



# HURSTON WRIGHT

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*A Resource Center for Writers, Readers & Supporters of Black Literature Since 1990*

*“I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver.”  
- Maya Angelou*

Dear Supporters of Black literature:



Can you imagine living in a world where we are unable to tell our own stories? This is why the Hurston/Wright Foundation was born eighteen years ago: to discover, honor, and develop Black writers...by which we *all* benefit as a result.

Why do we all need an institution like Hurston/Wright? It's simple: humans exist in language. At Hurston/Wright, we teach the science, art, and skill of writing to authors on all levels. We show people how to discover and fit together the right words to express themselves effectively, in a nurturing environment. We have been doing this for eighteen years via several annual programs, including the Legacy Award, Writers' Week Workshops, the Award for College Writers, and tuition-free residency and non-resident workshops for teens. We invite you to visit us at [www.hurstonwright.org](http://www.hurstonwright.org) to find out more.

Right now, however, we have reached a critical point: we are maturing as a foundation, and are preparing ourselves to expand to address more global needs. We have very exciting initiatives in store for 2009 and beyond:

- on-line creative writing workshops
- one-on-one coaching and mentoring sessions
- broadening the scope of the Creative Writing Workshops for teens
- an electronic newsletter
- monthly on-line 'Meet the Author' series
- live, interactive readers' seminars

To provide all of this and more, *we need your help*. We depend entirely upon our supporters, and are able to serve only in proportion to the levels of funding we receive!

We have an immediate need to raise \$50,000 by the end of this calendar year, in order to continue to move the above-listed initiatives forward.

As the Executive Director, I know I speak for the entire board when I express a heightened responsibility to future generations who could benefit from our programs. By making a generous tax-deductible contribution today, *you help us keep the doors open*. You help us provide a place where people can practice *effective communication*.

Just think: for example, five people making an ongoing contribution of just \$30 a month for 12 months will make it possible for one student to attend a teen workshop. These workshops provide teens confidence in their ability to read, write and speak, which in turn enhances their grades, thus increasing academic competitiveness.

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As a previous supporter, we urge you to continue to include Hurston/Wright in your tax-deductible giving plans. As a new supporter, we welcome you to the family!

You may make your donation online at [www.hurstonwright.org](http://www.hurstonwright.org), or, if donating by mail, please send a check or money order to:

Hurston/Wright Foundation  
6525 Belcrest Road, Suite 531  
Hyattsville, MD 20782

We thank you for your gift; any size will make a difference. We encourage you to tell others about us, as well. We have made great strides in the past eighteen years, and with your help, we will do even greater things in the future.



*"Such as I am, I am precious gift."*  
-Zora Neale Hurston

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clyde McElvene".

Clyde McElvene  
Executive Director and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marita Golden".

Marita Golden  
President Emeritus

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucy Anne Hurston".

Lucy Hurston  
Founding Board Member