

Come On Home!

To The Romance Slam Jam
THE Event for Readers and Authors of Black Romance



You are cordially invited to attend the Romance Slam Jam to be held in Chicago IL
April 30, 2008 - May 4, 2008.

August 2007, Newsletter

Greetings from the Chi-Town R.A.W. Sistaz and your Romance Slam Jam 2008 host authors!

INTRODUCTIONS

We are about romance, romance, romance and more romance. We can't get enough of Black romance novels. With that in mind, allow me to introduce you to debut romance author LaConnie Taylor-Jones. Her novel *When I'm With You* hits the bookshelves in November. Take note and let's support a future favorite author!

Each month I'd like to introduce debut romance authors to the community. So if your first book (romance) hits the shelves in 2007 or will be hitting the shelves before the Romance Slam Jam Conference 2008, let me know deatri@romanceslamjam.org.

MORE AUTHORS!

LaConnie Taylor-Jones, Rochelle Alers, and Tracee L. Garner have decided to attend RSJ 2008 YEAH! This is really shaping up to be some event!

VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested on lending a helping hand at the conference, please email volunteers@romanceslamjam.org. We will be needing people to read bios, keep the workshops and reader sessions on track (time wise), help stuff bags, give out gifts...

PATRON SUPPORT

We are going to have some serious goodies in our tote bags this year. The Romance Slam Jam 2008 committee would like to thank Michele Quick for such nice samples (you'll have to come to the conference to see ☺). Please support our fellow romance reader by visiting her Avon and Mary Kay sites at: <http://www.marykay.com/mquick21> and <http://www.youravon.com/mquick>.

To keep registration fees low, we must raise funds. Please consider taking out an ad in the program or becoming a patron by giving a monetary donation or tote bag trinkets. For more information on how to support the Romance Slam Jam Conference, email me at deatri@romanceslamjam.org.

EMMA AWARDS

The Emma Awards needs YOU. This year's Emma Awards are being run differently. Judges are needed. You love romance, I love romance, we all love romance. Why not be a judge for the Emma's? Please visit the website for details.

REGISTRATION

Registration started last month and things are moving smoothly. Those of you who have attended the Romance Slam Jam Conference previously will notice a few enhancements such as the Intimate Sessions. Another enhancement is paying with a credit card. Yep, you may now pay the registration fee and order extra event tickets with a credit card using the secure service PayPal. The fees are slightly higher when using PayPal because of the associated processing fees we must cover. The link to pay using PayPal is:

If you'd like information about PayPal, please go directly to their site at <http://www.paypal.com>

If you pay using PayPal, don't forget to snail mail or email your registration form(s) in. Here's the link to the MS Word version: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RomanceSlamJamNews/files>

Also, a few have asked about setting up a payment plan for registration. Yes we are allowing individuals to pay registration in installments, but we can not do that for groups. When you snail mail in a partial payment, make sure you always use the same name and email address in the memo or on a note so we can credit the correct account.

INTIMATE SESSIONS

Three more of our authors have been added to the Intimate Sessions! If you've already sent in your registration and choices for Intimate Sessions, but would like to change your Intimate Session selection, email me at deatri@romanceslamjam.org and let me know.

Alice Wootson, AlTonya Washington, Beverly Jenkins, Deirdre Savoy, Donna Hill, Evelyn Palfrey, **Francis Ray**, Gloria Mallette, Gwyneth Bolton, Gwynne Forster, **Kimberly Kaye Terry**, Kim Louise, Marilyn Tyner, Mary B. Morrison, **Rochelle Alers**, Seressia Glass, Shelia Goss, Wayne Jordan

MEMORY BOOK

Y'all know I always save my favorite part for last. Entries for the memory book have slowed down. Don't be scared. Readers, authors, we want to hear from you.

First up we have Debra Owsley. If you attended RSJ2006, you may remember her by her fantastic bookmarks. Next up we have another great author, Michelle Monkou.

Romance Slam Jam 2007

I attended my first Romance Slam Jam in 2007. I had a fabulous time hanging out with my favorite people, authors. I was there selling my thongs—LOL—book thongs.

The Romance Slam Jam authors were the warmest, funniest, kindest, down to earth people I have ever met—in spite of my groupie tendencies—LOL

Terry McMillan was also surprising, very, very cool. What a fabulous sister.

The inner elevation from the Written Word Book Club Adrienne McSweeney and Tisha Hill did was phenomenal. They treated me so well that I was humbled by their kindness.

Yes, If I sound like I was on cloud nine, it's because I WAS!

I'm grateful to have had this experience. Thank you to all who were involved. Thank you a million times.

