

SDCCD Celebrates Black History Month

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Black Storytelling - A Virtual Family Affair

Gwendolyn Chamberlain & Linda Brown • Wednesday, February 10, 2021

11:00am - 12:00pm • via Zoom

Two renowned, local storytellers share stories of the Black Family as it relates to resilience, unity, love, and some personal, lived-experiences. These stories, written by these amazing storytellers, will perhaps move you to smile, laugh, contemplate, relate, and even celebrate the wonderful, individualistic folkways of the Black Family.

Folktale-style stories, stories of finding love, stories of “back in the day” good-old times, and stories of not-so-good times.

We will also share with you some amazing poetry readings by renowned authors. Enjoy!



Gwen Thompson-Chamberlain is a “Child of Freedom” - She was born in Meridian, MS and spent her formative years there before moving to San Diego more than 40 years ago. Gwen was an eye-witness to and was an active participant in the Civil Rights Movement in Meridian during the mid- 1960’s. She and several of her siblings were also students in the infamous “Freedom Schools” and are the subjects of a few books written regarding “Freedom Summer” (1964). Gwen’s love for storytelling was born from her many lived experiences during the Civil Rights Movement.

Sistah Gwen has also been a community activist, student/parent advocate and Community Outreach Specialist serving adults and children in several school districts.; she co-chaired SDCCD-CE’s Diversity Committee; and ECC’s Annual Black History Program.

She has more than 30 years’ experience as an educator/facilitator with a diverse population of students in the Southeastern San Diego community. Sistah Gwen is a recent retiree from San Diego Community College District Continuing Ed. (CalWORKs Program).



Linda Brown is one of the founding members of the Black Storytellers of San Diego, an organization dedicated to keeping the oral story telling tradition alive. She has been performing for over twenty years at San Diego County schools, colleges and libraries, as well as the Mingei Museum, the Museum of Art, the Museum of Photographic Arts in Balboa Park and The Saint Francis Chapel at the San Diego Museum of Man.

She is a retired Special Needs Instructional Assistant (Sweetwater Union School District) and spends her free time writing, quilting, sewing, working in her garden and volunteering at her church and at the Malcolm X Library as a preschool storyteller. Linda’s favorite stories to tell are those that teach, entertain and sometimes make you think. It is her belief that we all have a story to tell and we must each tell our own story before someone else does and they won’t get it right.

Join us here:

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/95477981637>

Contact for additional information

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For disability-related accommodations, please contact Jamila DeCarli at jdecarli@sdccd.edu at least 5 days in advance to make your request.



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