

# City of Dallas News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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For more information contact:

Miriam Rodriguez - Dallas Public Library  
(214) 670-7800

Richard Hill – Public Information Office  
(214) 243-2042

## **Tulisoma: South Dallas Book Fair to be held Aug. 24-26**

*The event will again feature best-selling writers plus local personalities*

**DALLAS, TX** - Tulisoma, a community festival promoting literacy and the arts, returns to Dallas Aug. 24-26 with an array of best-selling authors, including Juan Williams, one of America's leading political writers and thinkers. The event will also feature celebrity readers and local personalities, plus a full slate of creative activities for the entire family.

Tulisoma will be held at the African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave., the Juanita J. Craft Civil Rights House, 2618 Warren Ave., and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 2922 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Tulisoma, which is Swahili for "we read," was started in 2003 by former Dallas City Councilman Leo V. Chaney, Jr. and Dr. Harry Robinson, President and CEO of the African American Museum, to promote a love for reading and the arts among all ages.

"I'm very pleased to be a part of this wonderful event," said Dallas City Council Member Carolyn R. Davis. "Tulisoma embodies the distinct character of South Dallas, and really helps to make our community a better place. I urge everyone to come out to the festival, bring the family, and enjoy this unique cultural event being held in our city."

Williams is the senior correspondent for NPR, a political analyst for Fox Television, and a regular panelist on *FoxNews Sunday*. In addition to prize-winning columns and editorial writing for *The Washington Post*, he is also the author of six books.

Some of the authors to be featured at Tulisoma include:

**Tananarive Due**, author of seven books ranging from supernatural thrillers to science fiction to a civil rights memoir, making the American Book Award-winning author among the nation's most versatile voices.

**Sonia Hayes**, author of the teen novel, *Ms. Thang*. In 2006, she was nominated for the American Library Association Coretta Scott King New Talent Award and the Alex Award. *Urban Goddess*, the sequel to *Ms. Thang* was released in May.

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**Lalita Tademy**, one of America's most exciting new novelists. Her first book, *Cane River*, is a provocative and painstaking reconstruction of the history of one American family. Oprah made *Cane River*, one of the most popular picks of her book club. Her next novel *Red River*, explores issues that resonate to this day. Both works became New York Times bestsellers.

**Victoria Christopher Murray**, whose recent novels *Grown Folks Business* (Touchstone Books/June 2005) and *A Sin and a Shame* (Touchstone Books/June 2006) were both Essence Magazine bestsellers. In July 2007 Touchstone Books a division of Simon & Schuster will publish *THE EX FILES: A Novel*.

**Carole Boston Weatherford**, author of more than two dozen children's books. Her two latest books are *Dear Mr. Rosenwald* and a Caldecott Honor Book, *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom*.

The festivities will include workshops, panel discussions, readings, conversations, book signings, contests, and much more. Local and regional authors and vendors will showcase their talents and stories. Celebrity readers will include local television and radio personalities.

Signature events include a *Community Breakfast* with **Lalita Tademy** at the Old Mill Inn Restaurant; *Pork Chops & Politics* with **Juan Williams** at the South Dallas Café; *Coffee and Conversations* with **Tananarive Due** at Emerald City Grill, 2532 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.; and a *Gospel Brunch* with **Victoria Christopher Murray** at the African American Museum.

This year's event is made possible by Tulisoma's major sponsors: the City of Dallas; Smirnoff Music Centre; Texas State Library / Lone Star Libraries; Sam's Club; African American Museum; Dallas County Community College District; African-American Read-In; Time Warner Cable; Warwick Melrose Hotel; Downtown Business News; Coca-Cola; 94.5K Soul; 97.9 The Beat; Comerica; Children's Book Boutique; Office of Cultural Affairs; Friends of the Dallas Public Library; Brand Idea Design Studio; JPMorgan Chase; The Magnolia Lounge; the Dallas Weekly; and the Dallas Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

For a complete list of authors and illustrators appearing at Tulisoma 2007, go to <http://www.tulisoma.com/>.

"Tulisoma offers engaging programs for people of all ages, fueling a desire to read, write, create, and make our community a better place," said Dallas Public Library Assistant Director Miriam Rodriguez.

The Dallas Public Library operates the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library and 25 branch locations. A library card is free for any Dallas resident. For information on the many free programs and services available at the Dallas Public Library, go to: <http://dallaslibrary.org/home.htm>.

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