

# Dr. Essie Mae Washington-Williams

## at The Strom Thurmond Institute

Thursday, April 6, 2006 - 7:00 p.m.  
Self Auditorium

Dr. Essie Mae Washington-Williams received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from California State University, Los Angeles, where she majored in Business Education and minored in English. She received her Master of Science Degree in Education from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. In May of 2005, Dr. Williams received her Doctor of Education degree from South Carolina State University in Orangeburg. Prior to this, Dr. Washington-Williams worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District for 27 years.



Starting in 1970 at the Abram Friedman Occupational Center, Dr. Washington-Williams taught business education for 17 years. She was promoted in 1986 as an Assistant Principal for Counseling Services. She served in this capacity for eleven years in various adult schools until her retirement in 1997. She has received a number of awards, recognition, and commendations for her years of commitment to education.

Since January of 2004, Dr. Washington-Williams has traveled extensively on the East Coast as well as the West Coast, promoting her book *Dear Senator*, which was number eight on the New York top ten best seller's list. In addition, the Los Angeles Library Association has endorsed *Dear Senator* for its historical contribution towards American history.

Dr. Washington-Williams' book, *Dear Senator* was nominated for the National Book award and the Pulitzer. Most recently, *Dear Senator* was included in Reader's Digest as one of the four books selected for today's Best Nonfiction books on the market.

She has four children, Julius Williams III who is in public transportation, Dr. Ronald Williams, who specializes in trauma care, Wanda Terry, an entrepreneur and Monica Hudgens, Executive Director for a battered women's shelter.

She has thirteen grandchildren and six great grand children.

Dr. Williams is an active member of her church. She also gets involved with South Carolina State University alumni, Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Daughters of the American Revolution and various social groups throughout the Los Angeles area.

She is enjoying her second career as author and speaker.

