

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 from April 30, 2008 - May 4, 2008.

June 2007, Newsletter

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

It's D-DAY—the website is up and looks FANTASTIC. Go check it out right now. Take your time. You'll see things are changing up a bit. I'll still be here when you get back.

<http://www.romanceslamjamconference.com>.

I didn't lie did I? Down right fantastic. The RSJ 2008 Committee would like to thank our web webdiva Tee C. Royal (founder of R.A.W. SISTAZ™) and Candace Cottrell of CanDann Productions who created the beautiful banner. Both ladies went above and beyond. Be sure to visit their sites and show much love: <http://www.rawsistaz.com> <http://www.candann.com>

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

MORE AUTHORS!

Last month I asked for you to email me a list of authors of Black romance you'd like to attend the conference who weren't scheduled to attend. Thank you for letting us know who you'd like to see. I've sent out invitations, and here are the additional authors who say they are attending:

Gregory Morris, Kimberly White, Kim Shaw, Linda Hudson-Smith, Sherryle Jackson, Michelle Larks, Natalie Dunbar.

If there are additional authors you'd like me to invite, let me know deatri@romanceslamjam.org.

Patron Support

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.

The RSJ 2008 would like to thank Renee Williams of Warm Spirit. Make sure to show her some love at <http://www.warmspirit.org/esuite/home/reneewilliams>.

Memory Book

Janice Hollins has written a wonderful piece for the memory book. I hope to receive your piece soon.

My First Romance Slam Jam Experience

I learned about the Romance Slam from Emma Rogers, owner of Black Images Book Store. She turned me onto Romance Noir, a local Romance Book Club. The Slam was being hosted in Dallas. I was so excited and I rushed home to tell my husband. Of course he didn't share my excitement when I told him the event will cost around \$500 for my registration, food, hotel stay and of course the purchase of books. Needless to say, I didn't get to attend.

My 1st Romance Slam Jam Experience was in Orlando, Florida. I was so excited. It was my first trip to Florida, and I thought I would have an opportunity to spend some time at Disney, but that thought dissipated as soon as my flight landed. My luggage was lost and after an hour and a half of dealing with customer service, it suddenly appeared in the holding area. I rode the shuttle to the hotel with a lady who was meeting her daughter-in-law at the Romance Slam. After that, I met new friend after new friend and have developed life long friendships.

Brenda Woodbury put together an outstanding Romance Slam. I was in awe the entire weekend. There were so many workshops, not to mention the book sales and vendor booths. The coolest thing for me was seeing so many African American Women come together in a positive way; life just doesn't get any better than that. Each time I called my husband, I had a different story to tell him; each one was more exciting than the next. The Saturday Night Ball took my breath away. I felt as if I were at the Academy Awards. I still have my purple mug donated by BET. To this day I still drink coffee from it most mornings before heading to work; definitely a keeper.

I met all my favorite authors and added new ones to my list. I'm one of those readers who have to purchase a book from every author in attendance. Some might say I'm out of control and you would be correct. Out of twenty plus books that I purchased, I also had to buy a tote bag to bring home all my new books. The one book and author that amazed me the most was *Evelyn Palfrey and her book, "The Price of Passion."*

My 2nd Romance Slam was in Atlanta, Georgia. I believe Carmen called it, Hotlanta. The hotel was beautiful and the food was delicious. This time I was honored to be a part volunteers allowed to read the nominees for the different Emma Awards; it was fantastic. Also, with all the free books for us on the tables during breakfast, lunch and dinner, I was able to keep a little change in my pocket. With this being my second trip, I didn't have to buy a tote bag to bring my books home; I brought an extra bag along. This was yet another great Romance Slam with even more new authors and new faces. My most unforgettable book was ***"Texas Heat," written and self published by my Book Club Sisters.***

My 3rd Romance Slam was in Dallas, Texas. During this Romance Slam, I had the privilege of being one of the hostess/planners. Whew, that's a lot of work. I'd rather leave the planning to someone else and be a participant any day. LOL

I'm looking forward to Romance Slam Jam 2008; the renewing of old friendships, the making of new ones and bonding with all the beautiful African American Women from all over the United States. Until then, Be Blessed My Sisters. ~ Jan Hollins, TX

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.

Thank You

That's it. Registration starts next month. Spread the word about the Romance Slam Jam Conference!

Please feel free to forward the newsletter.

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

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