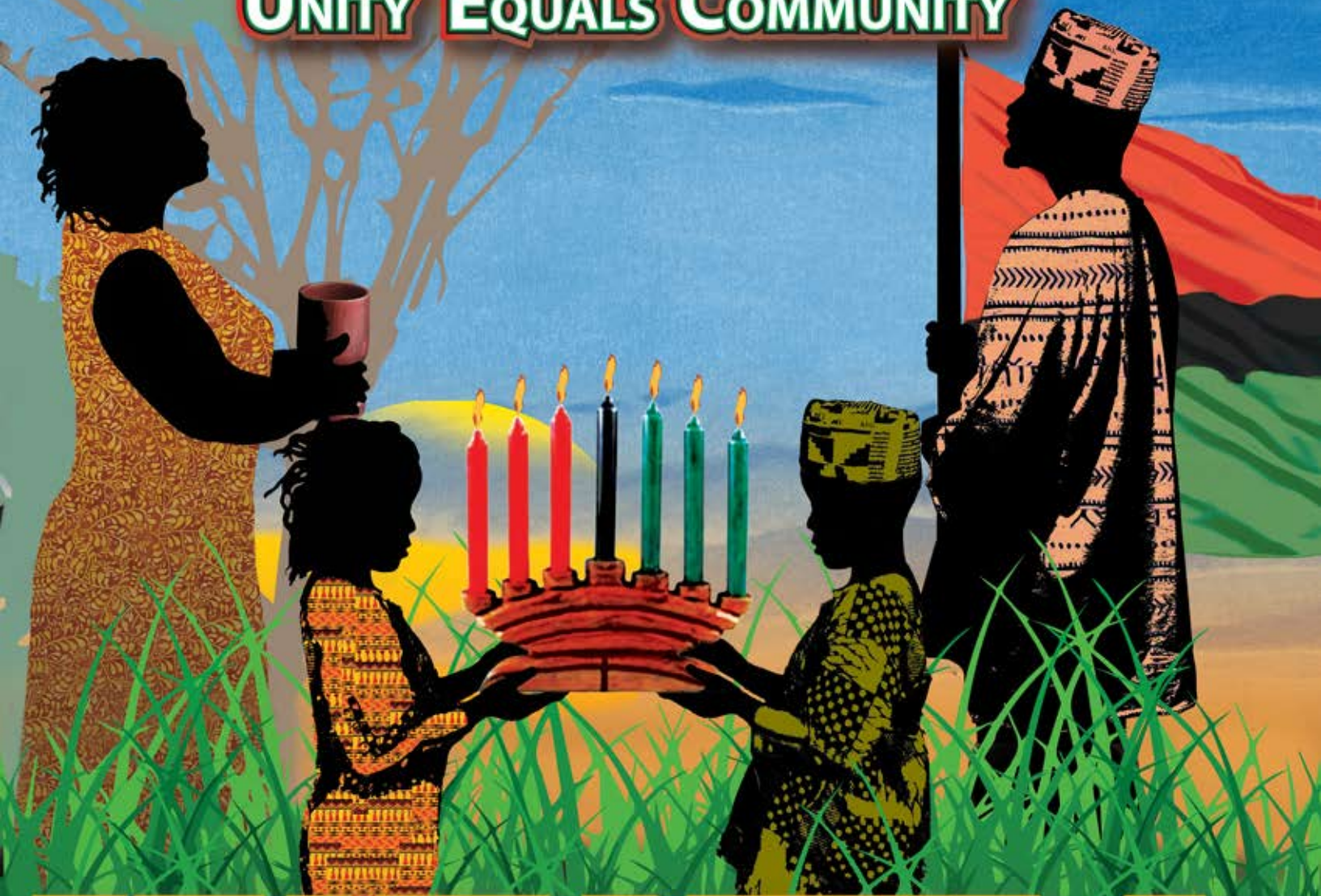


**UNITED  
BLACK COMMUNITY**

# THE KWANZAA CALENDAR & RESOURCE GUIDE

DEC. 26, 2013 - JAN. 1, 2014

## UNITY EQUALS COMMUNITY



# KWANZAA



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# WHAT IS KWANZAA?

