

Voices of Woodlawn

Four poets confront the history of slavery at an historic plantation.



“Woodlawn” -- Artwork by Diane Wilbon Parks

An Online Presentation Held on Juneteenth

Friday, June 19, 2020 at 6:30 pm

For the session’s link, send an email to

VoicesofWoodlawn@gmail.com.

In its past, the Woodlawn plantation in Fairfax, VA was home to nine whites who were served by 90 enslaved blacks. As with so many such historic properties, very little is known about those slaves.

In Voices of Woodlawn, four poets speak back to this silent history. Through powerful poems by Diane Wilbon Parks, Patrick Washington, Sylvia Dianne Beverly “Ladi Di,” and Hiram Larew, the sadness, anger and confusion of such a past is evoked. They will be joined by poet and harmonica player, Cliff Bernier.

Join us as we use the power of poetry to shed light on how a dark part of our history continues to haunt us today.



We thank our colleagues at Historic Woodlawn and The Inner Loop.