

Dr. Kimberly P. Johnson

Children's author and educator, Dr. Kimberly P. Johnson grew up in Shelby, NC. She is married to Jeff Johnson who retired from the United States Air Force after 22 years of service. She is the author of 22 children's books. Kimberly received her Doctorate in Curriculum, Teaching, and Leadership from Northeastern University in Boston, Ma. she holds a Master's Degree from Clemson University, in Youth Development and Leadership. Kimberly has an Early Childhood Education Degree and a Communications Degree from UNC- Chapel Hill. She completed her post-doctorate work in the Advanced Leadership Program at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education. She recently completed a certificate in Diversity and Inclusion at Cornell University.

Kimberly is a creative thinker and has a passion for teaching and helping others. She is currently teaching at Clemson University – she teaches *Creative Activities for Youth* and also teaches, *Working with Diverse Youth*. Dr. Kimberly also teaches *Creative Writing for Social Change* at Clinton College and is a course facilitator for the *Leading Learning* and *Managing Evidence* courses at Harvard University in the Graduate School of Education.

Kimberly has received numerous Community awards to include the Paul Harris Fellow Award given by Rotary International for her work in literacy, the York County Citizen of the year Award, the 2016 Walker Solomon Award from the South Carolina Educators Association, the Omega Psi Phi Perseverance Award, the Carl Carpenter Gold Heart Award for Community and Educational Contributions and the National Heritage Award.

She has been the guest reader for President and Mrs. George Bush at the White House for the Annual Easter Egg Roll. She has been on the Today Show in New York City, interviewed by the London Times and the Tokyo Shimbun newspapers and her most recent book, *No Fear For Freedom: The Story of the Friendship 9* gained national and international recognition when she spearheaded the efforts to have the sentences overturned for a group of men, The Friendship 9, who conducted a sit-in in 1961 at a segregated lunch counter in Rock Hill, SC.

Kimberly is an Ambassador for The King Center in Atlanta and a program collaborator for Dr. Bernice A. King, the last living daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She is currently the Curriculum Design Specialist for the King Center in Atlanta.

Kimberly is a member of the Rock Hill Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Above all of her accomplishments she says that the greatest joy is knowing that her grandparents taught her what good character looks like and raised her to believe in God and in self!