CONCLUSIONS

The data collected from the first category, memory, yields some significant conclusions. Firstly, all of the poets frequently use the term blood. The recurrence of blood purports the connection that black poetry has to ancestry and heritage. It also points to a collective-consciousness among African-Americans. In addition to blood, death is another word that our poets frequently use. This heavy usage may indicate a link between black poetry and the historical oppression blacks have experienced. The second data set, identity, reveals that race is an important component of identity for all of the writers. Furthermore, the results suggests that the older poets, Hughes and Margaret Walker, connect naming to identity. In contrast, the younger poets place significantly less emphasis on this correlation. The results yielded from the last category suggests that Hughes and Margaret Walker draw upon the trope of song more heavily than the other poets. This usage attests to their reliance on the aesthetic of black poetry.

REFERENCES


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Margaret Walker Center
Dr. RobertLuckett & Angela Steward