



Storyteller, Bill Grimmette

Living History Program

Bill Grimmette has perfected the art of Storytelling. In keeping with the centuries old tradition of the African Griot, Bill relies on the power of the spoken word to move his audience along an emotional journey. Overcoming the obstacles of poverty, a fatherless family and life in the "Jim Crow" cotton fields of Alabama, Bill Grimmette has his own personal story of hope and promise. Bill credits his mother as his inspiration. Spinning tales of powerful, positive and perpetual possibilities, Bill's mother spoke directly to the artist who began his worldwide travels as a professional Storyteller just as soon as he was able. In later years, traveling 'round the world, Bill collected traditional stories from many cultures and crafted his own original stories of personal power. Since then, Bill Grimmette's live performances have attracted audiences as diverse as the tales themselves. Today, Bill Grimmette is nationally known as a gifted writer, actor, Storyteller and motivational speaker. As President of the National Association of Black Storytellers, Bill was a featured artist at The Kennedy Center for The Performing Arts and Washington, D.C.'s prestigious Smithsonian Institution. Recently, Bill has drawn on his 42 years of acting, writing and directing to create a critically-acclaimed series of living history "characterizations" of historical personalities, including Benjamin Banneker, Frederick Douglass, WEB Du Bois and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

