

Reggie Harris

“During planning, staff expected to find about 17 students interested in logging on for the live Q and A session. The session would be held during “Encore” a free-time period at the start of the school day. The session would be recorded so other students could listen later. However, after all the students were able to view the recorded program, not 17 students but at least 300 logged on to hear what Mr. Harris had to say!”

“The level of engagement was wonderful! It speaks to Mr. Harris’ gifts not only as a musician, but his dedication and talent as an educator. What a gift to be able to bring students during this difficult year.”

~ Cultural Arts, Wake County, NC

#1 Virtual/Online Performance Title: Music and the Underground Railroad

Video Link: <https://youtu.be/yu1Gzic1L14>

DESCRIPTION

For K-8th Grades, Family and Community Audiences

**** There are two arts-in-education versions of this program; one to reach the lower grades and one to reach the upper grades. Please specify which version is of interest. ****

The Underground Railroad is one of the most important chapters in American History. This engaging concert of songs, stories and narratives about slavery and the quest for freedom reveals the hope, power and eventually, the triumph that was accomplished by a network of multicultural allies. Music and the Underground Railroad provides an understanding of the secrets and passion of this powerful era and an understanding of the use of song to communicate information during this powerful era of American history.

Curriculum Connections: Social studies, cultural geography, history, music, storytelling, language arts

OPTIONS

Full-length 45-55’ pre-recorded program that includes 10’ live, online Q&A segment at the end of first viewing. Reggie logs in for one viewing for the Q&A; Access to the pre-recorded program is available one week.

Full-length 45-55’ pre-recorded program with additional 30’ extended Q&A/Discussion at the end of first viewing. Reggie logs in for one extended Q&A/Discussion only. Access to the pre-recorded program is available for one week.

CONDITIONS - School/Venue must organize and administer event; Call to discuss further details

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

#2 Virtual/Online Performance Title: How Martin Climbed the Mountain!

Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/452762352>

DESCRIPTION

For K-8th Grades, Family and Community Audiences

**** There are two arts-in-education versions of this program; one to reach the lower grades and one to reach the upper grades. Please specify which version is of interest.****

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream, but he did not dream alone. This program honors the African American artists, poets, educators, inventors, explorers, scientists and other important contributors to the life and culture of America and the world 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.

Curriculum Connections: Social studies, cultural geography, history, music, storytelling, literary, language arts

OPTIONS

Full-length 45-55' pre-recorded program that includes 10' live, online Q&A segment at the end of first viewing. Reggie logs in for one viewing for the Q&A; Access to the pre-recorded program is available one week.

Full-length 45-55' pre-recorded program with additional 30' extended Q&A/Discussion at the end of first viewing. Reggie logs in for one extended Q&A/Discussion only. Access to the pre-recorded program is available for one week.

Series of three (3) 9'-10' pre-recorded videos, each with a discrete lesson on the overall theme "How Martin Climbed the Mountain"; access to each lesson available for one week.

Lessons:

1. *The March on Washington*
2. *Music Builds Community*
3. *Family Revealed*

Conditions - School/Venue must organize and administer event

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

#3 Race and Song: A Musical Conversation with Reggie Harris & Alastair Moock

Video Link: <https://youtu.be/YLUjurqSPGQ>

DESCRIPTION

For 4-12th Grades, Family and Community Audiences

What happens when two friends get together? Usually they talk about their lives, they get caught up on the news, maybe listen to each other's points of view, and share what's on their minds. And, if they're musicians, they're likely to pull out an instrument or two along the way...

In **Race and Song: A Musical Conversation**, Alastair Moock and Reggie Harris do just that. Only, in this case, these friends of different races, ages, and social backgrounds share how they've seen and

experienced the world in different ways. They explore issues of race, class, gender and history with an intentionality and generosity of spirit that will draw in kids and adults alike. These aren't always comfortable topics for discussion, but the discussion — and the discomfort — are keys to moving forward.

Together in musical conversation, and with the aid of historical and family photos, Alastair and Reggie open up to each other and frame their perspectives through music (which always helps the medicine go down!). Join these two **veteran musicians** and **storytelling troubadours** for a very special performance —an exploration of the past, the present and the possible.

OPTIONS

Full-length 47' pre-recorded program with additional 15-30' live, online Q&A segment at the end of first viewing. Reggie and Alastair log in separately for one viewing for the Q&A; Access to the pre-recorded program is available one week.

Call to discuss how this program may be expanded to include student workshops or teacher development.

CONDITIONS - School/Venue must organize and administer event; Call to discuss further details

~~~~~

## #4 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)*

~~~~~

Adult Community Concerts

NEW “Family Revealed” – A Story of History and Hope

America is often said to be a melting pot. But our national history more resembles a tapestry quilt with our various cultures and ethnic backgrounds mixed and mingled into a multicolored field of life experiences.

Our history, too often unknown, ignored, or denied, is filled with stories of pain, oppression and struggle, with the possibility of progress sidetracked by ignorance, lies and privilege. But through the lens of awareness and uncovered narratives we can, by acknowledging what is true, begin to develop a new sense of relationship that offers new context and solutions to tackle present day issues of race, division and inclusion. We can start to realize the dream that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called us to recognize and that the poet Maya Angelou described in her poem "On the Pulse of Mornings."

It is through this lens that Musician / Storyteller Reggie Harris, a descendant of a slave, Bibhanna, and her master, General Williams Carter Wickham, provides a unique, entertaining and inspiring look at WHAT WE **CAN** BE when we face the truth with open hearts and minds. It's an engaging American story that started on a plantation in Ashland, VA ... *Hickory Hill*.

Join Reggie Harris on this fascinating journey as he uses his extraordinary gifts to bring his blossoming relationship with his White cousins to life... descendants of the same ancestor... one family... in the context of a nation on the brink of change.

It's a timely and poignant modern day story of truth, reconnection and hope.

Harris appears on CNN Anchor Don Lemon's weekly podcast SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION in the feature "Monumental Conversations."

<https://sh1.sendinblue.com/v5kjpm6idt7e.html?t=1598970890>

Lemon interviews Reggie and his white cousin as they grapple with their family's complex history and bear witness to the toppling of the statue of their ancestor, Confederate General Williams Clayton Wickham.

Reggie and his cousin were also interviewed for a recent The New York Times' article.

<https://sh1.sendinblue.com/v5kjpm6idt7e.html?t=1598970890>

"Songs of Hope & Freedom"

The Modern Civil Rights Movement was inspired by song!! From 1619 to the March on Washington to Ferguson, Charlottesville and beyond, songs like Eyes On the Prize, Wade in the Water, Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Round, We Shall Overcome, Oh Freedom, This Little Light of Mine have framed the struggle for freedom.

These were the anthems that got people out to vote... that gave people the strength to protest, march and stand strong against brutality... to endure fire hoses, police dogs and oppression. These were the songs that kept a community of people together to exercise their rights as US citizens in the face of the long struggle for human rights.

They sang, "Well, I never been to Heaven but I think I'm right... And I don't' wanna go without my voting rights!

Noted singer, songwriter, song leader, activist and John F Kennedy Center educator Reggie Harris brings these songs and their history alive in his presentation "Songs of Hope and Freedom!" Hear about the past... celebrate and work our future!!

"Deeper Than the Skin" (with Greg Greenway)

Reggie joins his friend Greg Greenway in a profoundly moving evening of deep sharing. "It was riveting, poignant, joyful... exquisite timing, careful phrasing, and the stellar musicianship and storytelling; as craft, the evening was remarkable." The Eighth Step at Proctors

- Call for details about platform and fee