Their Place on the Stage” has been written by a former Church Point woman, Elizabeth Brown-Guillory. Her new book should appear in at least 3,300 University libraries across the country in the next several months. The book is selling for $38.00 a copy.

This important contribution to African American and women’s studies analyzes and dramatic works of American’s black women playwrights. The plays of such writers as Alice Childress, Lorraine Hansberry and Ntozake Shange are examined in light of the tradition from which they emerged. Brown-Guillory begins by tracing the development of African American theater with its roots in African theatrics, then moves on to discuss women playwrights of the Harlem Renaissance such as Angelina Weld Grimke, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, Georgia Douglas Johnson, May Miller, Mary Burrill, Myrtle Smith Livingston, Ruth Gaines-Shelton, Eulalie Spence and Marita Bonner. Though rarely anthologized and infrequently made the subject of critical interpretation, asserts the author, the plays of these early twentieth-century black women offer much to the American theater in the way of content, tonal and structural form, characterization, as well as dialogue and were instrumental in paving a way for black playwriters.

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wrights from the 1950s to the present. The author explores a variety of symbols, images and structural forms to provide a rich context for understanding the works of a largely neglected minority-African American women playwrights. Her insights will offer valuable reading for students and scholars of African American and African studies, women's studies, American drama and feminist art and writing.

Elizabeth Brown-Guillory is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Houston. Her award-winning plays Bayou Relics and Snapshots of Broken Dolls, which was produced at Lincoln Center in New York City in 1986, have been published by Contemporary Drama Service. Currently, she is editing an anthology, Wines in the Wilderness; Plays by Black Women From the Harlem Renaissance to the Present.

Guillory is the daughter of Marjorie and Leo Brown of Church Point. She is married to Lucius M. Guillory and has one daughter, Lucia. She is a 1972 graduate of Church Point High School.