Kwanzaa, a holiday (or Holy Day) based upon the African tradition of celebrating the harvesting of the first fruits, was created and introduced for Black People in the United States by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966.

Kwanzaa is the ingathering of the people, a special reverence for the Creator and creation, a commemoration of the past, a recommitment to our highest ideals, and a celebration of all that is good. It is a time of reflecting, reassessing, recommitting, rewarding, and rejoicing in an atmosphere of peace, love and unity. Kwanzaa is a cultural and political expression to reaffirm our African Heritage and, organize our people for the struggle of total Black Liberation.

Kwanzaa is celebrated for seven days: December 26th through January 1st. The seven days are based upon the **Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles)**, with each day being symbolic of one of the principles.

- December 26th - Umoja (Unity)
- December 27th - Kujichagulia (Self-Determination)
- December 28th - Ujima (Collective Work & Responsibility)
- December 29th - Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics)
- December 30th - Nia (Purpose)
- December 31st - Kuumba (Creativity)
- January 1st - Imani (Faith)



## THERE ARE SEVEN SYMBOLS OF KWANZAA

- Mkeka (Straw Mat) - tradition and history; the foundation on which all else rests
- Kinara (Candle Holder) - original stalk from which we come; our African ancestors
- Mishumaa Saba (7 Candles) - Nguzo Saba; The Seven Principles firmly rooted in the traditions of our ancestors
- Muhindi (Ears of Corn) - represents children and all the hopes and challenges attached to them.
- Kikombe cha Umoja (Unity Cup)
- Mazao (Crops) - the collective fruits of our labor; seeds sown by the children
- Zawadi (Gifts) - rewards for our achievements

## WHAT TO DO AND WHEN TO DO IT

### December 19th

Gather and arrange Kwanzaa symbols. Any other decorations (African carvings, straw baskets) should be in a red, black and green color scheme, symbolizing the *bendera ya taifa* (Flag of the Black Nation):

Red - the liberation struggle of our people  
Black - the collective color of all Black people  
Green - land, life and our future (we build together)

Arrange the symbols on a low table as follows:

1. Spread the Mkeka
2. Place the Kinara in the center of the Mkeka
3. Place the Muhindi on either side of the Kinara, one ear of corn for each child, or one as a symbol of prosperity
4. Creatively place the Zawadi, Kikombe, and a basket of Mazao on the Mkeka
5. Place 1 Black Mishumaa in the center of the Kinara, with 3 Green on the right, and 3 Red on the left.

### December 26th – January 1st

**Greeting** – greet each other in Kiswahili asking “Habari Gani?” (What’s the news or what’s happening?) Answer with the principle for that day. For example, on December 26th, respond with “Umoja.”

**Economic Empowerment** — only shop at Black-owned businesses during the seven days of Kwanzaa. In the spirit of Kwanzaa and Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) we as African people should support these same Black businesses, such as trade in the African marketplace in the calendar, all year round.



**Fasting** — fast from sunrise to sunset to help cleanse the body, discipline the mind, and uplift the spirit.

**Libation (Ancestral Communion)** — an elder or leader should pour libation, using water or juice, from the Kikombe into a bowl or potted plant, to honor our ancestors.

**Candle Lighting Ceremony** — light one Mishumaa each day for the principle of that day, beginning with the black candle, which represents the first principle Umoja. Each day thereafter, alternately light the red and then the green candles. After each lighting, discuss the principle of the day. The ceremony should be held at a time when all family members, especially children, can participate.

**Karamu (The Feast)** — the Karamu is held on the night of December 31st, and should be a festive occasion. When possible, observe traditional African practices, e.g., African music, dance and storytelling, sitting on the floor or on pillows, and eating with the hands (no utensils). Libation, Candlelighting and Harambee are conducted at the Karamu.

**Zawadi** — (They should not be mandatory, expensive or excessive). It is suggested that Zawadi be given to the children in one or two ways:

1. One gift each day, reinforcing the principle of that day.
2. One or more gifts on January 1st, the last day of Kwanzaa.

Personally made gifts are strongly encouraged over commercial purchases. Regardless of what else is given, there are two strongly suggested items: a book and heritage symbol. These two items reinforce our commitment to education and the richness of our cultural heritage.

