

# AFRICA NETWORK

Resources Information Action • P.O. Box 5366 Evanston, IL 60204

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Dennis Brutus

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Joy Carew

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Y.B. Holly

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Mokubung Nkomo

### Washington D.C.

### Coordinator

Allan Ebert

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Apartheid & Racism

### (Albany, NY)

Dear Friends,

18 July, 1988 marks the 70th birthday of Nelson Mandela.

It is hoped to be able to put together an anthology of poems in his honor.

Please submit to me by July 15 (Friday) any poems or messages of greeting you wish to have considered for inclusion in this **TRIBUTE TO NELSON MANDELA** publication.

We hope to have the work ready to be presented to Rev. Allan Boesak when he visits Louisville in October, enabling him to return to South Africa with the book, for its deliverance in tribute to Nelson Mandela.

With hopes for an overwhelming response of support, I am,

Yours truly,

*Amelia Blossom House*

Amelia Blossom House

Coordinator, Nelson Mandela Publication Project

P.O. Box 1222

New Gardens

Fort Knox, KY 40121

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## NELSON MANDELA 70TH BIRTHDAY PUBLICATION PROJECT

Through this publication, which will consist mainly of poetry, we wish to honor one of our leaders, Nelson Mandela, who has been imprisoned in South Africa for 25 years. We will also seek to put Mandela's life in the perspective of the greater struggle of oppressed people. The publication will be meaningful and dignified as befits the man we are honoring.

In seeking birthday messages from leaders of this country, our wish is to demonstrate the solidarity of all people of conscience.

## PURPOSE:

1. To give writers an opportunity to pay tribute.
2. To enable people of conscience to reaffirm their commitment to the struggle for Human Rights for all people.
3. To allow South African writers "in exile" and other African writers an opportunity to come together with American writers in common purpose.
4. To contribute some pages to the history of the lives of the heroes of our time.
5. To establish a Nelson Mandela Scholarship which will enable students to study in Black Studies Departments.

## FORMAT:

1. The book will consist primarily of poems, however, it is recognized that prose writers may also wish to contribute short pieces.
2. A few artists might be asked to submit sketches - either of Nelson Mandela or responses to some of the poems.
3. Rev. Allan Boesak has been asked to write a Foreword. Messages from other committed world leaders will be sought.
4. The editors will be Estelle Conwill-Alexander, Amelia Blossom House and Cosmo Pieterse.

## PROCESS:

1. Writers will be invited to submit some work for consideration.
2. The editors will decide on the selection.