



Jacksonville Chapter – E3 Business Group, Inc

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Marita Golden announced as panelist for upcoming Real Talk... Real Change II

~ **Community dialogue addresses state of racism and prejudice in NE Florida** ~
www.e3businessgroup.org

JACKSONVILLE – E3 Business Group, Inc. today officially announced the first of six panelists for the upcoming Real Talk... Real Change II: Are YOU Living COLOR community dialogue.

Ms. Marita Golden, noted author, brings a wealth of experience and an outside perspective as a writer, leader, and national speaker. Her best-selling books include the memoirs *Migrations of the Heart*, *Saving Our Sons* and *Don't Play in the Sun: One Woman's Journey through the Color Complex* and most recently *After*, which won the Fiction Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. As a literary institution builder she co-founded both the African American Writers Guild and the Hurston/Wright Foundation. She has taught writing at George Mason University, Virginia Commonwealth University and most recently served as Writer in Residence at the University of the District of Columbia.

Made possible by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Real Talk... Real Change II is an action item for the Jacksonville Chapter of E3 as it continues to advocate for change around issues identified by the Jacksonville Community Council Incorporated. Known as the "think tank" of NE Florida, JCCI has presented annual reports on racism and studied various aspects of disparities and inequity. The Fifth Annual Edition, 2009 of the JCCI Race Relations report showed that inequities are "significant and persistent" and that perceptions about racism is creating "a widening gap that challenges our ability as a community to come together and address the problems identified in this report." The free event will feature additional sponsors and exhibitors, including CSX Corporation, Department of Children and Families and other organizations working towards equity and inclusion. The event will seek to provide a platform for hearing diverse voices in the conversation on perceptions of race and prejudice.

The Jacksonville Chapter of the E3 Business Group, Inc. (<http://jaxfl.e3businessgroup.us>) is proud to present this unique community oriented dialogue event. The event will be held on Thursday, January 27, 2011 and is free to the public. The event will feature exhibits from organizations committed to equity and diversity, a reception, followed by an interactive panel dialogue which will be followed in real time on Facebook and Twitter. Individuals who are interested in attending this event may receive information and register by visiting www.e3businessgroup.org. Organizations interested in exhibiting

should call 888-525-2299 x119 or email sales@e3businessgroup.us.

E3 Business Group, Inc. is a national non-profit organization dedicated to building aspiring entrepreneurs into leaders of business and supporting them as advocates within the neighborhoods and communities where they live and work. The Jacksonville Chapter of E3 (<http://jaxfl.e3businessgroup.us>) has been in existence since 2008. The chapter chooses topics for dialogue under the Real Talk... Real Change model from reports produced by JCCI (www.jcci.org), an internationally recognized organization for research, consulting and analysis .

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