



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Author, Entrepreneur and Visionary Susan L. Taylor, Legendary Poet/Activist Sonia Sanchez and Grammy-Nominated Singer/Songwriter Dwele are Scheduled to Perform During the 2010 Charlotte Literary & Queen City Neo Soul Music Festival September 10th and 11th

(Charlotte, NC) August 17, 2010 - The 2010 **Charlotte Literary Festival** (CLF) will be held September 10 and 11, 2010 at The Park (formerly the Charlotte Merchandise Mart) located at 2500 E. Independence Boulevard only minutes from Uptown Charlotte. In honor of CLF's 5th year anniversary, festival organizers have partnered with the inaugural **Queen City Neo Soul Music Festival** to provide attendees with a weekend of spectacular music and entertainment. The festival holds true to its mission to foster an atmosphere of unity, awareness and growth through literature, art and culture as well as promote youth and adult literacy throughout the region.

"This partnership sets a new precedent for Charlotte," says Darren Vincent, Director of The Charlotte Literary Festival and Owner of RealEyes Bookstore. "This collaboration shows that grass-root organizations can work together effectively toward a common goal of shaping our community for the future."

The weekend's festivities include speaking engagements by **Sonia Sanchez** (renowned activist, scholar and poet), **Susan L. Taylor** (Author, Former Editor-In-Chief Essence Magazine, Founder/ CEO of National CARES Mentoring Movement), and **Mary Monroe** (NY Times Best Selling Author). Festival goers will also get to experience invigorating live musical performances by Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter **Dwele**, multi-dimensional chanteuse **Algebra Blessett** and soul singer extraordinaire **N'dambi**.

"I'm thrilled about partnering with the Charlotte Literary Festival for the Queen City Neo Soul Music Festival's inaugural year," explains Shannon Wright, Founder of the Queen City Neo Soul Music Festival and President of Wrightway Productions. "The pairing of the two festivals is perfect. This festival stands to create a culturally defining event within the region. Charlotte is a growing city with so much potential. The Charlotte Literary Festival and the Queen City Neo Soul Music Festival want to be positive influences in our transitioning community."

There will be plenty of family-friendly entertainment during the two-day festival. Attendees can expect an Authors Lane with local and self-published authors, myriad vendors, a Kid's Corner for children and a Teen's Zone, featuring a special "Teen Idol" talent show. Some of the panel discussions include: **Creating Characters** (a creative writing workshop and discussion for narrative poetry and fiction), **Help Our Youth Now!** (Mentorship in The New Millennium), and **How To Market Your Book** (Branding and Marketing Using Traditional Media and Social Networking).

The combined 2010 CLF and Neo Soul Music Festival will truly have something for everyone. Two-day passes are only \$25.00, and children under 12 accompanied by a paying adult are free. For more information regarding special guests, sponsorship, vendor opportunities, a complete event schedule or to purchase tickets, please visit www.realeyesbookstore.com or www.neosoulmusicfestival.com. For media requests, call 704.965.3297 or email Jameka@jswmediagroup.com.