



## 2021-2022 Newsletter

### Announcement

#### Great news!

The time has come when updates are necessary to share the exciting growth of our programs. Most of you may know that Authors Inside was formally established in the summer of 2020 (yes, during the Covid-19 Pandemic). However, the co-founders began their service by providing writing and publishing support to incarcerated authors, Emmanuel Gaisie, George K.L. Smith, and Kamau Shabazz aka Otis Greene in 2019.

That's right! Those guys each went on to successfully publish their books, have all been paroled from prison, and are now dedicated directors of diverse programs with Authors Inside. You can read more about them on our website. For now, we hope you enjoy reading our exciting updates.

### Inside This Issue

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Results from 2021-2022 program Engagement Surveys.

#### PG. 3

Educational Services and Programming Resources program updates.

#### PG. 4

Writing and Book Publishing program updates.



Co-Founder and Chief Business Development Officer  
Author of *The Concert of Denial & Manipulation*



George K. L. Smith  
Programming Resources Director  
Author of *The Molding of Him*,  
Co-author, *I OWN I AM*, and *Butterflies and Bumblebees*



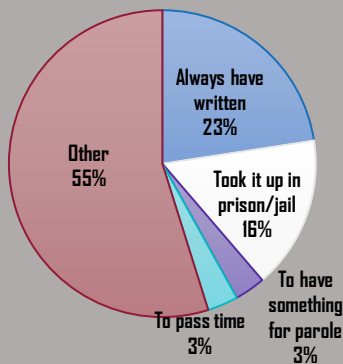
Kamau A. Shabazz  
SUDCC II, CDMS, BCRPS, SME  
Educational Services Director  
Co-author, *I OWN I AM*

Each incarcerated author who reaches out to our organization is given an optional Engagement Survey that helps us get to know them and their needs.

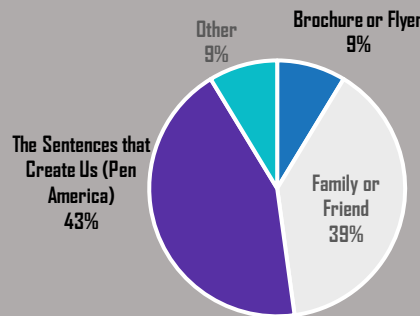
**HERE IS WHAT WE LEARNED...**

- 1. **What is your primary reason for writing a book?** Upon review of the results, surprisingly, incarcerated writers reported reasons for writing as things like; to honor God, for family, creative or therapeutic reasons, and to help others.
- 2. **How Did You Hear About Authors Inside?** Most participants reported hearing about Authors Inside from the book, *The Sentences that Create Us*, and we are truly grateful to Pen America for including our publishing program as a resource.
- 3. **What Is Your Book Genre?** The most popular manuscripts that we receive are self-help, memoirs, and poetry books.
- 4. **What Is the Core Message of Your Book?** Consistently, the theme of book projects we receive center around giving back, encouragement, and helping others. Restoring the community is another common theme.
- 5. **Do You Currently Participate in Any Writing Programs?** Another surprise finding, each respondent said they would like to participate in a writing program but there were none offered outside of GED courses.
- 6. **What Kind of Writing Support Would You Need?** Things like mentorship, writing workbooks and publishing services ranked high in the desire for additional support.

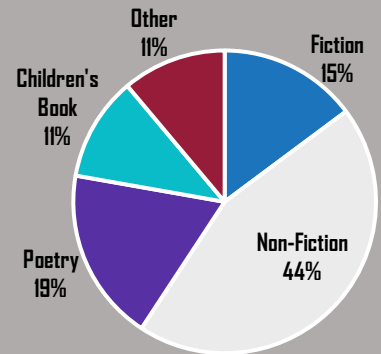
1. What Is Your Primary Reason For Writing A Book?



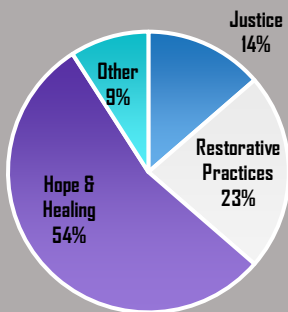
2. How Did You Hear About Authors Inside?



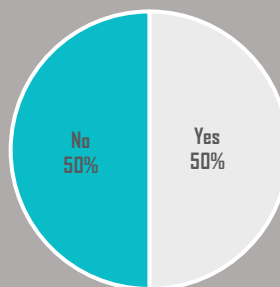
3. What Is Your Book Genre?



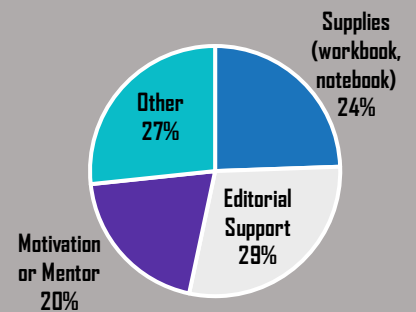
4. What Is The Core Message Of Your Book?



