

Testimonials from Anthology Contributors:

I had my first contact with Nicole when an essay of mine was published in the Hair Power Skin Revolution anthology, of which Nicole was the editor. Nicole impressed me from the start with her inclusive approach to all the contributors, providing us with opportunities to attend launch events, to read from our 'hair and skin' stories and to network with fellow writers. She is a dynamic woman with a strong and clear vision and has a generous spirit to match.

Fiona Joseph

An essay of mine appeared in Nicole's anthology Hair Power Skin Revolution. I loved reading the real-life hair and skin journeys of all the other contributors. The book inspired me to write a stage play about the politics of Black women and their hair. I approached Nicole with the idea and now we we're working together as producers to bring the play to the stage.

Pauline Walker

I see Nicole Moore and Shangwe providing an encouraging space where there was a gap. At the time, and still so now in 2011, there is little by way of outlets and platforms for writing by/for black and mixed race women in the UK today. What Shangwe provides is that supportive network, through the website, publishing and live events, that has been the backbone and the tradition of black women's writing in Britain. Long may that tradition continue.

Sheree Mack

I was first introduced to Nicole a number of years ago, I was previously a private poet, not necessarily by choice but because I was unsure about my capabilities as a writer. Enter Nicole and an opportunity to be published, although what transpired was much more than this. Through the book launch and various discussions, she helped me to understand my creative capabilities, she very much has a way of inspiring not only new writing, but has such a beautiful way of encouraging and developing aspiring poets (including me) with feedback that has most certainly enhanced the level of my work but also provided a platform for me to flourish as the public poet I now am. None of this would have been possible without her critique, her ability to inspire and the platforms that she not only provided but the platforms she has encouraged me to seek with a confidence I would not have had otherwise.

I cannot foresee a day when I do not consider Nicole instrumental in all my writing adventures, she will continue to be a friend, someone I cherish working with, and someone who has supported me in becoming the confident writer I am today.

Nicola Greenwood

Shangwe is where the amateur and the seasoned creative can share, inspire and educate and is a much needed platform where those seemingly in the margins can express their experiences creatively. I received my first (personal) published work through Shangwe and for that I am grateful.

Rachelle Hull

I responded to a unique call from Nicole Moore for the Brown Eyes 2005 anthology. It was an exhilarating feeling to be shortlisted and my essay published, moving from the private realm to public domain. Furthermore, when literary critics reviewed the book and gave positive appraisal for both my poetry and essay writing my confidence elevated.

Contributing to Nicole Moore's third anthology Hair Power Skin Revolution, was the catalyst for actually believing that I was a writer. Nicole boosted my confidence again by giving me the rare opportunity to be published and promote my work at Shangwe, her hosted literary nights for artists' readings and poetry performers. Having the artist audience connection made the writing even more rewarding. I now am a platformed poet, have published fiction (short stories) and non fiction and continue as a freelance journalist all from the spin off to Nicole's call. Shangwe has developed me as a creative writer, from a dream to reality.

Amanda Epe