The essence of Kwanzaa is a true appreciation of ourselves as Black People, collectively coming together to reflect on and enjoy the infinite beauty of being in the same family, organization, and community, sharing the same values, interests and aspirations, engaging in and committing to the same struggle.

## NGUZO SABA (The Seven Principles)



### UMOJA (Unity)

To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.



### KUJICHAGULIA (Self-determination)

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.



### UJIMA (Collective Work and Responsibility)

To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and solve them together.



### UJAMAA (Cooperative Economics)

To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and profit from them together.



### NIA (Purpose)

To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.



### KUUMBA (Creativity)

To do always as much as we can, in the way that we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.



### IMANI (Faith)

To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.



# *Kwanzaa Events Calendar 2013-2014*

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## **PRE-KWANZAA EVENTS**

- **DEC 11<sup>th</sup>** - Master Yaya Diallo “The Healing Drummer” in Concert with BlackNotes @ *The B Spot*, 1123 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE 20003 UPSTAIRS \$20, 8pm.
- **DEC 14<sup>th</sup>** - Master Yaya Diallo “The Healing Drummer” - Children’s Drum Workshop, 11am-12pm (\$15); **Book Signing**, 12:30-1:30pm (FREE); **Adult Drum Workshop**, 2-4pm, (\$30) at *Umoja House* 2015 Bunker Hill Rd NE WDC 20018.
- **DEC 15<sup>th</sup>** - Master Yaya Diallo “The Healing Drummer” – **Healing Medicine of Mali**, ECAC 733 Euclid Street NW WDC 20001 \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door, 3:30-5:30pm.
- **Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>** - **Children's Book Reading** at 1:30 - 3PM and **Kwanzaa Workshop** at 3 - 5PM - Learn how to make Kwanzaa Symbols, get tips for Kwanzaa Decor, learn how to celebrate this special holiday, Come early - space is limited. *Kuumba Kolleables* @ 312 Florida Ave NW, Washington DC 20001, (202)797-8823.
- **Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>** - **Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration** at Ujamaa School, 1554 8th St. NW, WDC at 7:00 PM. Call (202)232-2997

## **UMOJA (UNITY) THURS. DEC. 26<sup>th</sup>**

- **The Annual Umoja Candlelighting Ceremony and Umoja Celebration by LCPAN** - Including “State of The Community” Report , East of the River Steel Band, Farafina Kan Youth Ensemble, Ujamaa Dancers & Drummers, Iya and Kuumba Kids. Dinner Sales & African Marketplace sponsored by LCPAN at Soul 57, 1326 Florida Ave., NE WDC. Free admission, 6:00pm. Doors open at 5pm. Call (202) 526-4039 or (202) 529-3635.
- **African Heritage Dancers & Drummers and Ethiopian Community Umoja Night Celebration and Gena Ceremony** - Free to the public. 1320 Good Hope Rd. SE. Info – 7 to 10 pm. 202-355-8183.

## **KUJICHAGULIA (SELF-DETERMINATION) FRI. DEC 27<sup>th</sup>**

- **Kwanzaa Candle-lighting Celebration & Program by the Ausar Auset Society.** at the Davis Center, 6218 3rd St. NW, WDC 20011. Children’s activities, vending and food will be available. 6:30pm - 9:30pm Call (202)723-5566.
- **African Traditional Welcoming Ceremony for New Mothers (Ethiopian).** All families are welcome to take part in this special Kwanzaa event, especially those who have new babies. Sankofa Video & Books, 2714 Georgia Ave. NW, Wash DC – 6:30pm – (202)234-4755.

