



Change Is Gonna Come: Transforming Literacy Education for African American Students (Language and Literacy Series)

Patricia A. Edwards, Gwendolyn Thompson McMillon, Jennifer D. Turner

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While many books decry the crisis in the schooling of African American children, they are often disconnected from the lived experiences and work of classroom teachers and principals. In *Change Is Gonna Come*, the authors look back to go forward, providing specific practices that K–12 literacy educators can use to transform their schools. The text addresses four major debates: the fight for access to literacy; supports and roadblocks to success; best practices, theories, and perspectives on teaching African American students; and the role of African American families in the literacy lives of their children. Throughout, the authors highlight the valuable lessons learned from the past and include real stories from their own diverse family histories and experiences as teachers, parents, and community members.

Patricia A. Edwards is Distinguished Professor of Language and Literacy in the Teacher Education Department at Michigan State University and President of the International Reading Association, 2010–2011. **Gwendolyn Thompson McMillon** is Associate Professor of Literacy in the Department of Reading and Language Arts at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. **Jennifer D. Turner** is Associate Professor in Reading Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Maryland, College Park.

“Patricia Edwards, in opening this book, seamlessly integrates her own personal narrative of growing up in the segregated Jim Crow South with the intellectual history of our nation’s efforts to address the achievement gap in literacy. Her story is powerful because it embodies a core set of principles about human learning, which is based on a strong body of empirical evidence.”

—From the Foreword by **Carol D. Lee**, Northwestern University, President, American Educational Research Association, 2009–2010

“Edwards, McMillon, and Turner have hit a grand slam with *Change Is Gonna Come*. This is a page-turner that you won’t be able to put down. After the first reading you’ll return to visit the history of African Americans’ struggle as students, the power that teachers have to support or destroy dreams, ways to create home-to-school connections and, most significantly, how to support learning for African American students who come from homes where there will, most likely, never be a school–home bond.”

—**Diane Lapp**, Distinguished Professor of Education, San Diego State University

• **Literacy Research Association's Edward B. Fry Book Award, 2011**

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