

An Educational Program in Support of
*HONOR! A Celebration of the African American
Cultural Legacy* Curated by Jessye Norman



CARNEGIE HALL presents
Perelman American Roots

A Program of The Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall

AFRICAN AMERICAN SONG

Uniting Voices

Teacher Guide

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USING YOUR TEACHER GUIDE

The teacher guide for *African American Song: Uniting Voices* includes questions for class discussion. These are indicated throughout the teacher guide in light yellow shading. Please note that these questions do not appear in the student guide.

Information sheets, worksheets, and choral arrangements appear in both the teacher and student versions of *Uniting Voices*. These materials have been indicated with a red square, providing the instructor with the corresponding page number in the student guide (SG).

In this year’s curriculum, we have identified two types of supplements to selected lessons, as detailed below.

MUSICAL EXTENSIONS

These activity ideas are designed for music teachers who are implementing the full curriculum in their own music classrooms or who are helping to bring more music specialty approaches into an arts-integrated learning environment. These ideas emphasize skills-based learning approaches, and provide opportunities for collaboration between classroom teachers and music teachers.

CREATIVE EXPLORATIONS

These activity ideas are designed for Teaching Artists or music specialists whose work supplements that of either social studies or choral classroom teachers. These ideas emphasize hands-on work that gives students a chance to creatively respond to relevant artistic and historical contexts.

Corresponding page number in the student guide (SG), where applicable

Questions to be discussed as a class

Musical Extension

Creative Exploration

SG 1

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PRE-CURRICULUM SURVEY

- How is music a part of your everyday life? _____
- What kinds of ideas are expressed in the music you listen to now? _____
- What are some occasions or events during which people sing? _____
- What does the word *united* mean to you? _____
- Can music unite a group of people or a society? If so, how? If not, why? Give at least one example to support your opinion. _____
- Who or what comes to mind when you think of African American song? _____

LESSON 5: United by Dreams

AIM: What dreams and hopes do we have as individuals and as a group?

OBJECTIVE: Students explore African American song in relation to social change.

STANDARDS: NYS Social Studies—1.1; Blueprint—Community and Cultural Resources

MATERIALS: Perelman American Roots, Perelman American Roots CD

PART 1: **Spirituals as the Expression of Hopes and Dreams**

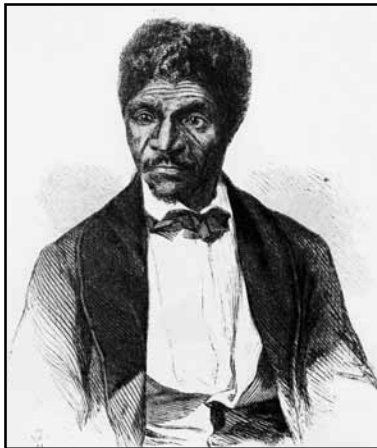
- Have students fill out their My Hopes and Dreams worksheet.
- Use the stories of Dred Scott, Harriet Tubman, and Rosa Parks to demonstrate how individuals fought for their hopes and dreams. Use supplemental materials as necessary, or visit nypl.org for additional resources.
- As a class, discuss these questions in relation to the worksheet:

- What hopes and dreams do we have in common as a class?
- What aspirations do we have as individuals?
- How many of those aspirations have become realities?
- What dreams still wait to be fulfilled?

PART 2: **“Free at Last”**

- Listen to the recording of “Free at Last” [Track 11]. Discuss these questions as a class:

- What motto do you hear repeated in this song?
- What are some of the hopes and dreams that this song addresses?



Dred Scott



Harriet Tubman



Rosa Parks

PART 3: "I Have a Dream"

- Watch video excerpts from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech delivered at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, on August 28, 1963.

NOTE: The video is available at americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkhaveadream.htm.

- Discuss these questions as a class:
 - What aspects of Dr. King's dream do you think have become realities?
 - What aspects of Dr. King's dream have not yet come true?
 - If you were to update this speech for the present, what other issues might you include?
 - How did Dr. King's speech unite people?
 - Why do you think Dr. King chose to reference the Spiritual "Free at Last"?

