



african evening in annapolis

september 26th, 2010

from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

program

friends and stories project

presentation of the new project
of Social Integration and Community Development Association

african poets sola owonibi and tayo olafioye

poems read by sola owonibi and chris haley, actor

african rhythms

live african music and songs by lauren kelly-washington, singer

african stories

sharing african tales by diane macklin, storyteller

african cuisine

tasting of african teas, coffees (Baltimore Tea and Coffee Co., Inc.) and pastries

african books

presentation of african shelf, books and authors

book signing

by sarian bouma 'welfare to millionaire: heart of a winner'

The Annapolis Bookstore, 35 Maryland Avenue

this indoors event is free and open to the public (number of seats is limited)

program subject to change, more details on the back, please [RSVP](#)

The African Evening in Annapolis is a part of the **Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival** organized every year in Annapolis, MD since 23 years. What makes this year special is the fact that in September 2010, seventeen African countries are celebrating 50th anniversary of their independence.

Friends and Stories Project has originated from within Social Integration and Community Development Association, with its primary goal to unite (befriend) people around meaningful ideas presented in stories told by art, literature, by whole culture of a community. It promotes and facilitates intercultural understanding and enriching.



African Sankofa symbol is similar to the eastern symbol of a heart, and is that of a bird with its head turned backwards taking an egg off its back. It symbolizes one taking from the past what is good and bringing it into the present in order to make positive progress through the benevolent use of knowledge. Adinkra symbols are used by the Akan people of Ghana to express proverbs and other philosophical ideas.

From the program (order of appearance subject to change):

Sola Owonibi's 'Nightsun' is, according to Nigerian critics, a portrait of consciousness. It is a new additional mint to the collections of the third generation's rhapsodies, armored with contemporariety, lucidity and cultural intimacies or equivocations. Put simply, Nightsun is a recording of the movements of the mind of the wise, the clerk of time, the eagle-eyed observant, the sentinel of places, the literary monk of humanity who writes not only for the present but also for the beckoning beyond.

Tayo "Peter" Olafioye, professor, prolific poet and social critic. His musings on the human condition have made him a best-selling author in his native Nigeria. He has won prizes for his volumes of poetry, which include Sorrows of a Town Crier (1988) and Bush Girl Comes to Town (1988). His other publications include The Excellence of Silence, The Saga of Sego (1982) and two works of literary criticism: Responses to Creativity (1988) and critic as Terrorist: Views on New African Writings (1989).

Chris Haley is currently Director of Research for the Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland at the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis and 2010 marks his 5th year as Executive Director of the Utopia Film Festival held in Greenbelt, Maryland. He received his Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Maryland, College Park. He has served on several Boards among which have been the Historic London Town Foundation, the Jake Savage Foundation and the Annapolis Arts Alliance Foundation. His script for the 2004 The 'Reconciliation Walk For Slavery And Penitence' held in Annapolis that fall helped garner the Maryland Tourism Council Global Marketing Award for the Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Foundation.

Lauren Kelly-Washington Lauren Kelly-Washington (BA Ethnic Studies) founder of Blis* Moves™ *(Body Language is Somatic), has shared her passion for dance and music for nearly 2 decades by studying and performing dance forms such as The Nia Technique™, modern, African, Haitian and Middle Eastern. Lauren has also studied a variety of choral and traditional music from the African Diaspora and Eastern Europe. Her earthy alto voice captures the sacred nature of this music. You may catch Lauren in and around the Annapolis area performing at churches, festivals or private events. She has recently completed her much anticipated solo CD, With Open Arms, a unique collection of music guiding you on a journey through the African Diaspora. Lauren has a reputation as an open and loving teacher who is gifted at the art of inviting her students to explore their joy and full potential.

Acclaimed storyteller, **Diane Macklin**, captivates the young and old with her dancing hands, lyrical voice, and high energy. Her engaging style is charming as well as delightful. Diane is also a Certified Educator, Actress, Historian, Lecturer, as well as a Conflict Resolution and Multicultural Mediator. She has performed, led workshops, and conducted residencies nationally. As an American storyteller, telling in the African "griot" tradition, her work inspires...HOPE, PEACE, JUSTICE...through world folktales and creative personal narratives.

'Welfare to Millionaire: Heart of a Winner' presents the incredible true story of **Sarian Bouma**, a phenomenal woman who went from being a homeless mother on welfare to being the owner of a multimillion dollar corporation. Ms. Bouma shares her journey, recounting her challenges and obstacles, failures and successes, and disasters and triumphs. She talks about new goals and dreams with humor, warmth, and honesty. The book outlines ways that Ms. Bouma was able to break through the glass ceiling as a minority business woman.



Social Integration and Community Development Association is a non-profit organization with mission to promote social development to improve quality of life of people belonging to local communities and to promote sustainable human development in the areas of health, education, social integration, social culture and social competence.

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