



UNITING
VOICES
CHICAGO

FORMERLY
CHICAGO
CHILDREN'S
CHOIR

PRESENTS
BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT SERIES

SOUL TO SOUL

THE EVOLUTION OF
AFRICAN MUSIC IN AMERICA

February 22-23, 2024
Chicago Symphony Center

Lead Sponsor



Premium Sponsor

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ABOUT UNITING VOICES CHICAGO

Founded in 1956 at the dawn of the Civil Rights Movement, Uniting Voices Chicago (formerly Chicago Children's Choir) empowers and unites youth from diverse backgrounds to find their voice and celebrate their common humanity through the power of music. As a leading nonprofit organization, we serve thousands of youth ages 6-18 from every zip code of Chicago through transformative and accessible music education programs and performance opportunities.

ABOUT THE BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM

Curated by Director of Africana Studies, Mr. Lonnie Norwood, Jr., Conductor & Choreographer Farlanda Buchannon and Conductor Bailey Haynes, Uniting Voices Chicago's Black History Month concert series is the culmination of months of learning about music and culture of the African diaspora. The program brings together singers from nearly 90 school program partners, the premier ensemble Voice of Chicago, culture bearers and guest artists. The Black History Month curriculum and concert series is perennially the organization's largest programmatic investment, allowing young people to celebrate their heritage and each other.

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SOUL TO SOUL: THE EVOLUTION OF AFRICAN MUSIC IN AMERICA

Exploring the rich ways Africana music uses rhythm and melody to connect the heart, mind, body, and soul, Uniting Voices Chicago continues its commitment to rigorous performance education and the visibility of authentic Africana music. Embracing the rich legacy of Africana influence in the evolution of modern America, Soul to Soul connects the music that moves us to the globally connected state of our world.

Special guests include Sunn m'Cheaux, 79rs Gang, Jenipher Jones, Roxanne Stevenson and The Chicago State University Community Jazz Band.

CONCERT PROGRAM

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Music by John Rosemond Johnson;
Lyrics by James Weldon Johnson

Step It Down

Trad. Gullah Ring Play;
arr. Lonnie Norwood, Jr.

Sew, Sew, Sew with Needle Don't Lie

As performed by the 79rs Gang

Eyes on de Prize

African American Spiritual adapted
by Alice Wine and leaders of the
American Civil Rights Movement;
arr. Lonnie Norwood, Jr.

It Don't Mean A Thing (If it Ain't Got that Swing)

Duke Ellington; additional lyrics by
Irving Mills; vocal arr. Bailey Haynes

Sir Duke

Stevie Wonder

Let's Get Funky

George Clinton, Bootsy Collins,
Bernie Worrell/Prince/George
Clinton, Walter Morrison, Garry
Shider/Lonnie Simmons, Rudy
Taylor, Charlie Wilson/Robert Earl
Bell, Ronald Nathan Bell, Donald
Boyce, George Melvin Brown,
Robert Spike Mickens, Claydes
Charles Smith, Clifford Adams,
Dennis Thomas/Lakeside/Ronald
Nathan Bell, Claydes Charles Smith,
George Melvin Brown, James "J.T."
Taylor, Robert Spike Mickens,
Robert Earl Bell, Eumir Deodato/
Norman Whitfield/Jerome Brailey,
George Clinton, Bootsy Collins/
James Brown; arr. W. Mitchell
Owens III, Farlanda Buchannon &
Bailey Haynes; choreography &
staging by Farlanda Buchannon

For Every Mountain

Kurt Carr; vocal arr. Lonnie
Norwood, Jr.

We Shall Overcome

As recorded by Bishop Paul S.
Morton & Greater St. Stephen Mass
Choir; vocal arr. Lonnie Norwood, Jr.



STREAM OUR MUSIC

Check out our Black History Month
playlist with music from today's
concert and other classics.

PERFORMERS AND FEATURED ARTISTS

VOICE OF CHICAGO

SOPRANO/ALTO

Christabel Abiola-Fagba*
Ella Anello*+
Lexie Antoine
Sofia Bondurant*+
Ro Boraz
Ameer Bunkley*
Elisabeth Cami
Daelyn Calloway
Isis Clark+
Chloe Combs*
Stella Corotis
Lauren Cusick*
Annie DeMarea
Emma Ferrell*
Lila Finegold
Monique Frauenheim+
Victoria Gekker*
Mercedes Gong
Tori Hampton*
Lucy Hawk
Andrea Hernandez*
Maude Hovey-Bradshaw
Alethia Ikem
Riley Jacobson*
Mira Jain*
Hana Javed*
Camille Kejo*
Emily Kirkpatrick
Eleanor Koss
Lydia Kuhr*
Salome Kuhr
Nora Lerner

Raiva Lessing
Isabel Loza
Landyn McClain
Eve McMillin*
Isamary Medina Marrero*+
Charlotte Miller*
Tori Mooney*
Myah Morris+
Olivia Nach*+
Sydney Nelkin*
Claire Nitzche*
Zoey Obregon
Megan O'Connor*
Abigail Pazmino
Mia Pensinger-Sok
Khushi Pusnur
Nico Rademacher-Wedd
Abby Rades*
Olivia Roman*
Lucia Ross*+
Myra Sahai*+
Rochelle Sazon
Samantha Schulz*
Annika Sevig
Lucy Shirrell
Esme Siegelin
Sophia Smith*
Gabrielle Sneed*+
Avery Soellner
Ari Stanton-Thomas
Katherine Talmers*+
Laelia van der Bijl
Edie Vanada