## **UJIMA (COLLECTIVE WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY) SAT. DEC 28<sup>th</sup>**

- **43rd Annual Kwanzaa Children’s Party** at the Panorama Room, 1600 Morris Rd. SE WDC 20020. Sponsored by Kwanzaa Children’s Party, Inc., for children 3-12. Adult must accompany children. Feat: Kuumba Arts Korner, Baba Lasana, Ayanna Gregory, Farafina Kan Youth Ensemble, Iya and the Kuumba Kids. Dancing/Drumming.12:30-3:00pm Call (202)363-5887, (202)390-3164 or (240)832-7203.
- **Kwanzaa Program & Candle-lighting Service by House of Ra, Afi Soul and Friends.** Hip-Hop, Go Go, Neo-Soul and Poetry at Soul 57, 1326 Florida Ave. NE., 7:00pm, Free Admission. Call (818) 824-2048.
- **Kwanzaa Candle-lighting Celebration & Program at St. Michael’s Evangelical Lutheran Church.** 700 Saint Michael’s Drive, Mitchellville, MD at 7:30pm. Call (301) 249-6222.

*All events listed are FREE, unless otherwise stated.*



## **UJAMAA (COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS) SUN. DEC. 29<sup>th</sup>**

- **The People's Congregational United Church of Christ's Kwanzaa Celebration 2013** - 4704 13<sup>th</sup> Street, NW. Bring a dish to share with others. Wearing one or more items of traditional African attire is encouraged. 12:45pm.
- **Kente Weaving Workshop** - with Master Weaver Kwasi Asara from Ghana. Weaving demonstration and reading from children's book, "Kwesi and the Kente Colours" Sankofa Video & Books – 2714 Georgia Avenue NW, Wash., DC – 1pm. (202)234-4755 for info.
- **Positive Kemeti Visions Presents Kwanzaa 2013** - at the Child Center, 202 Riggs Rd. NE, WDC 20010. 5pm - 9 pm. Dinner Sales - For more information call: (202) 207-7886 or email us: info@pkvillage.org.
- **The Annual Ujamaa Kwanzaa Candle-lighting Celebration & Program** - Performance by the Ujamaa Dancers & Drummers, Original Kwanzaa play "Mama Afrika" performed by Ujamaa students, and vegetarian food. Ujamaa Shule at 8th & Q St. NW. WDC at 7:00 PM. Call (202) 232-2997.

## **NIA (PURPOSE) MON. DEC. 30<sup>th</sup>**

- **UNIA-ACL Woodson Banneker Jackson-Bey Division 330 Candle Lighting Kwanzaa Program & Karamu(Feast)** – Co-sponsored by Heritage Gallery Thurgood Marshall Center. Spoken word by The Evergreen Productions performing group and other performers. The Marcus Garvey Outstanding Community Service Award will be presented to Brother AH, Lasana Mack and Rev. Hagler of Plymouth Congregational Church. Nana Seshibe will receive the Marcus Garvey Meritorious Service Award. Also, an African Market Place and Watoto(Children's) Village to complement children's candle lighting at The Thurgood Marshall Center, 1816 12th Street, NW, Washington, DC from 6PM to 10PM. Admission Free. For more information please call 202-529-3635 or 301-802-4022.

## **KUUMBA (CREATIVITY) TUES. DEC. 31<sup>th</sup>**

- **2nd Annual Kwanzaa Celebration Dedicated to Political Prisoners** - Hosted by Mama Lydia Curtis Feat. Sheronda Peyton, James Morgan, Anjahla, Jonathan Stith, Nubian Kia, Salim Adofo, Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid St. NW, Washington DC, <http://www.nationalblackunitedfront.org> <http://www.twitter.com/nbuf> blackunitedfront@gmail.com 7pm Free Admission (347) 422-7823
- **Candlelighting and Discussion** - on the State of Male and Female Relationships in the Black Community. Drumming circle and Karamu Feast. Music and dancing. Bring a wholesome, natural dish to share. Umoja House, 2015 Bunker Hill Road NE, WDC 20018 8:00pm until.

## **IMANI (FAITH) WED. JAN. 1<sup>st</sup>**

- **Annual Free the Land Kwanzaa 3.1 - 5 Mile Fun Run/Walk/Bike.**, Lake Artemisia Park, Berwyn Rd. and 55th Ave., Greenbelt, MD. 12 noon. Contact: Baba Prince Kolani (202) 520-4669 Email: prince.kolani@yahoo.com.
- **Kwanzaa Imani Celebration and African Consciousness Award Presentation.** – Co-sponsored by The DC Council of Elders and supported by ADACI, UBC and LCPAN. Performance by the Malcolm X Dancers & Drummers. Presentation of the African Consciousness Award to Mama Almasi Weusi Wilcots. At Plymouth Congregational Church, 5301 N. Capitol St. NE, WDC 6:00pm. Call (202) 526-4039, (202) 529-3635, (240) 832-7203.

