

Chuck D Is Releasing A Book On Hip-Hop History



On October 10, *Chuck D Presents This Day In Hip-Hop History* will be available at all major retailers and [Amazon](#). The book is a chronology of hip-hop's history beginning with a 1973 house party where Kool DJ Herc debuted the break on his turntables. The anthology gives the history of the art form from those early days with Herc up until the present. Portraits created by Shepard Fairey of more than 100 major figures in hip-hop brings the history off the page and makes each entry flow. LL Cool J says,

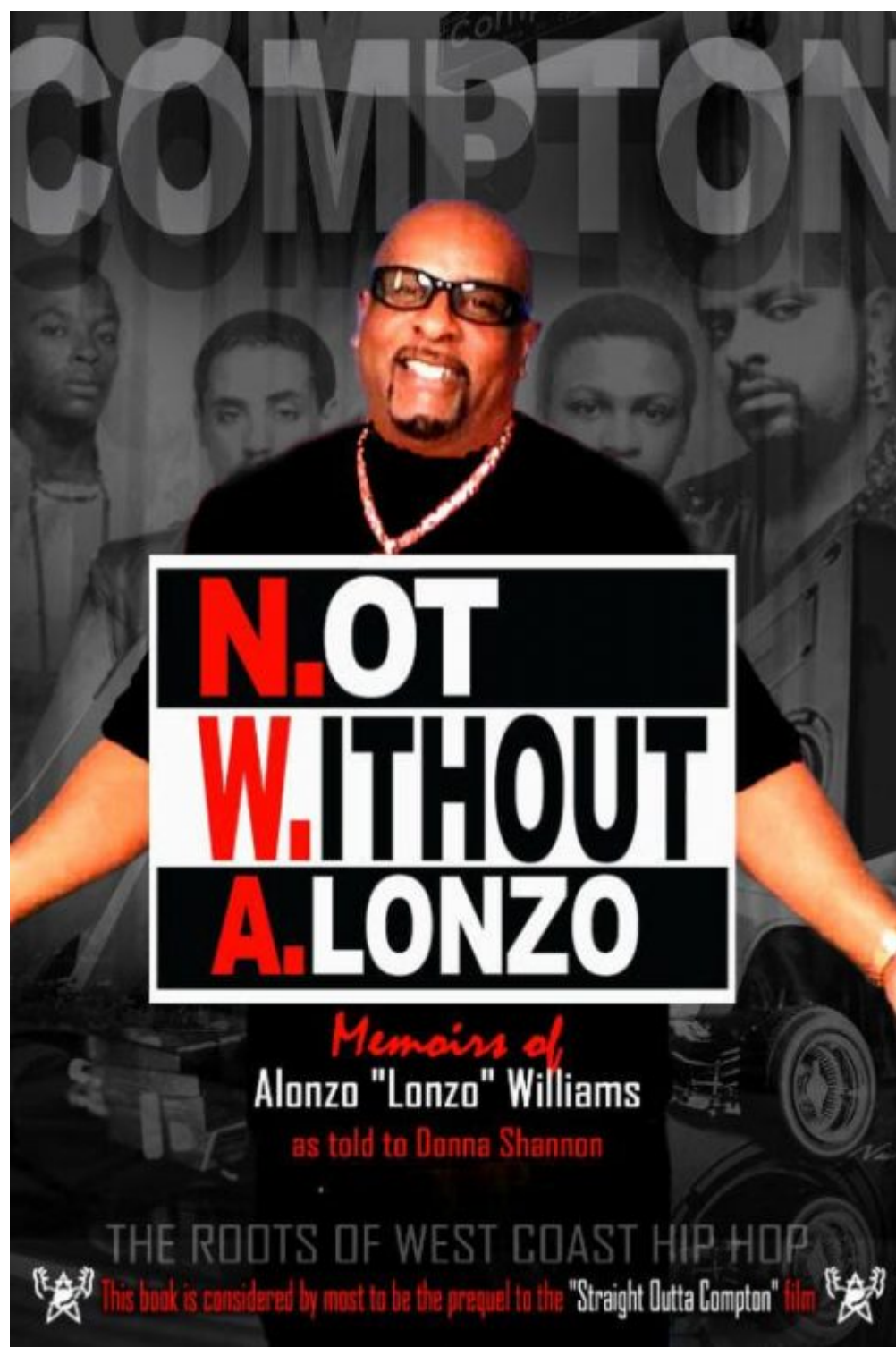
“Reading this book is like reliving my life all over again”

Kendrick Lamar gave his recommendation:

“If you want to understand our culture. To learn knowledge itself. Truth about the art form of poetry in motion. The struggle of our community through rhyme and rhythm. This is the book that inspired me long before I found my place in hip-hop, The power of self-expression. Unapologetically. Taught by the teacher himself. Chuck D!!!!.”

The Public Enemy frontman just saw the release of the self-titled debut from his other group Prophets Of Rage.

Godfather of West Coast Rap Alonzo Williams Emerges Defiant In HBO Documentary and New Audio Book Release



Los Angeles – The acronym N.W.A. are three explosive letters loaded with controversy within the unpredictable genre of hip hop. But for one man, those letters mean only one thing - Not Without Alonzo. Alonzo “Lonzo” Williams is widely acknowledged as the definitive “Godfather of West Coast Hip Hop” and considering his historical stance pioneering the birth of west coast hip hop, it is clearly understood why.



