

Blackstorytelling League of Rochester, New York

Affiliates Report for 2017

“THERE IS NO GREATER AGONY THAN BEARING AN UNTOLD STORY INSIDE YOU”

The members of the Blackstorytelling League of Rochester have engaged in various events throughout 2017. Our goals as an organization is the continuation of promoting and perpetuating the Art of Blackstorytelling throughout our community and surrounding areas.

FEBRUARY EVENT (DeLores Simmons)

February 11th- Pentecostal Baptist Church Theme: **Whence We Come** Attendance 75

February 12, 2017- 8:30 event at Zion Hill Baptist Church- **The Life of Ida B. Wells** Over 75 attended

4:00 pm event- Pentecostal Baptist Church Theme: **Thank you Lord** -- Participants 45+

Burnice Greens Church **The Life of Ida B. Wells**-- Participants 40-50

February 16th 6:00pm School #36 Charter School- Attendance 35+ students

6:00 pm School #9 Evening program Where we go in **Whence We Come**

February 17th Wilson Foundation School #3rd grade classes 25-30

February 16th- North Street Baptist Church- attendance 25+

February 24th ICNH Church Theme: **Whence We Come**- Attendance 75+

February 26th Performed with Awkaba **The Life of Fannie Lou Hamer**-Attendance 75+

Sharing & Caring Ministry Church-**The Life of Ida B. Wells**-50+ Attendance

MARCH EVENTS

March 7th **Little Bird** School without Walls -Attendance 100+ students and staff members

APRIL EVENT

April 8th Blackstorytelling Luncheon -Staybridge Hotel Theme: Stories That Make You Say Hummm- Attendance 75

JULY EVENT

July 22nd Bible Way Healing Temple –Theme: **The Kings Feast**- Attendance 60+

AUGUST EVENTS

August 8th- DeLores Simmons & Gwendolyn Glenn- Camp Bronco Attendance 50+

August 17th-Brookdale Senior Living- Attendance 15+

Blackstorytelling Family Gathering Hosted at the home of DeLores Simmons. We shared and set up goals for the year, shared stories, danced and indulged in eating until we could not eat anymore. It such a blessing when we all get together.

OCTOBER EVENTS

October 6th-Trinity Emanuel Church- In honor of our 23rd Annual Festival, we invited Dylan Pritchett to share his expertise on All about Storytelling and Audience Engagement. After the workshop, we fellowshiped together sharing a wonderful meal, laughter and brother and sisterly love for each other. Attendance 20

October 7th-Annual Storytelling Festival- Intergenerational Stories of Wisdom for Today was held at Central Library of Rochester Theme: Lifting Our Spirits- The stories told at this event were to spread love and peace among a community that has faced tragedies and unrest. Our special quest was Mr. Dylan Pritchett. We presented the Bessie and James Award to Mr. Joe Bivins for his outstanding contributions to the children that attend the James Perkins Summer Camp and for his leadership as a Rochester City School Teacher and Administrator. Attendance 40+ Special Thank you and appreciation to Sharon Holley and Denise Chapmen-Acosta for your Attendance)

October 17th- Memorial AMEZ's Women Ministry Kick Off Session- Eunice White

October 20th Storytellers DeLores Simons, Eunice White and Shirley Scott graced the employees of Food Link Organization and Director Julie Tedeso during Honorable Day. The mission of this team is to end Hunger and to build a healthy community. They shared stories of giving thanks and appreciation of helping others that are less fortunate.

Dusk Ball Room- 50th Anniversary for Gomel and George Breedlove- D. Simmons

October 29th- Lodge on the Green- Abundant Life Faith Centers- 7th Annual Pastor & First Lady Appreciation Celebration-Eunice White

NOVEMBER EVENT

November 18th- Montgomery Neighborhood Tea Attendance 50th

DECEMBER EVENT

December 16th- Zion Hill Baptist Church Christmas Celebration plus distribution of gift to children.

BLR Christmas Storytelling Gathering

JANUARY

Again, we have been asked to return to the Brighton Library to help celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It has been a pleasure and honor to be asked for the last several years to return and participate in this event. Attendance count 50+

GOALS

- **Grant Writing**
- **Complete youth storytelling/member hand books**
- **Complete our 2nd storytelling book**
- **Provide workshop to teachers of the RCSD on The Benefits of Storytelling in relationship to improving Language Arts Skills and Why Storytelling in the Classroom Matter**
- **More collaboration with other community organizations**

Respectfully Submitted by

President Gwendolyn Glenn