

ANNUAL REPORT

2017
2018



Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center, Inc.

PO Box 5464, Tampa, FL 33675

W: www.kitchen-table.org | E: info@kitchen-table.org

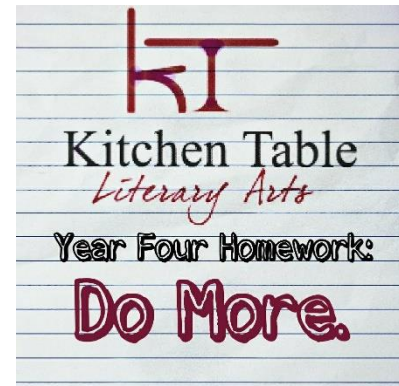
Contents

Executive Summary.....	2
Director’s Note.....	3
Outreach and Programming Highlights.....	3
Financial Highlights	5
Select Programs and Events.....	6
Board Member Association	7
Board Member Spotlight	7
Our Community.....	7
Community Member Spotlight	7
Organization Information	8

Executive Summary

Our charge going into the 2017-2018 year was simple. **Do More.**

Looking back over the year, we are filled with joy and gratitude that we were able to do just that. Organizational development, new partnerships and programs, and finding our stride in fundraising set us up right for a bountiful, beautiful year. We've included a couple new features in our annual newsletter, showcasing outstanding board members and community members and program/event images from our booked and busy year.



Director's Note

For the 2017-2018 year, my team and I had a simple assignment: **Do More.** Through hard work, commitment, and an attitude of gratitude, we did just that. We sought out new opportunities to partner with like-minded organizations and businesses in the community. We debuted several new public programs and creative writing society online classes. We became more effective at asking for exactly the kind of support and resources we need, and we realized the urgency and value in the work we do in our community. Our community continues to support us, and seeing the authentic connections and relationships that grow from our events, our clubs, our retreats, and our programs is a beautiful sight to behold.

SHEREE L. GREER,
FOUNDING DIRECTOR

**"We realized the urgency
and value in the work we
do in our community."**



One of the best parts of the year was the chance to invest in the development of our outreach team through a ten-hour certification class for new facilitators. Local writers Adrien Julious and Silk-Jazmyne Hindus joined the team, along with spiritual worker and writer Tiffany Wilson. We were recognized by Heard 'Em Say Teen Arts Collective as an *Outstanding Community Partner*. We spent time on the road and outside with *KT Goes...* and our first *Getaway: A Weekend for Writing*. We met new people, made time and space for art-making, and wrote under the sun. Participation and appearances at *Decatur Book Fest*, *Creative Forces Military Healing Network*

Conference, *Associated Writing Programs (AWP) conference*, and an *Evening with US Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith at University of Tampa*, *Zora! Fest*, and our writing day at *Cypress Point Park* created opportunities to expand and deepen our network, and for that, we are so grateful.



Outreach and Programming Highlights

This year has been one of adventure and increased visibility. By focusing on partnerships and collaborations, we brought creative and engaging programs and workshops to the community. We partnered with Wordier Than Thou, a literary arts organization based in St. Petersburg, Florida, for their first publishing conference. We co-sponsored the day-long conference and hosted a literary panel titled, *Your Family and Friends Got a Copy Now What* and participated in several other panels and presentations. Our busy spring continued with our own literary networking event, *We Write Here*, an afternoon exclusively for Black women and women of color writers, poets, and publishers held at StageWorks. The unique event acted as a bridge for local Black women and women of color writers to form community connections as well as learn more about the programs, benefits, and services Kitchen Table Literary Arts offers.



We debuted an ekphrastic workshop in partnership with Loriele Holloway, founder of local bookstore, Cultured Books, as part of the SunLit Festival hosted by Keep St. Pete Lit. The workshop, in continued partnership with The Carter G. Woodson African-American museum, was titled, *Life of the Deuces: An Intersection of History and Home*. The workshop brought community together across Tampa Bay and was featured in the *St. Petersburg Weekly Challenger*. We also secured our first year-round partnership with the *Writing for Healing* program with A Kids Place foster home. In our efforts to help people

#ReadMore, we debuted a short story club as a literary happy hour called *Sips and Stories* and kicked off a #YearofToniMorrison book club in partnership with The Black Market Collective with meet-ups sponsored by Blue Sage Boutique. Both new programs were a hit! We performed short stories set to music during *Story Days of Tampa Bay* with Your Real Stories, Inc., sponsored a writing day meet-up at Cypress Point Park, co-facilitated a workshop at USF with Art2Action, and partnered with Positively U!, an organization that provides support and medication to HIV positive individuals, for a journal-writing workshop. Undoubtedly, this year has been one of expansion both in community partnerships and community support.

