



Cultural Events

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To whom it may concern,

I met Cathy Robinson Pickett this past April when she came to Salem Academy & College for our second annual Know AIDS Days. In the fall of 2005, Salem officially established the Office of Cultural Events and hired me to work with various aspects of cultural planning. I was lucky enough to work closely with Dr. Susan Opt from the Communications Department in planning for Cathy's visit. Susan and the college had previously brought Cathy to our campus for the first Know AIDS Days, and Susan has worked closely with Cathy and Friends Together in various capacities.

During Cathy's visit, she met with countless students in various settings – through a roundtable discussion, in the classroom and through a public program titled "The Impact of HIV on Women in the United States." She met with girls at Salem Academy who are in the ninth through twelfth grades and also met with women at Salem College. She worked closely with the Health Center to encourage students to be tested for HIV/AIDS and answered a variety of questions – some of which were very personal.

Cathy was extremely creative in her conversations and in the ways she conveyed statistics and other important information. She was very effective with her presentations about HIV/AIDS and its impact on not only women but also our entire world population. At the college, she was able to inform not only traditional age students (18 to 22), but also continuing studies students (23 and older), their younger children who came to the public event, Salem's staff and faculty as well as Winston-Salem community members. Cathy is a multi-faceted woman who is able to motivate her audience as well as listen and read their reactions so she can better connect with them. On top of all this, she is a kind person who is a pleasure to be around.

It is with wholehearted enthusiasm, genuine admiration and full confidence that I recommend Cathy Robinson Pickett as a part of your lecture series. She will be a real asset to your programming. After her presentations, you will be surprised at how much the audience has learned.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need me to clarify anything about Cathy and her visit to Salem Academy and College. I can be reached by phone at (336) 721-2851 or by e-mail at hendricks@salem.edu.

With appreciation and all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ginger Hendricks'.

Ginger Hendricks
Director of the Center for Women Writers and Coordinator of Cultural Events