



Call for Papers

The Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University will present the **9th Annual Creative Arts Festival: Margaret Walker ~ This Is My Century** on **April 10 and 11, 2015**. This year marks the Centennial of the life of Margaret Walker Alexander, so make plans to attend and to participate! This year's festival will feature student performances, panel presentations, and art displays, as well as a keynote address from award-winning poet activist/activist poet Nikki Finney and the installation of a Toni Morrison Society Bench by the Road.

The Margaret Walker Center invites proposals for papers, presentations, and panels for the Creative Arts Festival to be submitted by Monday, March 23, 2015. While the theme of the conference is "Margaret Walker ~ This Is My Century," the organizers welcome proposals from high school, undergraduate, and graduate students on any topic. Proposal submissions should be 250-500 words and should fit in one of the following four categories:

1. **Poetry/Spoken Word** (5 to 7-minute presentations in original storytelling and poetry)
2. **Visual Arts** (up to 3 pieces of artwork in any media with 5 to 7-minute presentations)
3. **Written** (8 to 10-page essays with 15 to 20-minute presentations)
4. **Performing Arts** (5 to 7-minute dance, musical, and theatrical presentations)

In the case of panel proposals, please submit the names of the participants and the moderator and a brief synopsis of the panel's topic and of the individual paper proposals.

To submit a proposal, please send a document in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF to mwa@jsums.edu.

For more information, contact the Margaret Walker Center (mwa@jsums.edu or 601-979-2055) or the Conference Coordinators, Dr. helen crump (helen.j.crump@jsums.edu) and Dr. Robert Luckett (robert.luckett@jsums.edu).

Note that submissions in the written and poetry categories will be considered for publication, and the best essay by a JSU student on the "black experience in the American South" will receive the \$1,000 Margaret Walker Alexander Annual Award. JSU students who would like to be considered for this Award must submit their 8 to 10-page essays by Friday, April 3, 2015.



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