*All events listed are FREE, unless otherwise stated.*

Union Temple Baptist Church is having a Candle-Lighting Service and Programs every Night of Kwanzaa, Honoring various ancestors starting at 7:00pm @1225 W St., S.E. Washington, DC 20020  
For more info: (202)678-8822 [uniontemplebaptistchurch.com](http://uniontemplebaptistchurch.com)



## UNITED BLACK COMMUNITY 2014 FORUMS

- Feb 21** **Economic Forum: Mobilizing our efforts toward Black Economic Self-Reliance:** This forum will identify concrete models for strengthening Black “economic self-reliance”. We will explore these models by looking at them from a local, national and international point of view. We will examine how each individual can participate and/or support each approach or model. We will highlight specific individuals in our community that have researched and studied each approach put forth by our great scholars and economists. We will analyze and discuss each approach. We will conduct this discussion in light of our past and the realities of today. In addition, we will take a close look at the current status of establishing a viable credit union – APPEAL. 7:00 - 10pm
- Mar 21** **Africa and the Roots of Digital Computing:** This forum will explore the African origins of binary computing (the basis of the digital world we now live in). We will examine how early African technology established the foundation of your “iPad” and other modern digital devices that we now take for granted. In addition, we will look at other questions relevant to Africa’s capacity to again lead the technical world of the future. 7:00 - 10pm
- Apr 18** **Back to Africa Projects:** The annual showcase and presentations on projects and business efforts that members of our community are currently undertaking on the continent of Africa and other places in the Black world. These presentations are designed to educate and increase community participation and support these efforts. 7:00-10:00pm.
- May 17** **Kuzaliwa 2014:** Each year, UBC honors Brother Malcolm X (El Hajj Malik El Shabazz Omowale) by holding a daylong conference on an important topic in the Black Community. This year we look at the importance of our ability to strengthen and maintain our African identity in the modern world. We will examine the difference between people with a strong cultural identity and those without. We will attempt to define what it means culturally to be an African as well as take a close look at the institutions that we have developed to help retain our identity in contemporary society. In addition, we will honor many of the individuals in our community that have selflessly devoted their lives against insurmountable odds to ensure African cultural continuity in our community, with the UMOJA Award. 12:00noon
- Jun 20** **African Spirituality and Liberation:** This forum will review and discuss the role and use of African spiritual practices in African liberation efforts. As African people, it is important to acknowledge that spirituality is at the core of who we are. With this awareness, it is therefore essential to incorporate spirituality in our daily lives, community, organizational and nation-building efforts. We will explore historical models to this effect and examine methods to apply it to today. 7:00 - 10pm
- Jul 18** **What is the current state of Marriage in the Black Community?:** This forum will explore this proverbial question: what happened to marriage and family in our community. We will also examine such related questions as “why have divorce rates, as well as the rate of single parent families skyrocketed in our community over the last 40 years. We will discuss just what we can do about this very serious issue. 7:00 - 10pm
- Aug 22** **Black Self-Hatred: Our Crisis in Self-Respect:** This forum will examine the question: To what extent Black people have bought into, and in some cases even facilitated, our own demonization and degradation; we will look at to what extent the problem of Black self-hatred has not been successfully addressed. We will look at the extent that skin bleaching cream, straight hair and European features have unfortunately been accepted as standards of beauty in much of the Black world. We will critically analyze what we can do about this ongoing problem in our community. Come out and help us discuss this very pervasive issue. 7:00-10pm
- Sep 19** **An Analysis of the Development of Black Classical/Cultural Music (Jazz) by way of a Tribute to John Coltrane:** This annual event features a critical look at the development of inspirational Black Music and its impact on the Liberation Movement through a musical and poetic journey about the life and legacy of one of its most influential proponents, Brother John “ Ohnedaruth” Coltrane. Plymouth Congregational Church, 5301 N. Capitol St. NE, WDC. 7:00 - 10pm

