scribes such as Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, and James Baldwin. Fiction novels were once revered as a creative journey into the mind of readers. Somewhere, somehow that journey has diminished. It's time to get back on the road.

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## The Plight

For the fifth year, a collection of African-American fiction writers has organized what will be a significant gathering in literary history. Concerned about the downward trend of African-American fiction readers, the group is structuring and conducting a symposium to address concerns. Instead of convening to talk about problems, the meeting will produce a specific agenda and issues that charge African-American fiction writers to be progressive in their communities. In order to have a lasting impression on current and future readers, it is vital that the symposium become a collective effort of the community, booksellers, educators, and literary enthusiasts. Fiction reading is that intricate combination of imagination and consciousness. It must grow.



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## Overview

**Location:** 3100 Cleburne, Houston, TX 77004

**Venue:** TSU University [www.tsu.edu](http://www.tsu.edu)

**Duration:** Two Days (Friday and Saturday)

**Date:** October 3-4, 2008. Fri. 8:30-2:30/Sat. 10-3:00

**Expected Participation:** (1200+ readers, 25 writers)

**Admission:** Free & open to the public.

**Hotel:** Marriott Houston Hobby Hotel  
9100 Gulf Freeway, 77017  
713-943-7979 Ofc.

**Rate:** \$89.00 per night

**Funding:** Sponsorships & Grants are being sought to cover the cost of speakers and participants.

**Incentives:** To reignite the passion of fiction reading, African-American male writers will donate 30 copies of their books, which will be given to attendees at no cost.

**Donations can be sent to:**

**The Brother 2 Brother Literary Symposium – B2BLS**

c/o Vincent Alexandria

P.O. BOX 752481

Houston, TX 77275

**You will be sent a tax deductible letter with our 501 C-3 number for your donation.**

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## Symposium Format

The attendees may participate in each segment.

### **Panel Discussion:**

Moderated panels comprised of fiction writers and literary leaders will address various issues such as:

**-Why is the drop out rate 50% for Black males and 37% for Black females?**

**-How do we work with the school to get the most for our children?**

**Keynote Speakers: Pastor Rudy Rasmus, (Fri.) Bill Grace, Educator pioneer and activist (Sat.)**

### **Authors:**

Travis Hunter, Omar Tyree, Vincent Alexandria, Tracy Grant, William Cooper, Arlether Wilson, Steve Perry, Earl Sewell, Nancy Gilliam, Victor McGlothlin, MW Moore, Conrad Prophet, Tiffany Cherry, Andrew Ryan, Eric Pete, Marc Lacy, Dionne Character, Tonya Evans-Walls, Hotep, Phaedra Ridley, Kyle Turner, Nancy Gilliam, Dr. Moe Anderson, Alana Sanders, Nina Foxx, Thomas Brooks, Ronald Gauthier, Cherry Wood, Darryl Johnson, Tina McKinney, W. Eric Croomes, Sydelle Thomas, Dwight Fryer, Stephanie Dawson, DaShawn Taylor, Dr. John Caldwell, Tiffany Cherry, Cheryl Donovan, Cederick Tardy, Troy Johnson, Angela Anderson, Dreason Ruckett, Sydelle Richards, Sylvia Hubbard and Chris Howell.

### **Moderators:**

Dr. Allen Barhamsr, Tia Ross, Sybil Wilkes, Mike Payne, Sara Freeman-Smith, Janie Bess, Dana Pittman, Enrique Wiggins, Stephanie Williams and Tony Rose.

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## Involvement

Your business or organization can become a part of this important endeavor. Sponsorships are welcomed and can be forwarded to the appropriate coordinator. Please contact the following coordinator for sponsorships and authors please forward donated books to:

[raychone1@yahoo.com](mailto:raychone1@yahoo.com), [www.myspace.com/brother2brothersymposium](http://www.myspace.com/brother2brothersymposium) or [www.b2bls.com](http://www.b2bls.com) (Nia Promotions)

**Brother 2 Brother Literary Symposium c/o Vincent Alexandria**

816-914-1560