

THE NEW BLACK PANTHER PARTY
NATIONAL MINISTRY OF CULTURE
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July 22, 2008

**STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION UPON THE PASSING OF THE INCREDIBLE
BARBARA ANN TEER**

On behalf of the New Black Panther Party and so, so many more in our community, I want extend my most supreme condolences to the Teer family, the NBT family, and to our larger overall village; For with the passing of our most beloved elder and queen Barbara Ann Teer, we all are suffering and being engulfed by an enormous loss with the new absence of her incredible presence...

Barbara Ann Teer was a living legend in our community, yet in my modest way of thinking, still enormously underappreciated...

She was a true pioneer of the Black Arts Movement, a master performer, a master teacher, and a fearless, incredibly driven and resourceful institution builder with a visionary presence that she tried to touch us all with...

She boldly balanced the task of producing serious Black performance art across the generations while at the same time, taking full responsibility for ensuring its independent control...

Surely, there have been too, too few among us like her. As a performing artist myself, she is the head of the a-list of master performer-teachers whose feet I was yearned to sit at...

It is also supremely important to appreciate, all the while, that she was an exemplary and bold pan-Afrikanist, daring, to embody in a shining and most practical way the best of our ancestral traditions of production and creation, of being and becoming...

We will all sorely miss this great, brilliant and beautiful Black woman...For all of us whom she touched, whether upclose or from afar, we are all better people...

She is going to be an awesome, radiant ancestor in the egungun...

And may we all carry her light of her shine up and down our personal and collective spine for good of us all and for the rise of our race...

Most Respectfully,

Bro.Zayid Muhammad
Nat'l Minister of Culture,
New Black Panther Party