

TELL US ABOUT THE Universal Musical African Love Jam Theatrical Production

1. Universal Musical African Love Jam Theatrical Production– tell us about this play.

This is a Musical Theatrical Productions bringing the musical thread together of those of African ancestry within the African Diaspora between the 1500's to **NOW**.

BRINGING BLACK HISTORY TO LIFE

While giving honor and respect to all those African American Leaders who gave so much and sacrifice of themselves and families for the rise of our people, communities and the world

2. Why do you call it the LOVE JAM?

Because of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and slavery, those of African ancestry through the African Diaspora were stripped of their names, language, culture, religion and ways of life and taught and **made** to hate each other. Within these last 456 years we have witnessed so much hate and everything black is bad, and as a result, today you are seeing Black on Black crime at an alarming rate and crimes against others. We believe that it will take **LOVE** and the love of self through understanding and appreciating African-American and Caribbean history, culture and heritage to become better human beings. We also believe that the **performing arts** and art is the **best way** of getting anyone to love, respect and appreciate their rich history, culture, heritage and **ROOTS**.

"Hate jammed us into slavery....let love Jam us out!!!" we were jammed into slave ships...people "jammed us up" raped us...etc....let's use music, culture and Love of self to "celebrate" (**J.A.M.- JUSTICE IN AFRICAN MUSIC**)...it was African music that kept us alive...we used love and music to communicate and liberate ourselves during slavery and beyond...so let's do it now!!!

Any art form or teachings that promote UNITY and LOVE of HUMANITY is what we support, endorse and advocate.

3. What will audience members learn?

The audience will learn the magnificent genius of the African, Caribbean Islands, South and North America's wonderful musical experience while also learning history, culture and heritage of these great lands.

4. Why this piece?

We are witnessing disunity, hatred, black on black crime and the many social ills that affect our families and community. We are also witnessing how the establishment is using the performing arts, such as gangster rap and negative art forms to control and destroy our youth. The Universal African Musical Love Jam's theatrical production will show and help you see solutions. We must start with the children. It is definitely more valuable and cost efficient to raise and train children properly than to rehabilitate adults. Most of us search for solutions. This event will

explain and show you the causes, problems, solutions and what we must do. Most of all you will witness a paradigm or a model to prove that our methodology works. We must encourage the adults to bring their families and especially the children to this event. This theatrical production will teach, educate, and entertain through the performing arts. It will also give the audience the enjoyment and pleasure of imagination, inspiration, and solutions. You will learn or be reminded to appreciate and understand how people of African ancestry struggled to achieve magnificent accomplishments. While at the same time, we must focus on solutions and the implementations of the solutions from our scholars, historians, organizations or people that truly understand and have proven examples. The Universal African Musical Love Jam would be an excellent master piece of work for all people to see why we all should respect, honor, and appreciate the contributions black people or people of African ancestry, have made all over the world.

5. Creative process for the work you did for the play

To take this piece written by Robert Dickerson, with the creative genius and idea contributions of Sister Gi Gi and his wife Wanda is a master piece of learning the history of the African Diaspora through the performing arts. Also, while being directed by their son Jamal P. Dickerson and wife Ronsha with the help of creative minds such as Desi Seck, and Tache Banks having you watch the characters come to life adding dance, songs and music by members of the **Unity Community Center** such as the World Renowned Universal African Dance and Drum Ensemble, **UCC Musical programs** and with the **historical slide shows** is amazing and **highly educational**.

6. What's is the most challenging part and rewarding part about the play

The challenging part is getting all 72 members cast to make all rehearsals and performances while they are receiving very little or no financial compensation. Rewarding part is watching how all characters or members work together in harmony for the children, students and families promoting the value of appreciating yourself, family and community through learning and loving your culture and heritage.

"Mentoring, Educating, Saving and Transforming Lives to be productive and righteous"

"A MUST SEE"

"The Most Accomplished EDUCATIONAL AND ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, ADVOCATING THE VALUE OF FAMILY IN AMERICA"

A model, A solution, THE answer

that scholars and leaders talk and write about for young people at-risk, concerning the social ills or problems that affect themselves and communities

Robert H. Dickerson