San Bernardino Public Library Presents West African Dance Workshop/Performance

Makeda Mumasi will be appearing at the Feldheym Central Library to present a West African Dance Workshop for families on Saturday, March 19 at 3:00 PM. She will be bringing a member of her Umoja Ensemble for a drum accompaniment. Mumasi will also be doing a reading of her new picture poetry book, "I See Hip Hop Afrika". She says, “My vision was to create a nonfiction book for young readers and adults alike that allows them to travel along with me on my recent twelve-day sabbatical through the rich cultural country sides and cities of Senegal. In this book, I return to my craft as a spoken word artist, poetically capturing the beauty, intrigue, and joy of Africa.”

Makeda Kumasi is the founder of The Umoja Ensemble of the Inland Empire and Co-founder of WE 3 PRODUCTIONS. Currently she teaches West African Dance at the University of California, Riverside. She has a M.Ed. from the University of Phoenix and a MFA from the University of Southern California. Kumasi received numerous awards, recognitions and scholarships including the Phyllis E Williams’ Artist Grant 2006, Top Spoken Word Artist Black Business Expo Urban Idol 2004, Ida Mae Holland Playwrights Award 2001, and California Art Scholar for Dance in 1993. Kumasi is a featured Spoken Word Artist and West African Dancer who has performed across the nation including, The World Stage in Leimert Park Village, Los Angeles; the Ford Amphitheatre in Hollywood, CA; and the Ogdensburg Theater in NY. As a poet she has also been featured on MTV’s Starting Over and BET’s Fly Poet.

This free program will take place in the Bing Wong Auditorium at the Feldheym Central Library at 555 W. 6th Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410. Books will be available for purchase and signing. For more information call the library at 909-381-8238, visit our website www.sbpl.org, or visit our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/SBPLfriends/