The community programs and partnerships notwithstanding, we also offered online creative writing classes to Black women and women of color writers internationally. Undoubtedly, the 2017-2018 year proved to be a testament to our mission and our year four strategic goals of increased visibility, increased community partnerships, and increased contributions to the literary landscape of Tampa Bay.

**SLAM ANDERSON,
OUTREACH DIRECTOR**

"This year has been one of expansion and growth both in community partnerships and community support."



Financial Highlights

Kitchen Table's 2017-2018 fiscal year mantra was: **Do More.** More classes, more partnerships, more public programs. To bring this goal to fruition, we knew we had to kick up our operational and programming budget. To get the financial resources to do more, we launched several new fundraising initiatives.

Our community continues to believe in us and our dream and they show us how much with monetary donations through national fundraising initiatives like Giving Tuesday and local initiatives like Give Day Tampa Bay. We also received support through supporters shopping with Amazon Smile.



We held our first major birthday campaign, *#4ontheFourth*, where donors pledged at least \$4 leading up to our Golden Birthday on September 4th. We received a generous grant from the Gobioff Foundation and received financial and small business support from the BNI Dealmakers, courtesy of the organization's Nonprofit Day. These contributions made up more than half of our revenue for the year and helped us develop more

effective strategies for fundraising and donor management.

Kitchen Table also decided to increase revenue by creating a new stream of income: MERCH! A little miscommunication between the executive team birthed the Limited-Edition Kitchen Table Literary Arts 2018 Calendar. The beautiful calendar featured sketched images of Black women and women of color, quotes from Black women and women of color writers and poets, and featured business ads from local Black-owned businesses. To test the calendar's viability, we printed only a limited number to see how the community would embrace them and are glad to announce that this revenue booster will be offered for years to come.

Lastly, we offered newly-designed online classes through the Creative Writing Society, which we plan to continue building as both a fulfillment of our mission and revenue stream to support our work. As we grow, our operating and programming expenses grow too, but through budgeting and strategic planning, we've been able to see growth in net revenue to fund our work.

**JASMINE SMITH,
FINANCIAL DIRECTOR**

**"Our community
continues to believe in us
and our dream, and they
continue to show us how
much..."**



2018 Financial Highlight Mix of Revenue



■ Donations ■ Merchandise ■ Program Service Revenue

Select Programs and Events

KITCHEN TABLE LITERARY ARTS IS TRAINING
Creative Writing Workshop Facilitators *only THREE SPOTS LEFT!*

NINE HOURS OF COURSEWORK Saturdays, 9 a.m. - Noon (10/14, 10/21, 11/4)
TWO HOURS WORKSHOP SIMULATION Saturday, 9 a.m. - Noon (11/11)
ONE HOUR OBSERVATION TBD w/ select community partner

Join our workshop facilitation team and teach creative writing with select community partners. Black women and women of color writers strongly encouraged to apply!

SEND YOUR RESUME/CV TO: info@kitchen-table.org

KITCHEN TABLE LITERARY ARTS PRESENTS
Reading just got sexier
READ THE STORY MEET FOR DRINKS
Sips and Stories

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
SEASONS 12
 204 N WESTSHORE BLVD
 TAMPA

KITCHEN TABLE Literary Arts PRESENTS
the Get-Away
 A WEEKEND FOR WRITING

DEC 2017

TAMPA BAY PUBLISHING CONFERENCE
 10 - 6 p.m.
 JANUARY 30, 2018
 Blind Tiger Vibor CoWork Space

YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS GOT A COPY...
NOW WHAT?

THE REALITIES OF PUBLISHING, PROMOTION, AND SALES
 PANEL DISCUSSION

KITCHEN TABLE GOES TO...

Now you can hip yourself to Kitchen Table's traveling adventures with invitations to join us on the road, opportunities to bring us to your city, and more!

Zora Fest (Jan 28, 1 - 4 p.m.)
AWP (Mar 7 - 10)

YOUR SILENCE WILL NOT PROTECT YOU.

AUDRE LOUISE

7 FEBRUARY
 Writing Workshop for Women
 POETRY: Literary & Academic
 100P THEATRE BUILDING THEATRE
 8:30 - 10:30 P.M. | WEDNESDAY FEB 7TH

Co-presented by Architecture, Kitchen Table Literary Arts, and UWP School of Theatre and Dance

CLASS FILLED

WHERE ARE WE?

Techniques for Establishing Setting in Your Work

Four-Week Free Preview Class. Limited Seats.

