

Margaret Walker Alexander: A Twentieth Century Voice From the South
A National Symposium and Poetry Festival
Friday, July 7, 2000
9:00 a.m.
Jackson State University

You are doing a welcome. 2-5 minutes maximum.

Opening

1. Good morning
2. John Grisham story
3. What a pleasure it is for me to be here as you celebrate the life and works of Mississippian Margaret Walker Alexander.

Cultural Talent

- What talent we have here in Mississippi!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 1. Writers
 2. Musicians
 3. Artists
- Mississippi has the right to boast about the talented people who call Mississippi home
- From Eudora Welty to William Faulkner, Willie Morris to Mrs. Margaret Walker Alexander, our heritage of literary talent runs deep.

- Margret Walker told her stories with passion and a compassion for all people.
- She had a love for education, Jackson State University and the State of Mississippi
- Jackson State now houses Mrs. Walkers personal papers, a treasure that's value is priceless to the University, the students and future students across our state.
- Mrs. Walker is a self-made success story that we as a people and a state should look to as an example, and hold in high esteem as we look to the future and work together to make the best Mississippi possible for our children.