Matilde Velez-Lauria
Kaliyah Venson+
Nadia Wieda

TENOR/BASS

Amir Anderson
Ryan Antoine*
Rishi Chandra
Christopher Copeland
Michael Coppola+
Jamion Cotten*
Jack DeKoker*
Tobin Ferrall*
Christian Hampton*+
Theo Hinerfeld*+
J Licklider*+
Jevon Neal
Colin Nelsen+
Yohance Nowlin*+
Jackson O'Brien*
Wyatt Parr*+
Richard Ramirez*
Nathan Ruger*
Atlas Salomon
Patrick Spera
Asa Troccoli
Eliot Warren*+
Ryan Warren
Owen Zeller

KEY

* Encore + Groove

CONCERT LEADERS

Lonnie Norwood,
Director of Africana Studies
Josephine Lee, President
Judy Hanson, Senior
Director

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CURATORS

Lonnie Norwood, Director
of Africana Studies
Farlanda Buchannon,
Conductor & Choreographer
Bailey Haynes, Conductor

SCHOOL PROGRAM CONDUCTORS

Elisabeth Baker
Dewey Bolz
Alex Bravos
Farlanda Buchannon
Geo Cooper
Magdalena Delgado
Gavin Harper
Bailey Haynes
Nana Jenkins
Veronica Román-Meyer
Heather Stewart
Amanda Wolff

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Dave Hildebrand
Brandon Lampkin
Mitchell Owens
Chicago State University
Jazz Ensemble
Roxanne Stevenson,
Director

SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTNERS

Alain Locke Charter School
Annunciata School
George B. Armstrong School of International Studies
Barbara A. Sizemore Academy
Belmont-Cragin Elementary School
Orville T. Bright Elementary School
Milton Brunson Math & Science Specialty School
Michael M. Byrne Elementary School
Carroll-Rosenwald Elementary School
George Washington Carver Elementary School
Catalyst Circle Rock Charter School
Catalyst Maria Charter School
CICS Irving Park
CICS Prairie
George Rogers Clark Elementary School
Grover Cleveland Elementary School
John C. Coonley Elementary School
Darwin Elementary School
Miles Davis Magnet Academy
Disney II Magnet School
Medgar Evers Fine & Performing Arts School
Horace Greeley Elementary School
Wendell E. Green Elementary School
Gresham School of Excellence
Lionel Hampton Fine & Performing Arts School
Bret Harte Math & Science Magnet Cluster School
Harvard School of Excellence
Hawthorne Scholastic Academy

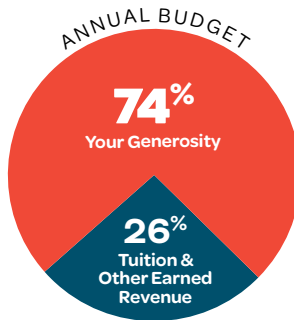
James Hedges Fine & Performing Arts School
William G. Hibbard Elementary School
Thomas J. Higgins Elementary Community Academy
Langston Hughes STEM Elementary School
Edward N. Hurley Elementary School
Intercultural Montessori Language School
Jordan Community School
Joseph J. Jungman STEM Magnet School
Kate Starr Kellogg Elementary School
Joshua D. Kershaw Magnet School
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Academy of Social Justice
Kozminski Community Academy
LaSalle Language Academy
Mildred I. Lavizzo Elementary School
James Madison Elementary School
Mahalia Jackson Elementary School
Cyrus H. McCormick Elementary School
Morrill Math & Science Specialty School
Mount Vernon Elementary School
Murray Language Academy
Nathan S. Davis Dual Language School
The Nettelhorst School
New Field Primary School
Alfred Nobel Dual Language School
Old St Mary's School
Orozco Academy
Parker Community Academy
William Penn Elementary School

John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet School
Mary Gage Peterson Elementary School
Plato Learning Academy
Edgar Allan Poe Classical School
Polaris Charter Academy
William H. Prescott Elementary School
A.N. Pritzker School
Philip Rogers Fine Arts School
Rowe Elementary School
Rowe Middle School
Theophilus Schmid Elementary School
Jesse Sherwood Elementary School
Beulah Shoesmith Elementary School
Mark T. Skinner West Elementary School
South Loop Elementary School
South Shore Fine Arts Academy
John Spry Community School
Adlai E. Stevenson Elementary School
Stone Scholastic Academy
Elizabeth H. Sutherland Elementary School
George B. Swift Specialty School
Monarcas Academy
John A. Walsh Elementary School
West Park STEAM Academy
Whittier Dual Language Magnet School
Wildwood IB World Magnet School
Woodlawn Community Elementary School
Richard Yates Elementary School
Ella Flagg Young Elementary School

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A HARMONIOUS WORLD POSSIBLE

Nearly **80 percent** of Uniting Voices Chicago's operating budget is funded through charitable donations from generous individuals, corporate partners, foundations and government agencies. This critical support fuels accessible music programs in schools and communities across Chicago, helping thousands of youth strengthen their voices to become the next generation of global leaders. *Join our donor community!*

100%
of our singers participate
at a subsidized rate



100%
High school graduation &
college acceptance rate



**YOUR GIFTS
MAKE AN
IMMEDIATE
IMPACT**

Scan to donate today.



\$20

A meal for a singer
while in our care



\$50

Year's worth of sheet
music for a singer



\$100

Pair of performance shoes to
make a singer look and feel good



\$500

Workshop with artists & culture
bearers from across the globe



\$1500

36 weeks of enrichment and safe
spaces after school for one singer



\$2500

Domestic tour experience
for two singers



UNITING VOICES

CHICAGO

SPECIAL THANKS

Chicago Symphony Center

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Our Curriculum Voice Actors -
Father David Jones, Gloria Norwood and Kaylah Wright

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