

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.

July 2007, Newsletter

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

The moment you have all been waiting for has come. Registration starts today! I have received several emails from people who have not attended the conference before asking what the conference fee includes. Included are the Welcome Reception, Workshops, Reader Sessions, Intimate Sessions, Keynote Luncheon, Emma Awards Banquet, Mr. Romance Slam Jam Contest and Book Signing.

Many people bring their significant other or friends to the conference who do not actually attend the conference but do attend the Emma Awards Banquet, Keynote Luncheon, and/or the Mr. Romance Slam Jam Competition. If you have guest who will be attending these functions, additional tickets for each event must be purchased for them. The conference registration form has an area for extra tickets.

The website will be updated in the next few weeks, but registration starts TODAY! Spread the word. Attached is the registration form. Please register as early as possible so we can include additional Reader Sessions and Workshops if needed.

INTIMATE SESSIONS

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 a 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. So register early. 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, Gloria Mallette, Gwyneth Bolton, Gwynne Forster, Kim Louise, Marilyn Tyner, Mary B. Morrison, Seressia Glass, Shelia Goss, Wayne Jordan

More authors will be added at a future date. An e-blast will be given as authors are added.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

For the reduced rates, the earliest you can check in is April 30, 2008 and the latest check out is May 4, 2008. A few of you have emailed me privately saying you'd like to check in on April 29. I'm in communication with the hotel on that issue and will send out short e-blast if/when the date has been extended.

MORE AUTHORS!

Deborah Fletcher Mello has decided to attend RSJ 2008 YEAH!!!! This is really shaping up to be READER HEAVEN.

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. Next month we will start asking for volunteers to help moderate the workshops (read facilitator bios, keep the session on track timewise...).

EMMA AWARDS

The Emma Awards needs YOU. This year's Emma Awards are being run differently. Please visit the website for details.

MEMORY BOOK

My First Romance Slam Jam By Trenia Lane

I attended my first Romance Slam Jam in New York City. Despite not having really enjoyed other writers conferences I'd decided to go when I found out that one of my favorite authors, Leslie Esdaile, would be teaching a workshop. I'm so glad I did, meeting her and finding her to be a wonderful sister was just one of things that added to a fantastic experience.

Before attending the Slam Jam, I had attended several other Romance Writer conferences. Though I'd learned a lot in their workshops and all the writers I'd met were friendly, the atmosphere left me cold. No matter which conference I attended, I was one of only a couple Blacks at the entire event, and, sadly, I felt it. Please don't misunderstand me. No one was rude to me, but there was definitely no welcoming feeling there. This was disappointing because I had expected a sort of kinship, seeing that we were all crazy about romance books.

The Romance Slam Jam was the exact opposite; it was like being at a big family get together. From the time I arrived I could feel the excitement and camaraderie in the air. The women were friendly and the authors were down to earth and helpful with advice. In fact one of my favorite moments was the night of the Emma Awards; an author saw me walking around looking for a table and invited me to sit with her. I got to sit with three published authors who were very gracious to me despite my awe and all my questions. LOL. I had a ball!

This was just one of many wonderful encounters, I can't wait for Chicago!

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 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.

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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: We will be adding more Intimate Session Authors. Stay tuned to the newsletter!