



"MELODY" SMITH, 16 of Teaneck, NEW JERSEY, is the 1977 INTERNATIONAL WINNER of "HAL JACKSON'S TALENTED TEENS INTERNATIONAL" talent competition and syndicated tv special, taped recently in Hollywood, California at the Longhorn Theater. Among her prizes, a Tiffany Trophy, trips to Jamaica, West Indies via Air Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados via BWIA and Hilton Hotels, Bermuda, courtesy Walter Greene, and an appearance on DON CORNELIUS' "SOUL TRAIN" tv show. MELODY, a dancer, won out over 26 contestants 13 to 16 with performing talents representing US States, Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Jamaica, and The Bahamas. Above, judge RALPH CARTER of the CBS tv series "Good Times" congratulates MELODY. Other celebrity judges from network tv series included Haywood Nelson of "What's Happenin'", and Lawrence Hilton Jacobs of "Welcome Back Kotter". Performers included Motown's Jermaine Jackson, and ABC Records' The Dramatics. Host was Executive Producer Hal Jackson. All teens can enter by writing "Talented Teens Int'l", 350 5th Ave. Room 3308, NY 10001, USA. 212-868-9858.

BLACK POETRY

POETIC JUSTICE

Read another's poems that were done quite well. What point he was getting across I couldn't really tell. Adding words and phrases that I have yet to consume, Leaving me strained and feeling out of tune, I began reading over hoping for a hint But to the world of higher education I have remained ignorant.

Feeling frustrated I started to put his book away Letting it rest for a lifetime or till a gloomy day. Realizing I was doing an injustice and to his work I was being unfair, What if mine were treated the same, put aside without a care?

I found my little dictionary and opened his book once more. All the words I didn't know I started to underline. Finding the man was good, his ten letter words were even better. Now understanding what I was reading I felt the man was together. Using old English that was yet to cross the seas,

Words I thought obsolete like grandma's remedies, I kept on reading; this was turning into an obsession Like a wonder drug fighting my depression.

There was still some of his book that remains over my head. Yet now I feel better understanding some of what he said. Using more words of French and then some of old Spanish, I felt the words growing in my mind and there they would vanish.

One poem stuck to me above all the rest, Something I could identify with about a man and his quest. Speaking of a man left with his pen and nothing else, I believe the man was speaking of himself.
—Arthur Clark

This poem tells about learning to understand that which is difficult or foreign to us.



Left to Right: Lubertha Johnson, Debbie Wells, Sarann Knight; and standing Virgie Fitzgerald.

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DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT JERREL W. JONES

Dr. Dorothy I. Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women, has been chosen to receive the Distinguished Service Award of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) during its 38th Annual Convention, June 21-24 in Cleveland, Ohio at the Park Plaza Hotel.

Announcement of the recipient was made jointly last week by Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett of the San Francisco Sun Reporter, president of NNPA and Jerrel W. Jones of the Milwaukee Courier, first vice president and chairman of the Awards Committee.

Other highlights of the convention will be greetings by Gov. James A. Rhodes of Ohio, Mrs. Martha Mitchell of the White House, Ambassadors Francis A. Dennis and Olujimi Jolaoso of Liberia and Nigeria, and Boxing Promoter Don King. Congressman Louis Stokes, Dr. Michael R. Winston, director, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University; Dr. Goodlett; and Richard Ferris, president of the United Airlines; and Richard Tullis of Harris Corporation will address the convention.

In addition, there will be seminars on the Black Press and the Federal Government, problems of the Black Press and of NNPA and

How These May Be Remedied, and two seminars on advertising conducted by Amalgamated Publishers and Black Media.

The awards banquet on Friday evening will climax the convention. Twenty-three member newspapers will receive awards for best editorials, best columns, best news and features stories, best news photos, general excellence, and other categories.

The awards, totaling \$1,000 in each of the 19 categories, are sponsored by: ALCOA, Brown & Williamson Tobacco Co., Carnation, Coca-Cola, A&P Stores, General Electric, Gluf Oil, Heinz, J. C. Penny, Lever Brothers, Miller Brewing Co., Pepsi-Cola, Philip Morris, PPG Industries, Schlitz, Sears, Roebuck, Sterling Drug, U. S. Steel, and Westinghouse.

Scholarship awards by R. J. Reynolds and Anheuser-Bush, along with plaques for Congressman Phillip Burton of California and the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Height, will be made on Thursday evening, June 22.

Dr. Height, the first woman to receive the coveted NNPA Award, has been president of the National Council of Negro Women since the death of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, its founder, in 1955. She is a renowned social worker who

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was associated with the YWCA for many years as an executive director and as a member of the national board.

Under her leadership, the Council has become an international organization, servicing women in developing countries around the world and especially in Africa. For her work, she has received nine honorary doctorate degrees from such universities as Howard, Harvard, Tuskegee, and the University of Massachusetts.

Previous recipients of the NNPA Award are: Benjamin L. Hooks, executive director of the NAACP; Congressman Charles Diggs; Business League President Berkeley Burrell; Judge Damon Keith; M. Carl Nolman of the National Urban Coalition; Mayors Richard Hatcher and Carl Stokes, and OIC Chairman Leon Sullivan.