

NIKKI GIOVANNI

Nikki Giovanni is a world-renowned poet, writer, commentator, activist, and educator. Over the past thirty years, her outspokenness, in her writing and in lectures, has brought the eyes of the world upon her. Giovanni remains as determined and committed as ever to the fight for civil rights and equality. Early in her career she was dubbed the "Princess of Black Poetry," and over the course of more than three decades she has come to be called both a "National Treasure" and, most recently, one of Oprah Winfrey's twenty-five "Living Legends."



Her autobiography, *Gemini*, was a finalist for the National Book Award; *Love Poems, Blues: For All the Changes*, and *Quilting the Black-Eyed Pea* were all honored with NAACP Image Awards. *Blues: For All the Changes* reached #4 on the Los Angeles Times Bestseller list, a rare achievement for a book of poems. Most recently, her children's picture book *Rosa*, about the civil rights legend Rosa Parks. *Rosa* reached #3 on The New York Times Bestseller list.

Her album *Truth Is On Its Way*, on which she reads her poetry against a background of gospel music, was a top 100 album and received the Best Spoken Word Album given by the National Association of Radio and Television Announcers. Her Nikki Giovanni Poetry Collection was one of five finalists for a Grammy Award.

The recipient of some twenty-five honorary degrees, she has been named Woman of the Year by *Mademoiselle Magazine*, *The Ladies Home Journal*, and *Ebony Magazine*. She was tapped for the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame and named an Outstanding Woman of Tennessee. Giovanni has also received Governor's Awards from both Tennessee and Virginia. She was the first recipient of the Rosa L. Parks Woman of Courage Award, and she has also been awarded the Langston Hughes Medal for poetry. She is an honorary member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and has received Life Membership and Scroll from The National Council of Negro Women.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- World-renowned poet, writer, commentator, activist, and educator.
- Oprah Winfrey's twenty-five "Living Legends."
- National Book Award
- NAACP Image Awards
- Los Angeles / The New York Times Bestseller list
- Woman of the Year by *Mademoiselle Magazine*, *The Ladies Home Journal*, and *Ebony Magazine*
- Ohio Women's Hall of Fame
- Outstanding Woman of Tennessee
- Rosa L. Parks Woman of Courage Award,
- Langston Hughes Medal for poetry

PAST COLLEGE DATES:

Texas Tech University - Fisk University – Auburn University - University of Tennessee – Drury University
Delaware State University - Cumberland University - Tennessee State University - University of New York in Buffalo
University of Chicago - Queens College - University of Pennsylvania - California State University
Southern University