



Chandra Sparks Splond

Chandra Sparks Splond is an inspirational speaker, editor, and award-winning journalist, author, and blogger. She is the 2026 Malone Award Recipient Distinguished Alumnus for The University of Alabama and a 2026 TedX Ensley Avenue speaker.

Her coordination of the Black History Month edition of The Birmingham Times has won several national and state awards. Splond received the Christian Book Lover's Retreat 2024 Distinguished Service award in 2024 and was named to the 2022 Star Power List by Victorious by Design magazine as an amazing author who owns a publishing company. She is also featured in the 2021 Star Power List by Victorious by Design magazine for her must-read books.

Splond's young adult novel *Make It Work* was named Alabama's Great Read 2017, *Spin It Like That* was chosen as a Popular Paperback for Young Adults by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), and *The Pledge* was a YALSA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers. *Black Pearls Magazine* honored Splond as a Legends & Leaders for 2017 for her blog, *Book of Splond* (formerly known as *Magic City Momma*). She is a 2019 recipient of the Orlean Beeson School of Education Learning for Life award and has been spotlighted several times as a positive black sister by the Positive Black Sisters social media platform.

She is the owner of West End Publishing, LLC, and Live Life Creations, LLC, a personalized gift and party boutique. In addition to working for Kensington Publishing as the consulting editor for BET Books/Arabesque romance, Splond has also done work for HarperCollins Christian, Random House, Moody Publishers, Kimani Press (formerly known as BET Books), and Hyperion. She has edited books for several New York Times, USA Today and Essence bestselling authors.

Splond has interviewed New York Times bestselling authors Karen Kingsbury, Kimberla Lawson Roby, the late Eric Jerome Dickey, singer Tamela Mann, and actress Meagan Good. She has also worked for Good Housekeeping, Black and Married with Kids, Brides Noir, Weddingpages, Newsday, The Morning Call and Romantic Times.

Of all the titles she has held, Splond's most important remain child of God and mom. Splond graduated from Ramsay High School in Birmingham, Alabama, and The University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa with a degree in journalism. She received her master of science in education degree with a focus on instructional design and technology from Samford University. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and resides in Birmingham with her family. They are members of Forty-fifth Street Baptist Church.