



The Willamette Heritage Center Presents Our 7th Annual Victorian Valentines Day Poetry Contest and Family Festival For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Kathleen Schulte, The Willamette Heritage Center *at The Mill*, 503-585-7012,
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WHAT: *7th Annual Victorian Valentines Day Poetry Contest*
WHEN: **Deadline for all entries is Friday January 27, 2011 at 4:00**
WHERE: 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem, OR 97301
COST: **FREE to enter the contest;** \$3 admission for Everyone, including our Victorian Valentines
Family Festival on February 11 from 11 am to 3 pm, when winners will be announced.

Calling all poets between the ages of 5 and 18! Our poetry contest opened January 1 and ends January 27 at 4:00 pm. All entries will be posted at the Victorian Valentines Day Celebration, Feb 11. Winning poems will be posted on our website and printed in our newsletter.

Poems will be entered and judged in four age categories: 5-8, 9-12, 13-15, and 16-18 years. Poems may follow any style or theme. Entries must be **no more than one page in length**. Authors are limited to one entry each. Judges will be selected from the Willamette Heritage Board and the community. First and second places will be awarded in each age category. Winners will receive a Willamette Heritage Center gift basket. An entry form is available at: www.willametteheritage.org/events_and_programs.html.

Deadline for all entries is Friday January 27, 2011 at 4:00 pm.

WHAT: *Family Festival Victorian Valentines Day*
WHEN: **February 11, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm**
WHERE: 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem, OR 97301
COST: \$3 admission includes entry into all events, activities, historic structures and exhibits.

Our four family festivals for 2012 will take place on the 2nd Saturday in February, the 3rd Saturday in May, the 4th Saturday in September and all five nights of Magic at the Mill.

Our first Family Festival will be our traditional celebration of the Victorian era - Victorian Valentines Day!

While Queen Victoria was on the throne, the world followed her ideals in fashion, food, dance, music and decorating. We follow this theme for our traditional Victorian Valentines day, special celebration of this era of grace and class for all ages. Join us for Victorian and modern themed crafts, music and activities! We will announce the winners of our annual Poetry Contest.

This event is generously sponsored in part by Ceili of the Valley.

For more information, please contact Kathleen Schulte, 503 585 7012 or email kathleens@willametteheritage.org.

The Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill, a unification between Mission Mill Museum and Marion County Historical Society, is a stroll through the history of the Willamette Valley. Its 5-acre campus is home to the 1841 Jason Lee house (arguably the oldest wooden framed house in Oregon), 1841 Willamette Mission Parsonage, 1847 John Boon home, 1858 Pleasant Grove Church and the 1896 Thomas Kay Woolen Mill, named an *American Treasure* by the National Park Service. Since its founding in 1964 as a private non-profit association, Mission Mill Museum has established a reputation as a leader in the preservation and interpretation of Oregon's history. The museum's histories are shared with visitors through daily and group tours, speakers, living history, children's programs, hands-on activities, special events, the museum store and rental facilities. For more information call 503-585-7012 or visit www.willametteheritage.org.

The Willamette Heritage Center is a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is not managed by city, county, state or federal agencies.

Submitted by: Cheryl Clark, Aura Marketing, cclark@auramarketing.com ###