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For Immediate Release

The 2nd Annual Up South International Book Festival Brings the Renaissance Back to Harlem: September 19 -23, 2007

Featuring Hip Hop artist Common, Sonia Sanchez, Amiri Baraka, Simon Schama, Faith Ringgold, and many more...

New York, NY, July 16, 2007 -- Not since the Harlem Renaissance reigned supreme has Harlem featured such a hotbed of artistic excellence. Now in its second year, the Up South International Book Festival (USIBF) is bringing together an international cast of writers, poets, dancers, musicians, and filmmakers, to celebrate the craft of storytelling by and about people of color from the world over.

Copresented with Harlem Stage at the Gatehouse on Convent Avenue and West 135th street, The USIBF will programs will consist of five evenings and two days of dialogues and performances, featuring established and emerging artists, representing a diversity of ethnicities and cultures, including Iran, Jamaica, Great Britain, Senegal and Guadeloupe beginning on September 19, 2007. Writers, Amiri Baraka, Sonia Sanchez, Linton Kwesi Johnson, and Maryse Conde, musicians Jason Moran, Anthony David and Gordon Chambers, and filmmaker Shirin Nashat are just a handful of confirmed participants. And for the first time, a full day of children's programming will be included in the festival program, featuring children's book authors such as Faith Ringgold and Common.

“The artists and thinkers we invite to the Festival represent among the best in world culture ,” says USIBF founder Malaika Adero, a book editor and author herself. “Our goal is to connect readers with writers, expand the audience for great artistry and give greater recognition to deserving talent,” Adero says. “Our mission is to fulfill the desire that so many people have for art and literature that inspires as well entertains. We offer something good for all ages and a diversity of interests.”

About Up South

Up South is a curated book festival. In other words, from the abundance of great contemporary storytellers in all media, we invite those who either have an extraordinary body of work, or new voices who display exceptional talent and resonance with people of color. Up South believes in the connectivity of all the arts and for that reason, music, dance and film events are part of the festival. Up South offers an opportunity to witness and engage with artists and writers in an intimate setting to provide a total artistic experience.

Up South Incorporated celebrates and promotes literary and artistic work by and about international communities of color particularly those underrepresented in mainstream media. Its annual Up South Festival presents the best in the arts and letters to stimulate dialogue about culture and values, to encourage serious and leisure time reading and writing and to provide more platforms to expose work of great merit.

For more information check out: www.upsouth.org

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