



Efzelda Booker-Coleman
Spiritual Church Ceremonial Robe Maker

Bishop Efzelda Booker-Coleman is a resident of New Orleans, Louisiana, and her occupation and favorite pastime is working as a seamstress. She is also a Spiritual Black Hawk minister.

Bishop Booker-Coleman is one of a few ceremonial robe designers in the New Orleans area. She started learning this craft in 1956 by observing other artists. Many of her family members participate in the making of the robes throughout the year. The technique used in making the robes is hand sewing. They use needles, thread, sequins, stones, gems, cotton, brocade, silk, laces, and hot glue.

The Spiritual Black Hawk Ministry has made public appearances at the 1994, 1995, and 1996 New Orleans Jazz Festival and the Louisiana Crafts Program. They have toured in Cleveland, Ohio; LaGrange, Georgia; and Mobile, Alabama. Awards and honors include being featured in the *Journal of American Folklore*, Creole State Exhibit, and Best Robe by NLCC 1995 and 1996.

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