



1st Annual Gathering for Adoptees and Fosters of African Descent: Healing Ourselves, Making Connections

November 7-9th 2008
Oakland, CA

For Adoptees & Foster Alums Only!

afaad
adopted & fostered adults
of the african diaspora

AFAAD (Adopted and Fostered Adults of the African Diaspora) was formed specifically to support adopted and fostered people, to share our common and divergent experiences around race, adoption, joy, loss, family, search and reunion, and self identity and to celebrate our unique creativity, stories and community.

AFAAD's First Annual Gathering, *Healing Ourselves, Making Connections* is designed with you mind.

Membership is open to any adoptee or fostered person of African/Black - Caribbean/ Asian/ Latin/ Mixed decent. Please visit our website for a membership application.

Gathering Events

- Discussions
- Workshops
- Performances
 - Films
- Networking
- Author Panels
- Book Sales

Mission

AFAAD is a nonprofit that connects, supports, and advocates for the needs of the African diasporic adoption and foster care community on a global level through community and youth outreach, legislative advocacy, research, and social gatherings.

AFAAD
PO Box 24771
Oakland, CA 94607

E-mail: afaadinfo@gmail.com
Website: afaad.wordpress.com
Phone: 510.836.0133



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Gathering Info

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TO REGISTER:
go to afaad.wordpress.com for information!
Early registration and Student Rates available.

What, Where and When!

What: *First Annual Gathering for Adoptees and Fosters of African Descent: Healing Ourselves, Making Connections*

Where: Our first gathering is being hosted by the lovely Washington Inn, a luxury boutique hotel ideally situated at the center of downtown Oakland, CA, close to all forms of public transportation. See <http://www.thewashingtoninn.com/> for more information, or call 510.452.1776. Individuals visiting the Bay Area must make their own hotel reservations **separately from AFAAD Gathering registration.**

Schedule:

Friday November 7th, 2008

9am-4pm Welcome, Workshops, Presentations, Discussion Groups

Other Events: Lunch, Networking Hour, Poetry / Novel Reading, Performance, Film Screening

Saturday November 8, 2008

9am-4pm Workshops, Presentations, Discussion Groups, Author Panel

Other Events: Trip to MOAD in San Francisco, Black Panther Historical Tour, Networking Cocktail Hour w/ AKASF and/or other Local Adult Adoptee Orgs, Dinner, Later Evening Party

Sunday November 9, 2008

10am-12pm Sunday Brunch and Farewell

1pm-4pm Board Member Meeting

(look for a more detailed schedule online)

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**For Adoptees &
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AFAAD invites session proposals from adult adoptees and foster alums who plan to attend the AFAAD Gathering. Panels, discussions, workshops, presentations, film screenings, performances, poetry, art displays and/or other types of sessions are all welcomed and encouraged.

Possible topics could include but are not limited to:

- Placing International and Domestic Adoption issues in a social justice context.
- The Diversity of the Transracial Adoption Experience
- Kinship Adoption and Black Identity
- Foster Care Search and Reunion Issues
- Adoption from Haiti and Ethiopia
- I was given up because I am black
- Struggling with Racist Relatives
- Celebrating the Joys of adoption
- Favoritism in the extended family
- Lifelong emotional impact of reunion
- I'm adopted and I have adopted a child
- The language of Being Grateful and Family Loyalty
- Afro-Asians - Adopted from Korea during War Times
- LGBT - Queer Adoptees / Adoptees with LGBTQ parents
- Being a Man/ Woman Being Adopted - How do we think about how black manhood or woman hood as impacted by adoption and race? Fatherhood? Motherhood? survival tools?
- Same Race Adoptees issues of family, mirroring, identification, search and reunion, black identity
- Foster Adults - survivors of the foster care system, living institutional lives, what to do now
- Writing workshop
- Healing Ceremony for African Diasporic adoptees
- Taking care of yourself as a professional in the field
- Author presentation (share your book(s))

Sessions must be organized by one or more adult adoptee who will be present at the gathering.

Deadline October 5, 2008. Submit proposals to afaadinfo@gmail.com