



REGGIE HARRIS

Reggie Harris has been affiliated with the John F Kennedy Center's Partners in Education program for over two decades, offering both multimedia performances for students and communities as well as in-depth workshops for educators at all grade levels. His writing, research, fieldwork and recordings have amassed an amazing repertoire of African American music, blending spirituals and freedom songs, the old with the new. Mentored early on by Dr. Charles Blockson and by using music and storytelling to create captivating performances for audiences of all ages, he has raised awareness of the Underground Railroad in young school audiences, college symposiums and adult concerts.

Arts-in-Education Performance Offerings

Music and the Underground Railroad - The Underground Railroad is one of the most important chapters in American History. This engaging, interactive concert of songs, stories and narratives about slavery and the quest for freedom reveals the hope, power and eventually, the triumph that was accomplished and shared by a network of multicultural allies. Through song, story and audience involvement, Music & the Underground Railroad provides an understanding of the secrets and passion of this powerful era.

(K-12; Can be Multimedia)

Curriculum Areas: Social studies, cultural geography, history, music, storytelling

Study Guide Link: <http://loydartists.com/images/resources/UndergroundRRStudyGuide.pdf>

VideoLink: (*starts with lower elementary and then changes to upper elementary around the 9:15 mark*): <https://youtu.be/yu1Gzic1L14>

How Martin Climbed the Mountain! – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream, but he did not dream alone. This program is an interactive multi-media presentation honoring the artists, poets, educators, inventors, explorers, scientists and other important contributors to the life and culture of America and the world, and who influenced and informed the work of Dr. King. Using stories and music, Reggie highlights how the contributions of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Benjamin Banneker, Satchel Paige and others helped young Martin become a man who added to the fabric of our nation and who changed the world.

(3-12)

Curriculum Areas: Social studies, cultural geography, history, music, storytelling

Study Guide Link:

<https://loydartists.com/images/resources/HowMartinClimbedPerfguide2019.pdf>

VideoLink: <https://vimeo.com/452762352>

Student Workshops

Elementary:

- *Exploring the Underground Railroad in Song & Story and Classroom Interaction*
- *The Story of Children's Impact on the Modern Civil Rights Movement / The Birmingham Children's March*

Middle:

- *Get On Board the Freedom Train (Exploring the Underground Railroad)*
- *Keep Your Eyes On The Prize (AMERICAN EXPERIENCES IN CIVIL RIGHTS)*

Kennedy Center Professional Development for Teachers

Sing to Freedom: Music & Stories of the Underground Railroad

This proven in-service workshop offers a “hands on – classroom ready” historical and musical workshop on the Underground Railroad. Teachers receive valuable tools for building the knowledge base of students through effective art based curriculum connected lessons designed to open classroom study to a more vibrant exploration of history, music and language. Copies of the highly praised CD “Steal Away,” and an extensive teaching guide are included.

The workshop explores the history of the Antebellum time period in America and provides information and context on how music and culture have been instrumental throughout history. Learning to sing, write, and update “code songs” based on historical words and phrases along with contemporary composition brings together both the musical and historical material contained in the workshop.