All Forums are free and held at Umoja House 2015 Bunker Hill Rd. NE Washington, DC, unless otherwise stated  
(202)526-4039 – [ubcindc@yahoo.com](mailto:ubcindc@yahoo.com) – [www.unitedblackcommunity.com](http://www.unitedblackcommunity.com)

**The United Black Community (UBC)** is a coalition of individuals in the Pan-African Community that belong to many different progressive Pan-African organizations. One of UBC’s principal objectives is to sponsor community-wide events that bring the BLACK COMMUNITY closer together and project the philosophy of Pan-African Nationalism to the broader Black Community.

UBC currently sponsors two main events: Kwanzaa and Kuzaliwa. For Kwanzaa, we organize various events and publicize the events of others that remain true to its original standards. In order to honor Brother Malcolm X, we hold our Kuzaliwa (Happy Birthday) celebration in May and present the Umoja Award to individuals that exemplify and honor his memory by helping to unite Black people through their work. UBC also sponsors monthly programs. See above for more details.

If you are interested in working with UBC, contact us at: 240-832-7203, 202-309-3443 or 202-526-4039, PO Box 10011, Washington DC 20018.

*Asante Sana! (Thank You Very Much) and Have a Happy, Wholesome and Peaceful Kwanzaa.*  
The United Black Community



## *Unity = Community*

We have always understood that there is strength in unity. For the Black Community and other oppressed people this universally accepted adage is doubly true. When we come together to meet the challenges we face, we move from a posture of possibility to one of achievability. Without unity we have no chance to become a free and self determining people able to meet our needs and reach our collective goals.

What we have not clearly understood is that the manifestation of that unity must come in the form of a community. The concept of community in this context does not mean a neighborhood per se. This concept specifically means that our degree of interdependence must be increased. This strengthening will help to create a lasting bond between each other. It is this building of interdependence that is the basis of a unified community. This process must start with those of us that most often express a belief in that unity - Pan Africanists.

The task of all Pan Africanists is to build linkages between African people both locally and globally. The objective is to create and strengthen community by establishing new connections and enhancing old ones. Pan Africanists must strengthen their connections to each other until those links can not be undermined by those who wish to have us serve their agenda, rather than our own.

Understanding the need for *unity in our community* should mean that we understand the need for building a Pan African community. This will point us in the direction that can ultimately free us from our servitude. Building community is a clear manifestation of what we should mean when we call for unity.



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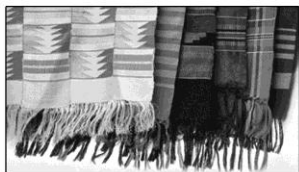
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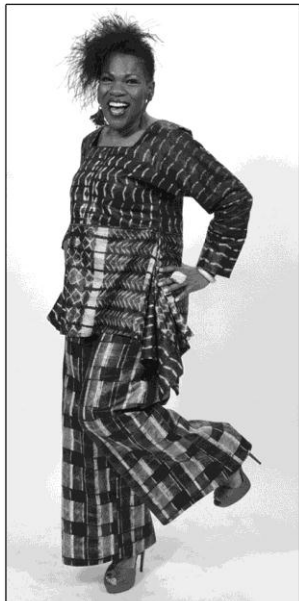


