

Biography

Honey Bell-Bey is a highly sought after motivational poet, published author, youth/community advocate and experienced trainer in the field of Substance Abuse; Youth Work; Culture and the Integration of Science and Innovative Practices. As a graduate of the historic *Bethune-Cookman University*, holding a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Broadcast Production Technology, she has been employed with NBC affiliates, Sports South at CNN, and the Atlanta Olympic Games.

Her TED talk and presentations at colleges/universities and conferences garner standing ovations for her inspirational presentation styles. She is an Ohio Certified Drug Prevention Consultant Youth Advocate and Motivational poet, who employs creative arts strategies, engaging youth and adults alike. She is a Trainer for the Mandel Center (*Case Western Reserve University*); The CCYWI (*Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute*); a Master Trainer for Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (*SAMHSA- Substance Abuse Prevention Skill Training*) and *Regional Training Liaison for North Central Ohio (Institute for Human Services)*. She has spoken at: *the City Club of Cleveland; the Rotary Club of Cleveland; National Prevention Network Conference; Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network Conference; the OPEC and UMADAOP conferences*, and has been featured on *NPR, PBS, NBC, ABC, Fox and ABC news outlets*.

In January, 2020 she was sworn in as the first official Poet Laureate of Cuyahoga County (Cleveland, Ohio). In May, 2020, *the New York Times* announced that she was named one of the countries Poet Laureate fellows by the Academy of American Poets.

She has created a workshop series for social workers and mental health practitioners "*How Well is your Well of Wellness: A review of SAMHSA's Dimension of Wellness*", and has presented throughout the country, using her wellness journey as a canvas to engage woman, youth and practitioners on the topic of Arts Leadership in Trauma Informed Care.

She is the Founder, Director and writer for *The International, Distinguished Gentlemen of Spoken Word* (A character based performance troupe for adolescent males age 12-21. In 2015 she successfully raised over \$75,000 to travel with these students to Paris, France where she supported their tour, performing before thousands at the US Embassy, before the Consulate; at schools and community centers throughout Europe. She has won numerous awards and Congressional Recognitions for her innovative programming strategies engaging youth from high risk environments.

She is the twin sister to Sugar and rises every day intent on giving more to life than she ever takes through dedicated inspiration, service and the power of the spoken word.

Brief Statement

A motivational poet, published author, community advocate and experienced trainer in the field of Substance Abuse; Youth Work; Culture and the Integration of Science and Innovative Practice. She is the founder, director and writer for *The Distinguished Gentlemen of Spoken Word* (A character based international performance troupe for adolescent males age 12-21).

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