

## VIRTUAL SPEAKER CLAIRE JONES - CO-FOUNDER OF SISTA CREATIVES RISING

PROUD MOTHER, BLACK DISABLED BARBADIAN, PARALYSIS, LYMPHOMA & CHILDHOOD DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR



### SOCIALS

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### SPEAKER INFO

Claire Jones is a Black invisibly-disabled domestic violence and lymphoma survivor, smoldering multiple myeloma patient, Buddhist, Frances Perkins Scholar, and Mount Holyoke graduate. She and her daughter, Amaranthia Sepia, are the co-founders of Sista Creatives Rising, helping marginalized women & marginalized genders gain accessibility & visibility in the arts to facilitate personal healing. In 2020, she spoke virtually to domestic violence activists at YWCA Central MA. In early 2023, she spoke at the Voices of Women International Women's Day Summit. In August 2023, she presented her first workshop, "A 50% Chance of Paralysis: How I Utilized Journaling As Self-Reflection During Cancer Treatment." In February 2024, Claire and Amaranthia were virtual panelists in "Unmasking Grief: Writers Confront the Illusion of Post-Pandemic Recovery," hosted by the Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference (AWP).

### TESTIMONIALS

*"Claire's story is one of resilience, fortitude and tenacity. She is masterful at weaving a story that captures an audience with a narrative that inspires and leaves them wanting more. I invited Claire to speak to a group of leaders in the field on domestic violence. She tailored her message to speak to advocacy and determination. Her story moved several in the group to tears and renewed their determination to provide advocacy for those who experience violence in their lives. More importantly, it left us all feeling hopeful because she survived and thrived. Her story is particularly poignant during a time when people are struggling to survive a pandemic and racial violence. She is engaging and thoughtful. Her story needs to be told!"* - **Deborah Hall, MS Director of Domestic Violence Services, YWCA Central Massachusetts**

*Working with Claire to bring her Boston Public Library virtual talk, was absolutely wonderful. We had been working on this presentation since Spring 2023 and presented on August 10th. Claire was very open to communication and proactive in developing this presentation. This talk was extremely important for our local community here at the library, and Claire was exactly the right person to give it. She engaged our participants and ensured that the audience knew where we were headed and gave them reasonable and practical steps to advocate for themselves.*

**-Amy Layton, Librarian and Event Organizer**

### AREA OF FOCUS

- Marginalized / Disabled Women Creatives
- Women Survivors of Blood Cancer
- Self Improvement & Wellness Through the Arts
- Intergenerational Trauma & Domestic Violence

### SPEECH & KEYNOTE TOPICS

- A 50% Chance of Paralysis: How I Utilized Journaling as Self-Reflection During Cancer Treatment.
- A Gift From Cancer: How To Get Ahead Of Life Before Life Gets Ahead Of You!
- Survivor Mothers and Survivor Daughters: Using Art to Face Intergenerational Trauma Head On With Your Child