5. Do You Currently Participate In Any Writing Programs?



6. What Kind Of Writing Support Would You Need?



## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

### Program Update

The Educational Services branch of Authors Inside is proud to announce that behavior-specific curriculums can be produced for in-home self-study in addition to creation and publication for county probation, juvenile halls, county jails, prisons, transitional homes, state parole, and by criminal justice students based on their respective need.

Communication with the Educational Services Director is readily available to address your needs and concerns and to build a platform to provide you optimal service. Forthcoming will be an introductory video that will give insight into the philosophy behind the interactive workbook "I O.W.N. I AM" and how you can change and make a greater impact by changing lives through a collaborated effort with the men and women behind Authors Inside.

### Teaching "I O.W.N. I AM"

It was with great honor and encouragement that I found myself responsible for the Educational Services of Authors Inside's self-imposed task to create Hope, Healing, and Reform to Reduce Recidivism. Because of the publication of the interactive workbook which I co-authored (as Otis Greene III) with the formerly infamous George K.L. Smith, I was able to teach others by utilizing his life and mine, how to grasp the origin of their dysfunction and utilize it as an opportunity to change, how to change, what that change should look like, and how to prevent a return to a place of negativity.

I have had the privilege of executing this task in several prisons within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation as well as inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities in California (and one time in Minnesota). The fact that I have been able to use the "crud" (George uses that word) of my life and his to encourage others to live a healthy lifestyle and safeguard the lives of others has been a blessing bestowed upon me that I will forever be grateful for.

## PROGRAMMING RESOURCES

Each Saturday, since February 5th, 2022, Authors Inside's Programming Resources Director, George K. L. Smith, has provided the youth of the Juvenile Justice Center in Alameda County an opportunity to explore and highlight their personal successes through narrative writing, despite their current state of physical incarceration.

By providing the youth with a platform to challenge their own perceptions, beliefs, and values, we have begun to witness a beautiful transformation of the necessary correcting of existing mistaken beliefs.

The youth are engaged in Anger Management, Character Defect Management, Denial Management, Time Management and prevention techniques and strategies derived from the G.R.O.W. programs very own, A New View curriculum. There are youth who are currently writing their own books and anthologies to become published authors.



**We would like to introduce our newest volunteer, Rayvon Williamson, who will be helping in our Programming Resources program.**

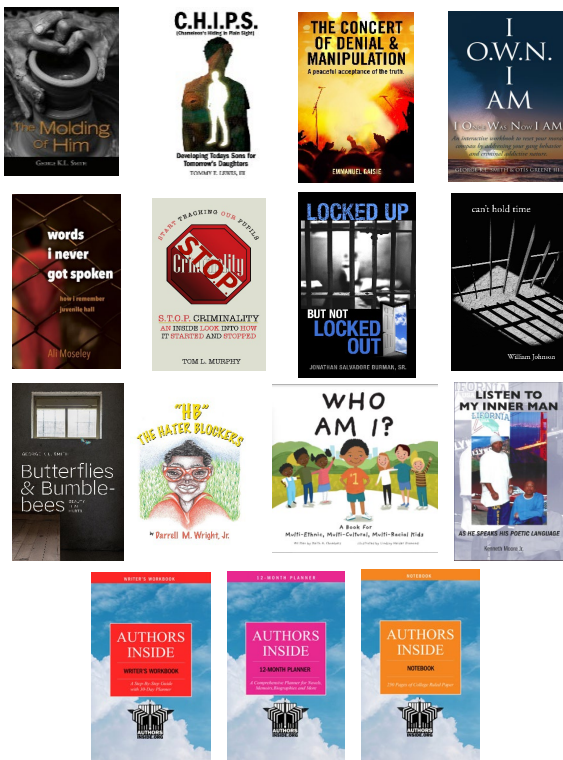
*Welcome to the team Mr. Williamson!*



## Writing & Book Publishing

At the heart and soul of the work we do is a trauma-informed writing program. Authors Inside's hope is to create a pathway for at-risk youth, teens and young adults entering the judicial system, as well as adult offenders, to make sustainable change through narrative and creative writing. We believe writing is therapeutic and can be expressed in many forms.

The authors who partner with us to accomplish their writing goals have published in genres from poetry, memoirs, children's books, and self-help. For writers who need additional support, we offer a 3-book resource set as a guide (see images on the left).



## SUPPORT AN AUTHOR



**\$25 donation** provides an author with a writing workbook set



**\$50 donation** helps 2 authors receive a writing workbook set



**\$100-500 donation** helps pay for editing, graphic artist, interior formatting, or illustrations



**\$1,000+ donation** helps an author publish a book

- To date, Authors Inside has published 12 books written by incarcerated authors
- It costs us approximately \$2,500 (below market cost) to complete a project (*includes line editing, proofreading, interior formatting, illustrations, and graphic designs*)
- Currently, we have 4 book projects awaiting publication, and 10 new manuscripts awaiting a publishing contract, all of which we feel advance our mission and vision statement
- Due to low funds, we have reached a point where community donations are needed to help us continue offering our writing and publishing program
- Your donation will help us continue to provide writing resources, support, and book publishing to incarcerated authors. These books have a valuable message that provides healing and hope for the offender, victims, and the community

**Thank you for your help and support!**

