

# Voices of Black Womyn: Shaping the Narrative, Reclaiming Our Truth

Voices of Black Womyn (VOBW) is a literary arts organization founded in 2001 with the mission to amplify the voices and experiences of Black women through writing, publishing, and community building. For over two decades, VOBW has provided a platform for Black women writers to share their stories, challenge stereotypes, and inspire change.

Through its various programs and initiatives, VOBW has empowered countless Black women writers and helped to shape the narrative of Black women's lives. In this article, we will delve into the history, mission, and impact of Voices of Black Womyn, while also highlighting the contributions of some of the writers who have been a part of this vital organization.



## 'da Kink in my hair: Voices of Black Womyn by Trey Anthony

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1396 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 93 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## History and Mission

Voices of Black Womyn was founded in Oakland, California, by a group of Black women writers who saw a need for a space where they could

connect with each other, share their work, and support each other's creative journeys. The organization's mission is to:

- Empower Black women writers by providing opportunities for artistic development, mentorship, and publication.
- Celebrate the voices and experiences of Black women through writing and other creative forms.
- Promote the visibility and recognition of Black women's contributions to literature and society.
- Build a community of Black women writers and allies who support and uplift each other.

## **Programs and Initiatives**

Voices of Black Womyn offers a range of programs and initiatives to support and empower Black women writers, including:

- **The Retreat for Black Women Writers:** An annual retreat that brings together Black women writers from across the United States for a weekend of writing, sharing, and community building.
- **The VOBW Press:** A publishing house that produces anthologies and individual works by Black women writers.
- **The VOBW Writing Workshops:** A series of writing workshops led by experienced Black women writers that provide skill-building, mentorship, and support to emerging writers.
- **The VOBW Literary Salon:** A monthly gathering where Black women writers can share their work and connect with other writers and

readers.

- **The VOBW Scholarship Program:** A scholarship program that provides financial assistance to Black women writers who are pursuing higher education.

## **Impact and Contributions**

Voices of Black Womyn has had a profound impact on the literary landscape and the lives of countless Black women writers. Through its programs and initiatives, VOBW has:

- **Amplified the voices of Black women writers:** VOBW has provided a platform for Black women writers to share their stories, challenge stereotypes, and inspire change.
- **Nurtured and empowered Black women writers:** VOBW has created a supportive and nurturing environment where Black women writers can develop their craft, connect with each other, and find mentorship.
- **Shaped the narrative of Black women's lives:** Through the works of its writers, VOBW has helped to shape the narrative of Black women's lives and experiences, challenging dominant narratives and reclaiming Black women's truth.
- **Inspired a new generation of Black women writers:** VOBW has inspired a new generation of Black women writers to find their voices and use their writing to make a difference in the world.

## **Notable Authors**

Over the years, VOBW has been home to a number of notable Black women writers, including:

- **Kim McMillon:** A poet, essayist, and playwright who has been published in numerous anthologies and journals.
- **SekouWrites:** A poet, performer, and teaching artist who has shared her work on stages across the country.
- **Hannah Drake:** A poet, essayist, and creative writing teacher who has been featured in The Rumpus and The New York Times.
- **Casey Rocheteau:** A poet and essayist whose work has been praised for its honesty and vulnerability.
- **No'u Booker:** A poet, essayist, and spoken word artist who has been featured in The Best American Poetry.

Voices of Black Womyn is a vital organization that has been empowering Black women writers and shaping the narrative of Black women's lives for over two decades. Through its programs, initiatives, and the work of its talented writers, VOBW has played a crucial role in amplifying Black women's voices, challenging stereotypes, and inspiring change. As we look to the future, VOBW will continue to be a beacon of hope and a source of support for Black women writers.



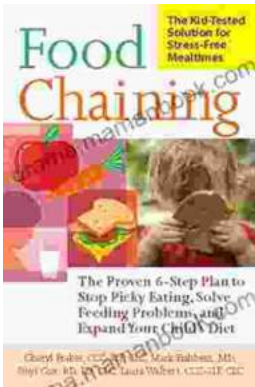
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