



Homestreet Publishing

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Homestreet Publishing's Let's Write Out Loud Program Celebrates National Women's Month

*Student Gets On The "Write" Bus
And Performs At the Howard University Bookstore!*

Homestreet Publishing believes that nothing feels as good as being Home, therefore the company strives to bring the community together by providing enrichment programs and internships that support English/language arts, education, community awareness and unity.

The Let's Write Out Loud (LWOL) Program, one of many programs of Homestreet Publishing, is a spoken word poetry workshop designed to provide students opportunities to discover different styles of poetry, to become proficient at identifying figurative language and to create and share their own poetry. Created to help kids fall in love with words, The Let's Write Out Loud Program aids the implementation of the federal government's No Child Left Behind Act by focusing on the California State Content Standards in English and Language Arts.

Students that complete the eight-session LWOL Program gain insight into the poetic process, expand their vocabulary, increase their public speaking skills, participate in poetry contests, concerts and oratory-related study trips and poetry slams. Students also get their original poems published in a keepsake book.

This year, Homestreet Publishing took on the task of exposing our youth to the opportunities for education at the HBCU Campus Tours, Inc. Homestreet Publishing has partnered with HBCU Campus Tours, Inc. in an effort to award our top poetic scholars with the opportunity to visit several black college campuses.

The Historically Black College and University Campus Tours was started in 2000 for the purpose of exposing students between the 8th grade and community college transfer level to the rich traditions of HBCU institutions of higher learning. From beginning to present, HBCU Campus Tours has serviced over 1,000 students providing educational and cultural excursions. As an additional benefit, students receive assistance with financial aid, admissions, and career counseling. Many students who take the HBCU Campus Tours have gone on to attend and graduate from HBCUs.

In order to compete, The Let's Write Out Loud Poets were required to write an epic poem, song, rap or short story celebrating African American women. Fifteen-year old Arnetta Brown from San Geronio High School in San Bernardino, CA walked away with a \$1,700 scholarship to The 9th Annual Historically Black College & University Tour leaving March 22, 2009.

Arnetta will visit the following universities:

- Clark-Atlanta University
- Spelman College
- Morehouse College
- South Carolina State University
- Benedict College
- Howard University
- Hampton University
- Lincoln University
- Cheyney University
- Coppin State

This tour also explores Historical Tour of Washington, D.C. (White House, Library of Congress, Arlington Cemetery, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King Center and The National Black Wax Museum.

This winning poet will share her winning poem titled "100% Black Woman" at the Howard University Bookstore (HUB) on Friday, March 27, 2009 at 4:30 pm on the second floor. This event is free and open to the public. The HUB address is 2225 Georgia Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20059, (202) 238-2640 or (800) 919-2997 or log on to website www.hubbookstore.com

For more information about the HBCU Campus Tours, log on to www.hbcucampustours.org

Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 6 pm (PST)/ 9 pm (EST), winners of The Let's Write Out Loud Program 2009 "Black Woman You Are" Poetry Contest will be live and on the air on The Funky Writer's Show with host Rob Batista, www.blogtalkradio.com/thefunkywriter. (New York) Call-in Number is (347) 843-4784

and Sunday, March 15, 2009 at 5 pm (PST)/ 8 pm (EST) with “Courageous Conversations” and Street Positive www.streetpositive.com.

For more information on the Homestreet Publishing’s Let’s Write Out Loud Program log on to www.homestr.com.

Thanks to our contributing sponsors: Tillman Riverside Mortuary, www.tillmanriversidemortuary.com and Jeff McCarthy, teacher from the Walnut Valley Unified School District.