



FRANCES HARPER

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (1825-1911)

Visited Ithaca in 1888. Following her visit a Black women's community organization was formed which would later become Southside Community Center.

Learning about Frances Harper, means learning about a poet, author, orator, abolitionist, suffragist, and temperance activist.

By age twenty-one, Harper wrote her first small volume of poetry called "Forest Leaves".

First woman instructor at Union Seminary, a school for free African Americans in Wilberforce, Ohio.

Harper spent the rest of her career working for the pursuit of equal rights, job opportunities, and education for African American women.

QUOTES

"Every mother should be a true artist, who knows how to weave into her child's life images of grace and beauty, the true poet capable of writing on the soul of childhood the harmony of love and truth, and teaching it how to produce the grandest of all poems - the poetry of a true and noble life."

"It was a strange sight to see these black men rallying around the Stars and Stripes, when white men were trampling them under foot and riddling them with bullets."

"We are all bound up together in one great bundle of humanity, and society cannot trample on the weakest and feeblest of its members without receiving the curse in its own soul."

"My hands were weak, but I reached them out To feebler ones than mine, and over the shadow of my life Stole the light of a peace divine."

"The respect that is only bought by gold is not worth much."

Artwork: Maryam Adib @Smarf.Art
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