
Z Chronicles

May 2026 - Volume 3

**Zora N. Hurston Hurston Florida
Education Foundation**

Quarterly Newsletter

Our Mission

The Zora Neale Hurston Florida Education Foundation (ZNHFEF), is a 501C3 non-profit organization, located in Fort Pierce, FL. Our mission is very unique, which is to preserve and promote the literary and local legacy of the world-renowned author and anthropologist, Zora Neale Hurston in the Lincoln Park Community.

A message from the President



On behalf of the ZNHFEF, we would like to say "Thank You" for making the Zora Experience Festival successful!

Thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, vendors and the community, because if it weren't for you, the festival would not have been possible.

The festival was a full-filled day where the community came together to celebrate cultural traditions. We had live local entertainers, food, the Dust Tracks Heritage tours, and much more.

The Zestival highlighted Zora's love for music, dance, art, and writing. We hope to see everyone next year.

May God Richly Bless You!

Marina Santos,
President,
ZNH Florida Education Foundation

Calendar of Events

COMING EVENTS

**The Zora Initiative
Legacy Lives Here**

**Grand Opening (TBD)
Zora Dust Tracks Museum and
Enrichment Center**

Tree Planting Event During Zora Fest 2026

The National Religious Partnership for the Environment partnered with the Zora Foundation to plant trees in our community. Cassandra Carmichael and volunteers planted trees at the Zora Museum, the Zora House, several local churches, Sarah Memorial Chapel, and the Garden of Heavenly Rest Cemetery where Zora is buried.



*Website: zorafoundationmuseum.com * Email: contactus@zorafoundationmuseum.com
809 North 9th Street, Ft. Pierce, FL 34950

Z Chronicles

May 2026 - Volume 3

The Annual

2026 Zora Experience Festival Recap

The Zora Fest 2026 was a funfilled day where the community came out to celebrate cultural traditions. We had local talent entertain us with various genres of music. There was lots of good food and vendors that wow'ed the community with their wares. The children's corner was filled with many activities that kept the children busy through out the day. Local authors were on full display as Zora would have wanted. There was so much to experience and we hope everyone that came out enjoyed themselves. As Zora would say "my people, my people." Again, thank you for coming out to help us celebrate our local She-Ro, Zora Neale Hurston. More highlights of the festival will be available on our website.

The Zora Experience Featuring:



LaShon ZEF 2026

Lashon was a standout on the Zora Experience Festival 2026 stage. She was a contestant on American Idol Season 23, and is known for her powerful original song "Woman." LaShon enchanted the festival crowd with her soulful voice. She sang many of her original songs that enticed many to get up and dance.



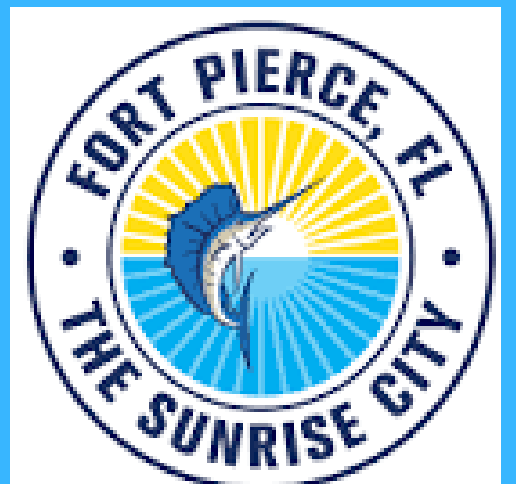
Zora Fun Fact

In 1928, she became the first Black person to graduate from Barnard College, where she studied under the "father of American anthropology," Franz Boas.

Zora Quote

"Grab the broom of anger and drive off the beast of fear."

Our Sponsors



*Website: zorafoundationmuseum.com * Email: contactus@zorafoundationmuseum.com
809 North 9th Street, Ft. Pierce, FL 34950

Z Chronicles

Historic Landmarks

Zora's Dwelling Places in Fort Pierce, FL



2 The Zora Home

1734 Ave L
Ft. Pierce, FL



3 The Zora Museum

809 N. 9th Street
Fort Pierce, FL



1 The Foundation

Zora Neale Hurston Florida Education Foundation (ZNHFEF), also known as the Zora Neale Hurston Dust Track Museum and Enrichment Center, is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, located in Fort Pierce, Florida. Our organization is committed to promoting and preserving the legacy of Zora Neale Hurston in the Lincoln Park Community. The Foundation manages the Zora Neale Hurston Museum and Enrichment Center and the Zora Home.

From early 1958 through late 1959, Zora Neale Hurston lived in this house, part of a new subdivision developed by Dr. Clem C. Benton, a prominent Fort Pierce physician and community leader. Dr. Benton allowed Zora, a family friend, to live in the house rent-free. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places and was designated a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of Interior and National Park Service in 1991. In 1995, it was moved 500 feet north from its original location at 1734 School Court, to allow for expansion of Lincoln Park Academy school where Zora briefly taught in 1958 (Heritage Trail Marker #2).

The ZNHFEF is working to procure the House to make it a visitors center for the public. Thanks to the Conservation Fund for your support in this endeavor and for supporting us in our mission.

The Center is where Zora spent her final days before passing there in 1960. The facility later served as a segregated nursing home and a senior daycare center for many years. Now, the ZNHFEF is renovating this facility to create the Zora Neale Hurston Community Center and Museum. Your financial provisions are needed to complete the restoration of the facility to become a world renowned Museum and Humanities Center and to preserve Ms. Hurston's legacy in Fort Pierce, Florida and beyond.

See more renovation pictures and videos on our website:
<https://zorafoundationmuseum.com/>

