

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Sponsors Pulitzer Prize Winning Author, Rita Dove, at UNLV on October 15

In their continuing quest to bring minority and cultural affairs to the Las Vegas area, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, in conjunction with the Nevada Humanities Committee, is sponsoring Pulitzer Prize winning author Rita Dove at UNLV's Humanities Auditorium on Saturday, October 15, 1988 at 7:30 p.m. Dove will present readings and discussion of her past and present work, including excerpts from *Thomas and Beulah*, her latest book.

Prize-Winning Laureate

U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Penn Warren — just half a year before Rita Dove won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry — predicted "higher awards" for her impressive achievements. He had awarded her the Lavan Prize of the Academy of American Poets.

For years, Dove had been known in literary circles not only as a virtuoso poet but as a captivating reader. Now she is renowned for her 20th century family saga *Thomas and Beulah*, which in 1987 won her the Pulitzer. Her ability to read with brilliant, dramatic force had made her a master of podium and stage as well as print.

When Dove won the Pulitzer Prize, she was quick to point out that she felt the award was as much for the people she wrote about—the black men and women who left the South for places like Akron, Ohio, where she was born—as it was for her. "I think these are the people who often are ignored and lost," says Dove. "The people in Akron; minorities — they're not going to be on *Dynasty*..."

Rita Dove does not suggest that black experience is identical with white experience, but neither does she suggest that it is always different. Her character's experience of motherhood — her terror

of doing it wrong, the exhaustion of having no privacy, her irritation at the grown girls — is one all races share.

The Making of a Poet

Dove is a graduate of Miami University and the University of Iowa Writers Workshop. She has spent several years in Europe and is now a professor of English at Arizona State University.

She's been the recipient of a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship, a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Guggenheim Fellowship and a General Electric Foundation Award, among other honors. She recently won the Pulitzer Prize for her work *Thomas and Beulah*. At age 34, she was one of the youngest recipients and only the second Afro-American poet to be added to that prestigious list.

Her books, *The Yellow House on the Corner* and *Museum* appeared in 1980 and 1983. *Thomas and Beulah* is published by Carnegie-Mellon University Press. *Fifth Sunday*, a collection of short fiction, was published in 1985 and is available from the University Press of Virginia.

Truly Compelling

Rita Dove, a petite and outgoing woman, is clearly at ease with her popularity. She grins gently at the surprisingly large crowd that has gathered for a reading. Suddenly she bursts into a bright smile: "When we set this up a couple of months ago, I thought this would be a nice intimate reading." The audience laughs as she squints in mock dismay at the bright lights that ring the hall. "But I want to thank you for being so joyously supportive."

Rita Dove's appearance, which is free and available to the general public, will

be a memorable and exciting evening.

In the past nine years, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has sponsored such notable persons as: Maya Angelou, Nikki Gioiovanni, Julian Bond, LeRone Bennett, and Alvin Pouissant. Those programs have enhanced public understanding of the Black experience in America and it is expected that this current event will continue the past trends.

Professional Black Women's Alliance Sponsors Workshop for Welfare Recipients

On Saturday, October 1 at Doolittle Center, approximately 100 Welfare Recipients participated in a workshop and panel discussion sponsored by the Professional Black Women's Alliance. The workshop opened with President, Faye Duncan-Daniel advising the group of the effects of the recent Workfare bill passed by President Reagan and that now time is crucial for training to make the transition from welfare to workfare.

The participants were treated to a lively panel discussion by Mrs. Willa Bywaters-White of AOIP, Mrs. Vera Sampson-Adams of the Martin Luther King Jr., Committee, Mrs. Bessie Braggs of the Community Food Bank, Mrs. Maggie Pearson (recipient of the P.B.W.A.'s Rose Award) and a counselor at Rancho High School, Mrs. Jean Childs of E.O.B., Mrs. Ruby Duncan of E.O.B. (Winner of the Community Service Award PBWA), and Mrs. Brenda Williams of LeBrim Hats, of the reality of the legislation and its application. Their topics were: Rights vs. Responsibility — Welfare Lifestyles vs. Nonwelfare Lifestyles, Food and Nutrition, Day Care & Transportation Backup and many timely subjects germane to their training and transition into the workforce.

Workshops were conducted by P.B.W.A. members on "How to get and keep a job," with emphasis on job ethics, A Dress for Pennies fashion show finalized the event. Clothing was furnished by the Junior League of Las Vegas and modeled by Shiela Sims.

This event is one of a series of workshops being sponsored by the P.B.W.A.

Sister Deloris A. Moore Elected Grand Worthy Matron

Desert Rose Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliation, recently held its Seventh Annual Communications here in Las Vegas. Sister Deloris A. Moore was elected Grand Worthy Matron for 1988-89.

Other officers elected were: Sis. Mildred Springs-Hall, Grand Associate Matron; Bro. Joseph Bell, Grand Worthy Patron; Bro. T. C. Freeman, Grand Associate Patron; Sis. Ida Mae Gaines, Grand Treasurer; Sis. Gloria H. Freeman, Grand Secretary; Sis. Mattie McSwain, Grand Conductress; Sis. Ida Mae Patterson, Grand Associate Conductress; Sis. Juanita Jerkins, Grand Recording Secretary; and Sis. Sadie Orange, Grand Lecturer.

The subordinate chapters of Desert Rose Grand Chapter of Nevada, Inc., meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights of each month at 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. at the Prince



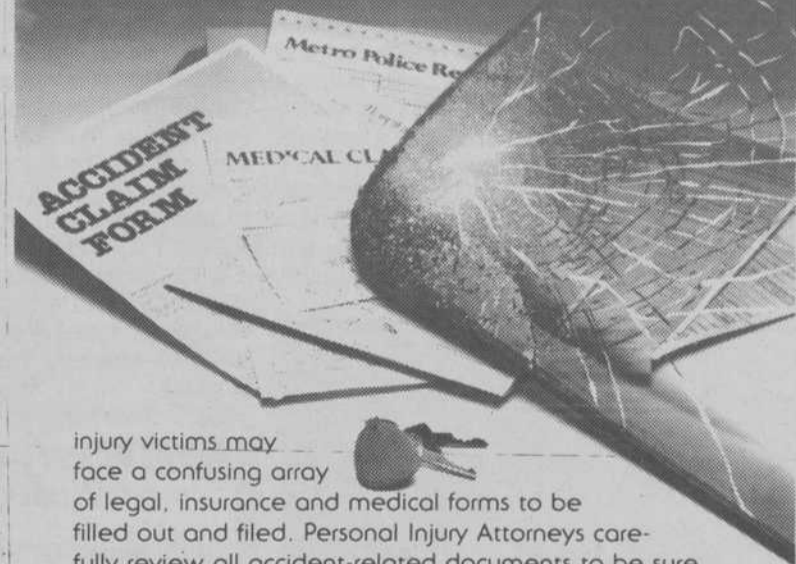
Grand Worthy Matron Deloris A. Moore

Hall Masonic Lodge, 2700 For more information, call Colton, No. Las Vegas, NV. 452-0061.

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