

“Blue Hair & Rap” 2019



A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

“Blue Hair & Rap,” my short holiday play, is now available on Amazon in the *New Voices Holiday Plays 2019* anthology, a collection of ten short plays with a holiday theme written by New Voices Playwright Theatre members and edited by John Bolen at [Amazon paperback & Kindle](#)

THE SHOW GOES ON

The play will also be staged for live productions in the show called New Voices Holiday Plays 2019 with five other short plays and the “Strike the Set” singers at the Stage Door Repertory Theatre in Anaheim, CA December 7, 8, 14, and 15. This will be my first play performed on stage before a live audience. I wish you all could be there to cheer me on. [New Voices Holiday Plays 2019 tickets](#)

THE STORY

“Blue Hair & Rap” is the story of two elderly sisters, Mildred and Isabel, who live together in the family antebellum estate just outside of New Orleans. Mildred is the conservative strait-laced older sister, and Isabel tries to be cool and keep up with the latest trends. Isabel invites a rap band to perform at their holiday party without telling Mildred. The fun begins when rapper Cool Mint and his Iced Juleps band show up instead of the Dixie Delights that usually perform at their parties. To find out what happens next, click on one of the following links:

[Amazon Paperback & Kindle](#)

[Lulu Paperback](#)

[Lulu Hardcover](#)

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY

The story started out as the first draft of a short story by my cousin, Michael Thomas, for a creative writing class. We were roommates and we worked together on writing projects, so when Michael passed away in the mid-1990s, I kept all of his writing.

When I had the opportunity to submit a short story to a flash fiction contest, I remembered Michael's story, "Blue Hair, Flowers, and Rap." It was about two elderly sisters in charge of the local garden club of New Orleans and a rap band that plays at their party. I took his original idea and fleshed out the characters and added a rap song.

After becoming a member of New Voices Playwrights in September 2019, I adapted the story to a holiday play. It was work-shopped as a table reading at one of the New Voices monthly meetings and revised based on the excellent feedback given by the members. I submitted it, omitting my name for a blind submission. In evaluating, the selection committee members considered the premise, storyline, characters, dialogue, structure, and craft/execution. To my amazed delight, my play was selected for the holiday show in December!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Thanksgiving is an
Attitude of gratitude
For all our blessings!

I feel so blessed and grateful for the outpouring of love via email, text messages, cards, and phone calls as well as healing thoughts, prayers, and Reiki energy sent to me during my recent illness. I had an unusual side effect to routine oral surgery requiring hospitalization and the need for rides and assistance from neighbors and friends. Thankfully, the issue was resolved by another surgery and I'm back to "normal" again. Words cannot express the gratitude in my heart for my loving family and friends.



YOUR VOICE. YOUR STORY. WE'RE HERE TO HELP.



COACH'S CORNER



Dr. Heather Rivera is an Amazon best-selling author. She has authored eight books-Non-Fiction, Fiction, and Young Readers. She has a Life Coaching certificate. Heather coaches writers from dreams to book-in-hand.

She can help you too. Reasonable, hourly rates.

Check out her coaching services at <https://www.heatherrivera.com/event/muse-ink-book-launch-celebration/>

WRITING WITH YOUR INNER DREAM MUSE



Workshops with Dream Coach, Dr. Marjorie Miles, DCH, MFT

Looking for creative, artistic expression? Searching for new ideas for your business or other areas of your life? Enter the Creativity Studio of Your Dreaming Mind - the place where stories, fascinating characters, poetry, and inventions live. At the beginning of each session, you will experience a brief guided daydream to unleash your muse and spark the fuse of your creative writing expression. Bring a pen and a notebook and come to play.

\$20 per person on the 2nd Tuesday of each month
School of Multidimensional Healing Arts and Sciences.
(949) 752-5272
18271 McDermott West Suite H Irvine, CA 92614
near Red Hill and Main St.

The Editor's Corner



It's better to be corrected privately by your editor than publicly in a review.

Even the best writers need a second pair of eyes for editing. Authors usually miss errors because they know what they intend to say, and their brains fill in the details.

Errors in English are easy to make, and everybody makes them. Some common ones are the following:

1. Use of one word or two?

Examples: Use *all right* instead of *alright*; *a lot* rather than *alot*. It's not all right to write *alright* or *alot* although people make these errors a lot.

2. Different *from* versus different *than*. Different *from* is better when comparing two things, but different *than* is used with clauses. Examples: Your book is different *from* mine. The movie is different *than* I thought it would be.

3. Less or Fewer?

Use *less* with singular mass nouns or amounts. (less pain) (less salt)

Use *fewer* for plural count nouns. (fewer calories) (fewer people)