

Wilma McDaniel Literary Landmark Celebration
March 28, 2020

We are excited to announce a very rare and important event for the entire state of California, which will be happening at your very own Tulare Historical Museum on Saturday, March 28th, 2020. Wilma McDaniel, Tulare's Poet Laureate, will be posthumously designated a California Literary Landmark!

Wilma's designation will mark only the sixth Literary Landmark in the state of California, the first for Tulare County, and the first female to be given this distinction.

THM, in partnership with the Tulare County Historical Society and the Tulare County Library, will hold a Wilma McDaniel Literary Landmark Celebration at the Tulare Historical Museum.

In honor of the "Okie Poet" and her heritage, a free biscuits & gravy and cornbread & beans brunch will be available from 11am-1pm, generously provided by Superior Air. Rosa Brothers Scoops Mobile will also be on-hand, selling their delicious milk and ice-cream. Musical entertainment will be provided.

The Literary Landmark Celebration program begins at 1:00pm, with poetry readings of Wilma's work and guest speakers to include Karen Neurohr, Associate Professor at Oklahoma State University, along with some special surprises. The culmination of the day's festivities will be the official California Literary Landmark designation for Wilma and the unveiling of her plaque. The Tulare Historical Museum has been given the distinct privilege of receiving the plaque, where it will be displayed in perpetuity.

Throughout the day, the documentary "Down an Old Road: The Poetic Life of Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel" by Chris Simon, will be shown at THM. A special selection of books related to Wilma and the Dust Bowl migration will be for sale in the THM Gift Shop.

The Literary Landmark Program is a project of the United For Libraries organization. The Program began in 1986 as a way to recognize and dedicate historic literary sites and artists.

This rare honor and special program, which culminates Women's History Month and serves as a kick-off to April's National Poetry Month, is definitely one not to be missed!