PART 4: "A New Dream"

- Complete the "A New Dream" worksheet and then perform your composition for the class.

MUSICAL EXTENSION

- Learn the chorus of "Free at Last" from the included arrangement. You can also try singing the two-part arrangement, as well.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivering his famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963.

Melody**Free at Last**

SPIRITUAL
Arr. M. Roger Holland II


Lively ♩ = 132

All on melody, 1st time

1 
 Free at last, ___ free at last, ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

4 
 free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

8 
 free at last. ___ One o' these morn - ings so bright and fair, ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

12 
 free at last, ___ Gon-na put on my wings and try the air. ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

16 
 free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last, ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

20 
 free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

24 
 free at last. ___ If you get there ___ be - fore I do, Thank God a'-might-y we're

28 
 free at last. ___ Tell all o' my friends ___ I'm com-ing too. ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

SG 13

32 4

free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last, ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

36

free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last. ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

40

free at last. ___ thank God, thank God, thank God,

44 *rit.*

Broad

thank God, Thank God a'-might-y we're free at last. _____

rit.

Free at Last

SPIRITUAL
Arr. M. Roger Holland II

Lively ♩ = 132

All on melody, 1st time

1
Free at last, ___ free at last, ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

2
Free at last. ___ Oh, ___ I wan-na thank God we're

4
free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

free at last. ___ Free at last. ___ Oh, ___ I wan-na thank God we're

①

8
free at last. ___ One o' these morn - ings so bright and fair, ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

free at last. ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

12
free at last, ___ Gon-na put on my wings and try the air. ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

free at last, ___ try the air. ___ Thank God we're

②

16
free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last, ___ thank God a'-might-y we're

free at last. ___ Free at last. ___ Oh, ___ I wan-na thank God we're

SG 15

20

free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last. ___ thank God a'-mighty we're

free at last. ___ Free at last. ___ Oh, ___ I wan-na thank God we're

24

③

free at last. ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

free at last. ___ If you get there ___ be - fore I do, ___

28

free at last. ___ Thank God a'-might-y we're

Tell all o' my friends I'm com-ing too. ___ Oh, we're

32

④

free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last, ___ thank God a'-mighty we're

free at last. ___ Free at last. ___ Oh, ___ I wan-na thank God we're

36

free at last. ___ Free at last, ___ free at last. ___ thank God a'-mighty we're

free at last. ___ Free at last. ___ Oh, ___ I wan-na thank God we're

40

free at last. — thank God, thank God, thank God,

free at last. — thank God a'-mighty, thank God a'-mighty, thank God a'-mighty,

2.

2. marcato

Broad

44

rit.

thank God, Thank God a'-might-y we're free at last. —

rit.

thank God a'-mighty, Thank God a'-might-y we're free at last, we're free at last.

SG 17

“Free at Last”

Chorus

Free at last, free at last
 Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.
 Free at last, free at last
 Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.

One of these mornings, so bright and fair
 Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.
 I'm gonna put on my wings and try the air
 Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.

Chorus

If you get there before I do
 Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.
 Tell all of my friends, I'm coming too
 Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.

Chorus

WORKSHEET: My Hopes and Dreams

1. What are some of the hopes and dreams expressed in Spirituals? _____

2. How can Spirituals be meaningful in today's world? How do they unify us?

3. If there is one thing you could change for your family or community, what would it be?

4. What are some dreams you have for yourself? _____

5. What are some dreams you have for your country? For the world? _____

WORKSHEET: "A New Dream"

Complete this worksheet based on the dreams you have for your world, including places where you would like to see these dreams fulfilled.

I have a dream that one day _____

I have a dream that one day _____

I have a dream that one day _____

I have a dream that one day _____

I have a dream today.

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true. So let freedom ring.
Let freedom ring from _____

Let freedom ring from _____

Let freedom ring from _____

Let freedom ring from _____

And when this happens, we'll be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro Spiritual, *Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!*

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