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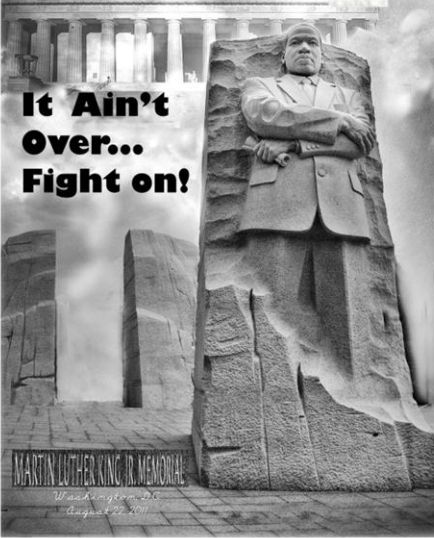
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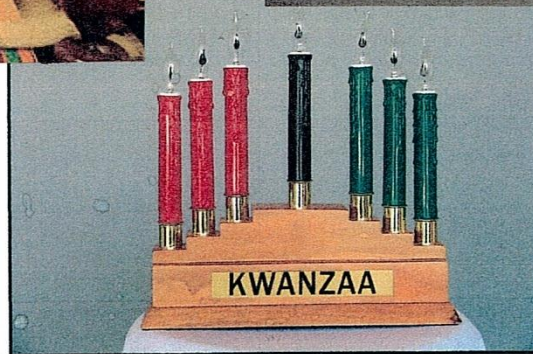
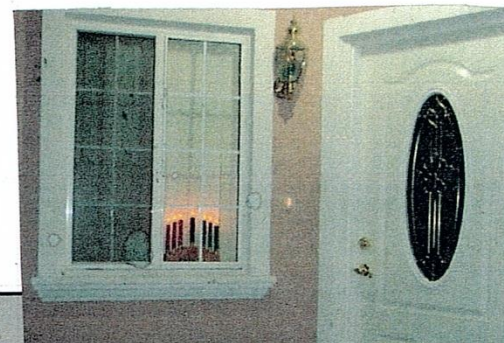
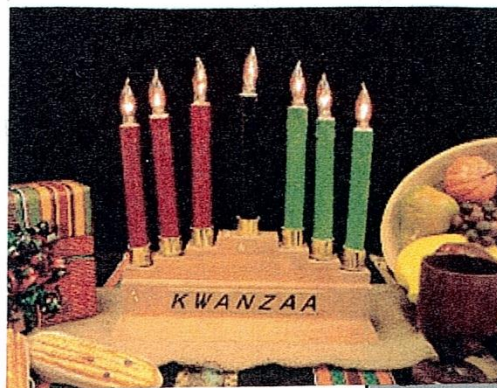
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- 6' foot power cord
- Designed for use on 110-120 volt circuit





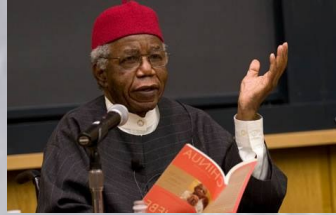
# In Memory of...



**Jitu Weusi**  
*Political Activist,  
Organizer, Educator*



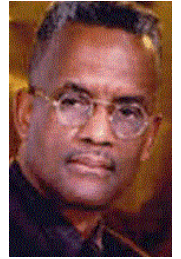
**Al Johnson**  
*Vocalist, Composer and  
Arranger*



**Chinua Achebe**  
*Educator and Revolutionary  
Novelist*



**George Duke**  
*Black Classical (Jazz)  
Musician*



**Tony Martin**  
*Historian, Educator and  
Author*



**Baba Kalonji Olusegun**  
*African Consciousness  
Award Recipient & Garvvyito*



**Nelson Mandela (Madiba)**  
*Anti-Apartheid Freedom Fighter,  
Political Prisoner*



**The Unknown Warrior**



**Baba Seiku Owusu**  
*Activist, Past President  
of Republic of New Afrika*



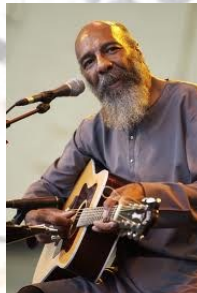
**Kalaparusha Maurice McIntyre**  
*CO-Founder of the Association for the  
Advancement of Creative Musicians*



**Chico Hamilton**  
*Black Classical (Jazz)  
Musician*



**Herman Wallace**  
*Angola's Political Prisoner*



**Ritchie Havens**  
*Conscious Folk Musician  
and Environmental Activist*



**Gloria Lynn**  
*Vocal Stylist*



**Nana Kimati Dinizulu**  
*Akan Priest, World Renowned  
African Drummer/Musician*



**Nana Anum Nyako**  
*Akan Ekimbo Priest*



**Donald Byrd**  
*Black Classical (Jazz)  
Musician, Educator*



**Bobby Blue Bland**  
*Blues Musician*



**Butch Warren**  
*Black Classical Musician*



**Kenyetta Alston-Sia**  
*Community Organizer*