

Lift Every Voice
(The Negro National Anthem)

By James Weldon Johnson

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the
slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand.
True to our GOD; True to our native land.

*The Afro-American Historical Association
of the Niagara Frontier*

**Martin Luther King, Jr.
Program**



Sunday, January 17, 2021, 3:00 P.M

Virtual Program

Event Co-Sponsors

Buffalo History Museum
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Rho Lambda Chapter of Buffalo
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Phi Omega Chapter



The program today will feature Yohuru Williams, Ph.D., Distinguished University Chair and Professor of History and Founding Director of Racial Justice Initiative at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. He received his Ph.D. from Howard University in 1998. His topic will be: “Finding the Strength to Love: Remembering Martin King Jr. in the age of Black Lives Matter.” Dr. Williams is a noted scholar of the civil rights and Black power movement, an education activist and frequent national commentator. He is an important voice on the topics of race and social justice.

Dr. Williams is editor of *A Constant Struggle: African-American History from 1865 to the Present Documents and essays* (Kendall Hunt, 2002), and is co-editor of *The Black Panthers: Portraits from an Unfinished Revolution* (Nation Books, 2016), *In Search of the Black Panther Party, New Perspectives on a Revolutionary Movement* (Duke, 2006), and *Rethinking the Black Freedom Movement. Liberated Territory: Toward a Local History of the Black Panther Party* (Duke, 2008). He also served as general editor for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History’s 2002 and 2003 Black History Month publications, *The Color Line Revisited* (Tapestry Press, 2002) and *The Souls of Black folks: Centennial Reflections* (Africa World Press, 2003).

PROGRAM

Musical Interlude

Mistress of Ceremonies Barbara Nevergold, Ph.D.

Lift Every Voice

Invocation Bishop T. Anthony Bronner, Ph.D.

Welcome

W. Charles Brandy, President
AAHANF

Special Thanks to our Co-Sponsors:

The Buffalo History Museum
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, *Rho Lambda Chapter*
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity *Phi Omega Chapter*

Introduction of Presenter Lillian Williams, Ph.D.

Presentation Yohuru Williams, Ph.D.

Questions and Answers

Benediction Rev. Corey B. Gibson, M.DIV

Previous Speakers:

Leo Richardson, PhD (2007)
Jacqueline McLeod, PhD (2008)
Reggie Witherspoon (2009)
Jason Young, PhD (2010)
Harry Bradshaw Matthews (2011)
Karla Clapp Holloway, PhD (2012)
Teresa A. Miller, PhD (2013)
Black Calvary Buffalo Soldiers (2014)
Juneteenth (2015)
LaKisha Simmons, PhD (2016)
Danielle Holley-Walker, JD (2017)
Rick Fleming, PhD (2018)
Steve Perez, PhD (2019)
Gretchen Sullivan Sorin, PhD (2020)



"Lift Every Voice and Sing" is often referred to as the "Black national anthem" in the United States is a hymn written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938) in 1900 and set to music by his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954), for the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday in 1905. "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was publicly performed first as a poem as part of a celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday by Johnson's brother John. In 1919, the National Association for the Advancement of Lift Ev'ry Voice is a summer festival celebrating African-American culture and heritage in the beautiful Berkshires of western Massachusetts every other year. See you in 2015! For more information visit <http://liftevryvoice.org>. Lift every voice and sing 'Til earth and heaven ring Ring with the harmonies Of Liberty Let our rejoicing rise (Let our rejoicing rise) High as the listening skies (High as the listening skies) Let it resound loud as the rolling sea Now I'm gonna sing (Sing) a (A) song (Song) Full of the faith that the dark past has taught us. Said I'm gonna sing (Sing), sing a song (A song) Full of the hope that the present has brought us I'm gonna sing (I'm gonna sing, sing a song) Sing a song (I'm gonna sing, sing a song) Yeah (I'm gonna sing, sing a song) I'm gonna lift my voice and I'm gonna sing. Lift Every Voice and Sing Kim Weston – 20th Century Masters: The Millennium Collection: Best Of Kim Weston. 4:56:30. 2. Listen to Lift Ev'ry Voice And Sing - Protest Songs now. Listen to Lift Ev'ry Voice And Sing - Protest Songs in full in the Spotify app. Play on Spotify. Legal Privacy Cookies About Ads. 1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us. Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us. Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won. 2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our people sighed? We have come ove