



*Third Annual
Spirit of the Renaissance Poetry Competition
sponsored by The Lawnside Historical Society, Inc.*

Theme: I Know My Soul

In Honor of Jessie Redmon Fauset

Author, Activist, Novelist

To celebrate its **Seventh Jessie Redmon Fauset Day** on Saturday, **April 24, 2010**, the Lawnside Historical Society, Inc., invites Burlington, Camden and Gloucester County students in fifth through 12th grades to write original poetry for the *Spirit of the Renaissance Poetry Competition*.

About the Poetry Writing Competition

Theme: I Know My Soul*

* The title of a poem by Harlem Renaissance writer Claude McKay

Eligibility: Fifth through 12th grade students who reside in Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties

Format: Each typed page the poem must bear a page number and the name of the poem. Each entry must consist of no more than three pages of sonnets, ballads, rhymes or other poetic genres. At the end of the poem, students should explain in no more than 50 words what inspired them. The reverse side of the entry should bear the typed name, home address including city and zip code, home telephone number, email address, school name and grade level of the student submitting the entry. (See form.)

**Entries containing profanity will be disqualified.
Email submissions are not permitted.**

Deadline: All entries must be received by mail by **April 3 at:** Lawnside Historical Society, P.O. Box 608, Lawnside, NJ 08045-0608

CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED

**Poets will read their winning entries at the
2010 Jessie Redmon Fauset Day, which will be held at
2 p.m. on April 24 at Lawnside Public School,
426 East Charleston Avenue, Lawnside.**



Jessie Redmon Fauset

The Harlem Renaissance was a vibrant period of intellectual excitement in the 1920s in Harlem, New York, centered around African-American writers, poets and artists. Langston Hughes, one of the foremost poets of the 20th century, called Jessie Redmon Fauset, the “mid-wife” of the Harlem Renaissance.

The Lawnside Historical Society celebrates Miss Fauset because she was born in Lawnside, Camden County, in 1882 when her father was pastor of Mount Pisgah A.M.E. Church.

*Learn more about
Jessie Redmon Fauset and
the Harlem Renaissance at
www.petermotthouse.org/JRFDay.html.*

Jessie Redmon Fauset Day and The Spirit of the Renaissance Poetry Competition are funded by a grant from the Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission through the local re-grant program of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Lawnside Historical Society is a designated organization of the New Jersey Cultural Trust and is funded, in part, by the New Jersey Historical Commission.



2010 Spirit of the Renaissance Poetry Competition Entry Form

Mail to: Lawnside Historical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 608, Lawnside, NJ 08045

Instructions to Poets: Please complete the contact information below. Type your poem on the reverse side of this form. If additional pages are necessary, please number them and type your contact information on the reverse side of each page. **Note:** *At the end of your poem, explain in no more than 50 words what inspired it.* **Deadline: Entry must be received at address above by April 3, 2010.**

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Email address

School

Grade