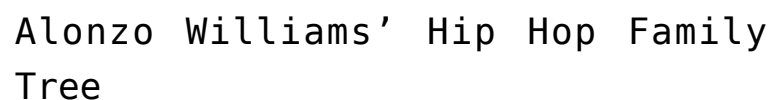
Alonzo Williams and Dr. Dre

Williams can purposely take credit for brokering not only some of the biggest connections in hip-hop but also for discovering some its biggest names, including Dr. Dre, Ice Cube and Eazy E. With the July debut of the highly-anticipated HBO series, “The Defiant Ones,” about Jimmy Iovine and Dr. Dre, Williams’ truth will be told. And to further clarify the matter, he has released a narrative in his own words, “Not Without Alonzo,” a memoir and audio book, narrated by him and packed with the personal punch, flavor, and charisma he is known for.

A sought after hip-hop historian, Williams is often asked to provide commentary about west coast hip-hop and its iconic artists. He has been featured in numerous documentaries and even portrayed in several films, including the motion picture blockbuster, “Straight Outta Compton.”

But it is his contribution to the HBO four-part documentary, “The Defiant Ones” that has him most excited. The special details the musical and business partnership between Dr. Dre and Jimmy Iovine. Directed by Allen Hughes, the film will include numerous in-depth interviews including Bono, Nas, Ice Cube, Kendrick Lamar, Lady Gaga, Gwen Stefani, Snoop Dogg and

"My inclusion in "The Defiant Ones" shines the light on many things I have been talking about for years." When Allen Hughes first contacted me about being interviewed, we were supposed to spend about two hours together. Two hours turned into six as he was amazed by the history, anecdotes, and insights I could share with him. I have nothing but gratitude for him and HBO for taking note of my role and input at the beginning of what has blossomed into one of music's largest genres. It still amazes me to this day, because at the time, we had no clue that our efforts would evolve to this level," expresses Williams.



In “N.ot W.ithout A.lonzo,” Williams tells the tale of the

'wild, wild west' hip-hop style, sharing in minute and vivid detail his role in the early days of west coast hip hop guiding and influencing many of its early players. As the leader of the legendary R&B/rap group World Class Wreckin' Cru, Lonzo is credited with launching the careers of not only Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, D.J. Yella and Eazy E., formerly known as N.W.A., but he was also instrumental with positioning artists like Michel'le, DJ Battlecat, the L.A. Dream Team, Rodney O & Joe Cooley and Compton's Most Wanted just to name a few. A must read for true hip hop fans, the introduction to "Not Without Alonzo" is provided by another west coast hip hop legend, popular radio personality Greg Mack. The audio book version of "Not Without Alonzo" also boasts an original soundtrack underscoring William's narration.

With a focus to uplift youth who are interested in a career in entertainment, Williams stays active on the speaker's circuit with appearances at organizations, high schools, and colleges. "Though I'm happy about the popularity of hip-hop culture, I'm not thrilled with some of the elements of it. In the early days, it wasn't about money, gangster bravado, crime and going to jail. It was about the music and keeping it real. My message as I mentor youth is to remind them that hip hop is really a creative art form and the message in the music is very important. The more I reveal about the early days of hip-hop, the more the truth is unveiled and the more likely we can get back to some of those original concepts," cites Williams. His weekly male mentoring podcast, "Lonzo Presents G.A.M.E. (Grown Ass Man Enlightenment), is set to launch shortly.

Williams has received a multitude of honors and accolades for his contributions to hip-hop culture. His personal collection of music memorabilia has been exhibited at The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City.

Watch Alonzo Williams on "The Defiant Ones" on HBO in July as the series airs and repeats. Get educated on the real history of west coast hip-hop with a copy of "Not Without Alonzo" available on Amazon.com at <http://a.co/0P5byYC> and peep the audio book on CDBaby.com at https://store.cdbaby.com/cd/alonzowilliams#.WV06qd_b3Gs.-gmail.

Find Williams on Facebook at [@Alonzo_reallonzowa Williams](#); on

Twitter at @[reallonzonwa](#) and on Instagram at @[reallonzonwa](#).

For details about Williams' Indiegogo campaign for his "Not Without Alonzo" film, go to his "[NWA Fund](#)" page on Facebook.

For booking information on Alonzo Williams, go to <http://www.lonzowilliams.com/>.

[youtube id="kJH6uC4-o0I"]

Keke Palmer To Have Book Signing At Aaron Davis Hall This Thursday At 6PM



Keke Palmer will appear at City College Center For The Arts this Thursday at 6PM EST to sign her new book, *I Don't Belong To You: Quiet The Noise and Find Your Voice*. Palmer's book is about how she survived her trials and advice to her generation on how to do the same. The event, which runs from 6-8PM is presented by the City College Center For The Arts ([CCCA](#)) and [Melba's](#).

Palmer, who became famous after her role in *Akeelah and The Bee*, will give a reading from the book. "Keke Palmer is a multi-talented, nationally recognized performer who has accomplished so much at a young age," said CCCA Managing Director Gregory Shanck. "We are looking forward to sharing her book with students, Harlem residents and the wider New York City community."

The event, part of CCCA's role as a Harlem cultural hub and

a bastion for great art and artists, is free but RSVP is required at www.citycollegecenterforthearts.org. Books can be purchased at the venue. Aaron Davis Hall is located on the campus of The City College of New York, at West 135th Street and Convent Avenue (129 Convent Avenue).

Melba's Restaurant is located at 300 W. 114th Street, New York, NY 10026.

Finding Joseph I (Bad Brains Documentary On HR) Fireside Chat

[youtube id="5GgCK4L1B0s"] *Finding Joseph I* is a [documentary](#) about Paul H.R. Hudson, who is the lead singer of D.C. punk legends Bad Brains. Film director James Lathos, author Howie Abrams and H.R. talked about the film and Bad Brains after the December 15th screening at Nitehawk Cinema in Brooklyn. Lathos and Abrams co-authored *Finding Joseph I: An Oral History of H.R. from Bad Brains* which came out [today](#).