





---

Phyllis Yvonne Stickney "... with rootsy African Beauty, snapping wit and affecting dramatic talent she's working the crowd."

-Essence Magazine

---

## Phyllis Yvonne Stickney!

Comedy became the medium that would catapult Phyllis Yvonne Stickney into stardom. Ms. Stickney debuted her charismatic nature at "Small's Paradise" in New York where she became an instant success. Her encore performances would inundate Small's Paradise in the following weeks. Shortly thereafter, she

seized first place in the Wednesday amateur night contest at the Apollo Theater on an evening where her motivation was to win enough money to provide train fare for her brother to return home.

Since that time, Phyllis Stickney has truly stolen the public's heart. She went on to gain wider recognition as a comedian when she personally requested to perform as the opening act for the legendary Roberta Flack during Flack's 1986 Tour. The early support she received from Roberta Flack, as well as, the acclaim she received through her weekly Concrete Comedy performances in Washington Square led her into the hearts of Andy Warhol and Bill Cosby. Ms. Stickney was featured in Warhol's "Interview" Magazine in March 1986, and on his MTV special "15 Minutes." Bill Cosby was also impressed by Phyllis Yvonne Stickney's comedic proficiency and comic flair. She subsequently made appearances on his weekly sitcom "The Cosby Show" and the sitcom spin off "A Different World." Later, and to the delight of studio audiences, she became warm-up announcer for Cosby's television show during the 1986 and 1987 seasons. Ms. Stickney was an opening act for the Patti LaBelle tour in 1991. In 2000, Phyllis Yvonne Stickney teamed up with R&B diva Angie Stone at the ESSENCE Music Festival at the New Orleans Superdome. Ms. Stickney dazzled audiences with her illuminating stage presence and unparalleled spoken word presentation.

Phyllis made her television debut in the ABC mini-series "The Women of Brewster Place" where she powerfully portrayed and endearing *Cora Lee*, single mother. The mini-series also starred Oprah Winfrey and Cicely Tyson among other great talents. The 1990 television season was graced with Ms. Stickney's powerful flair in the ABC sitcom "New Attitude" where she made TV history as the Afro-centric character Yvonne, with costars Sheryl Lee Ralph and Morris Day. Ms. Stickney returned to television in February 1991 in George C. Wolfe's "The Colored Museum" on PBS' "Great Performances." Subsequently, Ms. Stickney was spotlighted in HBO's "The History of Black's in Comedy." She also appeared in "The Portrait," a TNT original movie. Ms. Stickney currently portrays the character "Yvette" in the Showtime sitcom "Lincs."

Ms. Stickney is featured in several motion pictures with roles ranging from a prosecuting attorney to a comedic club diva. A condensed list of her credits include "New Jack City," "Jungle Fever," "Talking Dirty After Dark," "The Autobiography of Malcolm X," "What's Love Got To Do With It?," "The Inkwell," directed by Matty Rich, "Die Hard With a Vengeance," starring Bruce Willis and most recently "How Stella Got Her Groove Back," starring Angela Bassett and Whoopi Goldberg.

Ms. Stickney is an accomplished writer who produced "The Upper Room," a weekly poet and writer's workshop in Los Angeles and New York, as well as "The Comedy Connection," a weekly comedy venue production at New York's Cotton Club in 1991.

In January, 2001, Ms. Stickney made her Directorial debut as Director and Star of the Gospel Stage Play "Been There Done That" starring Judge Greg Mathis and Stellar Award Winner Fred Hammond. Under the direction of Ms. Stickney, the Six-month tour proved to be a tremendous success, with encore performances and repeated sold out venues. She is currently on tour and working on an anthology of her original poetry.



# HOLLYWOOD'S BEST KEPT SECRET

## DID YOUKNOW...

### Phyllis Yvonne Stickney

is a chameleon actress that celebrates the spirit of life, love and the universe through creations in film, theater and television, and her unique, one woman stand up performances?

Ms. Stickney made her national television debut in the ABC mini-series **THE WOMEN OF BREWSTER PLACE** with Oprah Winfrey and Cicely Tyson, then went on to appear on **THE COSBY SHOW, A DIFFERENT WORLD, NEW ATTITUDE, THE COLORED MUSEUM** on PBS, with Gregory Peck in the TNT film **THE PORTRAIT** and HBO'S **THE HISTORY OF BLACKS IN COMEDY**, and **DADDY'S GIRL**.

### EXTENSIVE FILM CREDITS INCLUDE:

**NEW JACK CITY, JUNGLE FEVER, TALKIN' DIRTY AFTER DARK, MALCOLM X, WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?, THE INKWELL, DIE HARD WITH A VENGEANCE, and HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK, *just to name a few.***

She made her Directorial debut in 2000 with "Been There Done That!" starring Fred Hammond and Judge Greg Mathis.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

A Cocoa Girls Production Company, Inc.

853 Broadway, Suite 1516  
New York, NY 11413  
Phone (212) 388-7086  
Circlecorp@aol.com  
[www.phyllisstickney.com](http://www.phyllisstickney.com)

## ARE U OUT OF ORDER?

Dubbed the "Custodian of Cultural Consciousness," Actress, Comedienne, lecturer, and writer Phyllis Yvonne Stickney has developed the "R U OUT OF ORDER" workshops for urban and suburban youth who need a re-introduction to the order of our universe. Guided by a personal and professional journey through life Ms. Stickney shares her joys and pains in engaging storytelling laced with comedic trimming. Her astute political commentary about the Plight of Black and Brown Children as the year 2010 approaches resonates the earth-shattering wake-up call- WE ARE OUT OF ORDER. We need to recognize It and we needs to get in order to b blessed and o be successful.

Her introspective approach to connecting with the youth is jump started with a very direct approach of posing issues relative to their contemporary experience such as:

How many of the girls in this room plan to have children by their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday? An How many boys plan to go to prison? Taken aback, the youth, who in no way expect this attitude from a "Movie Star" are ready to hear from an adult who might understand and really care about their plight in this world. In her individualized examination of the specific conflicts playing out in the student population of each site, Ms. Stickney discusses in the question "R U Out of Order?" Some students are able to recognize it, and in some cases, they are able to get in order by the end of the session. Her experience in youth detention centers, grassroots community based organizations, and her work as an Actress and stand-up Comedienne have equipped her with the necessary skills to modify her techniques at any given moment to address the immediate needs of the at-risk youth.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- ☀ **ESSENCE EMPOWERMENT SEMINARS (THE ESSENCE MUSIC FESTIVAL)**
  - ☀ **NEW JERSEY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**
  - ☀ **UNITED BLACK FUND OF TEXAS 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**
  - ☀ **NATIONAL BLACK INITIATIVE ON CANCER**
  - ☀ **SCHOMBURG CENTERS' EMANCIPATION DAY CELEBRATION**
  - ☀ **PAN AFRICAN'S VISIONS FILM FESTIVAL**
  - ☀ **AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN ON TOUR**
  - ☀ **PHENOMENAL WOMEN EXPO**
  - ☀ **JOYCE ANN BROWN FOUNDATION (UJMASS)**
  - ☀ **NATIONAL POLITICAL CONGRESS OF BLACK WOMEN**
- ### LECTURE TOPICS
- ☀ **YOUNG, GIFTED AND BLACK...WHAT COMES NEXT?**
  - ☀ **IMAGES THROUGH THE MEDIA**
  - ☀ **YOUTH 2010**
  - ☀ **CULTURAL IDENTITY. WHO'S DEFINING IT?**
  - ☀ **LOVE RESPECT AND SELF-CONTROL**