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Education, Features, Book Reviewers

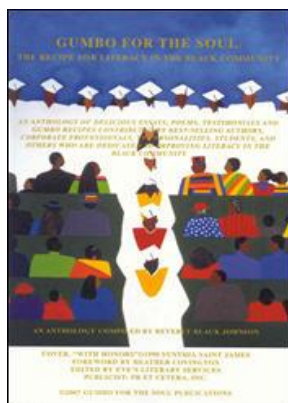
**“Gumbo for the Soul” Anthology Compiler Beverly Black Johnson
Discusses Sources for Education Grants and Scholarships
“Black Renaissance” – Sunday, August 10th / 8:00 a.m.**

SAN JOSE, CA – AUGUST 2008 – Beverly Black Johnson--founder of Gumbo for the Soul Scholarship Awareness Program and compiler of the award-winning anthology *Gumbo for the Soul: The Recipe for Literacy in the Black Community*--is a staunch advocate for education. Appearing on the San Francisco Bay Area community awareness program "Black Renaissance," Johnson will interview with psychologist and program host Dr. Brenda Wade. As the new school season is approaching, Johnson shares information about sources for college and university grants and scholarships. In the interview, she touches briefly on Gumbo's mission, and discusses the student/parent workshops she offers to help in the application of and providing sources for grants and scholarships. The segment will air Sunday, August 10, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. on KBCW Bay Area Cable 12.



Beverly Black Johnson

Johnson brought along her daughter Keyanna, who was the first in her family to graduate from college. During the program, Keyanna performed "Bridgin' the Gap," a spoken word selection that was published as a poetry piece in *Gumbo for the Soul: The Recipe for Literacy in the Black Community*.



*Gumbo for the Soul:
The Recipe for Literacy in
the Black Community*

Gumbo for the Soul: The Recipe for Literacy in the Black Community is a compilation of delicious poetry, essays, quotes, and personal reflectional accounts of life experiences that involve adversity, obstacles, perseverance and determination, while imparting wisdom, love, and courage--along with assorted savory gumbo recipes.

Gumbo for the Soul: the Recipe for Literacy in the Black Community

Compiled by *Beverly Black Johnson*

iUniverse, Inc./Gumbo for the Soul Publications

April 2007

ISBN: 0-595-42907-6, paperback

308 pp., \$24.95 U.S., non-fiction

Book cover by *Synthia Saint James*

Foreword by *Heather Covington*

PRAISE FOR "GUMBO FOR THE SOUL" ANTHOLOGY:

"Gumbo for the Soul" dares to call it like it is. This serving of Gumbo is a must-read for every parent, teacher, mentor, and all who believe it is important that our children can read and comprehend the English language."

Tavis Smiley, Author, Television and Radio Host

"Gumbo for the Soul" tells African-Americans exactly what the recipe for a good life is ... It is inspirational, uplifting, and recommended for people of all ages, colors and aspirations."

Alice Holman, The RAWSISTAZ Reviewers

The book's inspiration properties make it quite suitable and highly recommended for youth, as well as adults. It is available online now at www.BarnesandNoble.com. Following the publication of the celebrated anthology, Gumbo for the Soul Publications amassed a host of people of notoriety to coalesce on planned future offerings in the *Gumbo for the Soul* anthology series:

Bruce George—talented poet and writer, entrepreneur, activist, Def Poetry Jam co-founder, and Peabody Award winner—signed on with Gumbo for the Soul Publications as Director of Business Development.

Nikki Giovanni—world-renowned poet, writer, commentator, activist, and educator—will pen the foreword for the future offering in the "Gumbo for the Soul" anthology series: *Gumbo for the Soul: Celebrity Moms*. The book will be a special tribute to all mothers, consisting of literary contributions from mothers of celebrities and moms who are celebrities in their own right.

Tee C. Royal—literary agent and founder of R.A.W. SISTAZ (Reading and Writing SISTAZ) Literary Group—penned the foreword for the second offering in the "Gumbo for the Soul" anthology series *"Here's Our Child, Where's the Village?"* This book will focus on heightening awareness of the many children awaiting adoption.

Synthia SAINT JAMES—award-winning artist, author, songwriter, and Kwanzaa postage stamp designer—is official book cover artist for the "Gumbo for the Soul" anthology series.

Sheron 'Umi' Smith—renown motivational speaker, spoken word poet, co-chair of the 2007 National Association of Black Female Executives in Music and Entertainment, Inc. International Women's Leadership Summit, and mother of rapper/actor Mos Def—has taken on the role of lead compiler for future anthology *"Gumbo for the Soul: Celebrity Moms"* for which Giovanni will pen the foreword.

THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARENESS PROGRAM:

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the anthologies will support the "Gumbo for the Soul" Scholarship Awareness Program, a 501(c)(3) public service initiative developed by mother and education advocate Beverly Black Johnson. To learn more about the literacy, sources for grants and scholarships, and other supported causes, please visit www.gumboforthesoul.net. Corporate and organizational sponsorships are welcome.

PUBLISHER SOUGHT:

The first self-published anthology in the planned series is an overwhelming, award-winning success. However, future *Gumbo for the Soul* anthologies are open to publishing house proposals. If interested in bringing the exceptional works to fruition, and sharing in their respective success, call 408-963-3250 or email GumboForTheSoul@yahoo.com.

Gumbo for the Soul Publications has an open "call for submissions" for future anthologies. Please visit www.gumboforthesoul.com for details.

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