

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of Philadelphia Honors African-American Children's Book Fair and Author Charisse Carney-Nunes

*City Council highlights I DREAM FOR YOU A WORLD and other books
showcasing the importance of literacy
and reading in the African-American community*

Washington, DC — The City of Philadelphia today honored Washington, DC-based author, **Charisse Carney-Nunes** for her book, **I DREAM FOR YOU A WORLD: A COVENANT FOR OUR CHILDREN**. The award was issued during the opening session of the City Council meeting in honor of the **16th Annual African-American Children's Book Fair**. The book fair is scheduled for next Saturday, February 2, 2008, and is sponsored by **The African American Children's Book Project**.

Three authors/illustrators were honored at this morning's ceremony, **Charisse Carney-Nunes**, author of **I DREAM FOR YOU A WORLD** and **NAPPY**; **Gerald Purnell**, illustrator of **AM I COLOR TOO?** and the **BLUFORD** Series; and **Nancy Devard**, winner of the **2008 Coretta Scott King Award** and illustrator of **THE SECRET OLIVIA TOLD ME**. The City's resolution set forth the importance of literacy and book fairs for children, and was presented to the founder of the African-American Children's Book Project, Vanesse Lloyd Sgambati; Ms. Carney-Nunes; Mr. Purnell; and Ms. Devard "for their hard work and efforts in the promotion of children's literacy...."

"Children are less than 50% of our population, but 100% of our future," said Carney-Nunes upon the acceptance of the award. "Thank you to the City of Philadelphia and to the African-American Children's Book Project for making sure that we all stop, take a break from this noisy world, and speak directly to our children about literacy and education."

The African-American Children's Book Fair will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2008, from 1:00-3:00 pm, at the Community College of Philadelphia, 17th and Spring Garden Streets, Philadelphia. Ms. Carney-Nunes; Mr. Purnell; and Ms. Devard are three among 30 authors and illustrators who will be featured. The event is free and open to the public.

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