The First Time

My first Romance Slam Jam was in March 2002 in Durham, North Carolina. Celeste Norfleet and I made the road trip from Maryland/Virginia with high hopes and excitement because we were celebrating that year as newly published authors. Jacquelin Thomas was the host author for the event. She and her committee did a fantastic job of making the authors feel welcomed and special. Since this was my first interaction with my potential readers, I was amazed at the warm welcome of so many avid readers when I only had bookmarks and postcards to distribute. I was also proud to see Celeste sign her debut novel, launching her prolific career. Another first for me was a late night trip to Waffle House with two editors. To all my sister authors, loyal readers, and to my buddy - Celeste, thank you for making that first trip to Romance Slam Jam memorable. -- Michelle Monkou

I'm back! Send your submission to deatri@romanceslamjam.org. A few topics are: Your first RSJ experience. Why you attend the RSJ. Your most memorable moment at the RSJ. Your favorite part of the RSJ. Why you believe the RSJ is so important... To be included in the Memory Book, please send your entry to deatri@romanceslamjam.org. Your article/snippet should have a relaxed feel to it and tie into the Romance Slam Jam. The length can be anywhere from one line to one page. For those of you who feel apprehensive about submitting, thinking you aren't a professional author... this is all in the family. Don't worry, send your piece on. We'll help you clean it up. SMILE. Each newsletter I'll try to include an entry or two for your viewing pleasure. If you don't see yours this month, it may be in next month. I'm placing them in the order I receive them.

Thank You

That's it. Register early and spread the word about the Romance Slam Jam Conference! The updated registration form is below.

See you at the SLAM JAM!

The website will be updated in the next week or so:

<http://www.romanceslamjamconference.com>

Bookmark the website. This URL will be used in the coming years for the RSJ conference.

Please forward the newsletter.

If you were forwarded this newsletter, you can sign up for it at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RomanceSlamJamNews/>

Romance Slam Jam 2008 Conference Registration Form

Please fill out this form for everyone registering and mail all forms and payments together.

Actual Name: _____ **Contact No.:** _____

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Please Check One: Reader Published Author Agent Editor Publisher

Published authors, please select which reader connection opportunities you'd like to participate in:

Reader Session Book Signing What day will you arrive at the RSJ? _____

If you are conducting a workshop, what is the title? _____

Note: Registration fee for Workshop Facilitators is \$150

Name For Badge: _____

Your Website Address: _____

T-Shirt Size: Med Large X-Large XX-Large

Emma Awards Banquet Meal Selection: Please check one

Top Sirloin Steak & Chicken Filet & Shrimp Vegetarian meal

Conference Fees:

Group Registration (5 or more): \$175 per person
Deadline December 31, 2007

Early-bird Registration: \$200
Deadline: December 31, 2007

*Workshop Facilitators: \$150
Deadline: December 31, 2007

Regular Registration: \$225
Deadline: February 28, 2008

Late Registration: \$250
After 28 February, 2008

Extra Emma Awards Banquet Tickets: \$100 each

Extra Keynote Luncheon Tickets: \$50 each

Extra Mr. Romance Slam Jam/FNB Tickets: \$10 each

Chicago Transit Authority one-day Visitor Pass: \$5 each

Quantity	Cost
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Would you like to be an Emma Awards Judge?
Yes No

Would you like to be an Emma Awards Alternate Judge?
Yes No

Please refer to the website for Emma Awards Judge details.

If you are bringing a guest to the Emma Awards Banquet, Luncheon, or Mr. Romance Slam Jam Competition, make sure to purchase extra tickets for the events they will be attending.

Please note the Mr. Romance contest is under works. If we do not have the contest, we will have a fun filled Friday Night Bash

Please tally your total cost _____

Quantity of extra Banquet meals: Sirloin Steak & Chicken Filet & Shrimp Vegetarian Meal

Make Money Order or Cashiers Check out to **Romance Slam Jam** and mail it to:
Romance Slam Jam
C/O Deatri King-Bey
P.O. Box 822
Tolleson, AZ 85353

Sorry, no personal checks. Registration and extra event tickets are non-refundable.

Intimate Sessions

Send in your choices for Intimate Session with your registration form

Intimate Sessions are your opportunity to have a more personal setting to hang out with your favorite author(s). These sessions will be conducted in the Presidential Suite and light hors d'oeuvre will be served. Intimate Sessions are limited to ten attendees for each author of the hour.

We are doing first come first serve with the Intimate Sessions for people who have registered for the conference. To give as many people as possible the chance to attend an Intimate Session, we can only allow one Intimate Session per attendee until the slots are full.

Intimate Session Authors:

Alice Wootson, AlTonya Washington, Beverly Jenkins, Deirdre Savoy, Donna Hill, Evelyn Palfrey, Francis Ray, Gloria Mallette, Gwyneth Bolton, Gwynne Forster, Kimberly Kaye Terry, Kim Louise, Marilyn Tyner, Mary B. Morrison, Rochelle Alers, Seressia Glass, Shelia Goss, Wayne Jordan

If you would like to attend an Intimate Session, please list your top seven choices.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

If you love all of the Intimate Session authors and don't want to choose, just write Surprise Me!

Note: If for some reason the author you chose can not show, we will try to place you with the next author on your list.