SELF-PACED, ONLINE. FEB 15 - MARCH 15

FREE CLASS

SPONSORED BY MEMOIR MAGAZINE
www.memoirmag.com

Memory as Memoir
 MINING MEMORY FOR STORY
ALL SEATS FILLED
 ONLINE, SELF-PACED, FEB 15 - MAR 15

KICK-OFF PARTY!

THE YEAR OF TONI MORRISON

SATURDAY FEB 17TH 8 - 10 PM FREE

KITCHEN TABLE GOES TO... **AWP!**

March 7 - 10, 2018
 Tampa Convention Center
 333 S Franklin St
 Marriott Tampa Waterside
 700 South Florida Avenue

KITCHEN TABLE Literary Arts

WE WRITE HERE
 NETWORKING EVENT
Exclusively
 FOR BLACK WOMEN & WOMEN OF COLOR

04.07.18 | 1-3PM
 STAGWORKS THEATRE
 150 E KENNEDY BLVD, TAMPA, FL 33602

CONTACT BLAIR ANDERSON AT SLAM@KITCHEN-TABLE.ORG FOR SCHEDULING OPPORTUNITIES

APRIL 21st 1-3 p.m. FREE

Life on the Nerves

POETRY AND STORY WORKSHOP
 Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum

cultured books **KT** **SHUTTER**

Love Yourself

ALL GOOD: JOURNALING ABOUT OURSELVES
 2 - 4 p.m. | Saturday, August 4th | FREE

POSITIVELY U, Inc.
 1420 W. Waters Ave.
 Suite 104
 Tampa, FL 33604

KITCHEN TABLE GOES TO...

Sunday, July 22, 2018, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Cypress Point Park
 Shelter 002
 5620 W. Cypress St.
 Tampa, FL 33607

CYPRESS POINT PARK!

KITCHEN TABLE GOES TO...

August 31 - September 2, 2018
 Multiple Venues
 Decatur, Georgia

DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL!

Board Member Association

Our board association is comprised of professionals across industries, each providing support, guidance, and encouragement as we continue our work.

Each board member contributes valuable perspectives specific to their professional expertise and personal experience.

Ashley Butler, entrepreneur and owner of Ice Cold Air-South Dale Mabry

Orlando Pizana, associate professor, St. Petersburg College

Adella Deacon, attorney, Sable Law Group

Dr. Albert Farr, associate provost, Des Moines Area Technical College

Donald Gordon, solution consultant, Meperia



Board Member Spotlight



For our 2017-2018 year, we'd like to highlight the contributions of board association member, **Adella Deacon**. As a strong supporter since our founding, Adella has offered specific branding, copyright, and legal advice as we explored new initiatives to build our organizational brand. Her fundraising efforts and availability for strategic consultations have helped usher us forward all year.

Adella is a forward-thinking, energetic attorney. Adella practices in the areas of small business, real estate, estate planning, and general civil litigation. She also has experience representing artists with contract review and disputes. She has an extensive,

interdisciplinary-focused educational background having earned her Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and her Juris Doctorate from Chicago-Kent College of Law in Chicago, Illinois. She is a board member of Integra Rehab Solutions and the Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center. She takes a hands-on approach and is committed to providing her clients with the knowledge to make informed decisions regarding their legal needs. Her favorite book by a woman of color writer is *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston.

Our Community

Community Member Spotlight

On our trip to the *Decatur Book Fest*, we received an IG message from Kathryn "Kat" Wilson, who said she lived in the area and wanted to meet. The wonderful thing about this meet-up, which turned into walking the festival together and having lunch, is that we had never met Kat in real life! She joined our Creative Writing Society online almost a year ago and has taken two online classes with us. It was such a pleasure to meet #IRL and see the potential of our online community to build real, sustainable relationships.



Kat wrote in her Creative Writing Society bio, "In my past professional life, I served as a journalistic researcher who dabbled in song writing, poetry and short fiction. I am now working on a fictional novel that seeks to illuminate the African American experience. I love reading Black feminist writers. Some of my faves include bell hooks, Patricia Hill Collins, and Audre Lorde."

Organization Information

Director, **Sheree L. Greer**

Contact: sheree@kitchen-table.org

Outreach Director, **Tiffany “Slam” Anderson**

Contact: slam@kitchen-table.org

Financial Director, **Jasmine M. Smith**

Contact: jasmine@kitchen-table.org



Mission

Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center builds awareness, appreciation, and support for women of color and Black women writers, poets, and their work. In addition to our outreach across communities, we also offer beginner, intermediate, and master level writing courses exclusively for Black women and women of color writers.



Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center, Inc.

PO BOX 5464

Tampa, FL 33675

info@kitchen-table.org

www.kitchen-table.org