

Lift Every Voice and Sing
James Weldon & J. Rosamond 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 has 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 hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast 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 James Weldon Johnson Community School of the Arts
presents

The Black Composers Concert®

*Celebrating classical, jazz, Gospel, and sacred music
by composers of African descent*



Saturday, February 22, 2025
3:00 pm

Jerusalem Baptist Church
2600 P St NW
Washington, DC 20007

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Bradley A. Thomas, Master of Ceremonies

Program

Welcome..... Pastor Rodney A. Teal

Introduction of Master of CeremoniesJ W Johnson CSA

Ride on King Jesus (Spiritual) arr. [Hall Johnson](#)
Marissa Harris, soprano
Everett Williams Jr., piano

Cassandra's Lullaby.....[Mark Fax](#)
Angela Moore, soprano
Karen Egypt, piano

Billie's Song.....[Valerie Capers](#)
Steal Away (Spiritual) arr. [Samuel Coleridge-Taylor](#)
Karen Egypt, piano

INTERMISSION

Remembrance[Robert Owens](#) / Poetry by [Langston Hughes](#)
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands (Spiritual) arr. [Margaret Bonds](#)
Cherie Davis, soprano
Everett Williams Jr., piano

Three Fours (Valse Suite) Op. 71 No. 6..... [Samuel Coleridge-Taylor](#)
Everett Williams Jr., piano

**A Special Thank You
to
Jerusalem Baptist Church**

Our Friends

Lena Bradley Audrey Terry
Elnora Cobham Solomon Sparrow
Nadege Spence

Our Contributors

Daniel and Mary Ann Brooking



Our Featured Artists

Marquita Ntim
David Younger
Harmony Handcraft LLC (Piano Tuning)
Bradley A. Thomas, Esq.

Our Volunteers and all who participated in this concert series

I've Decided to Make Jesus My Choice..... Harrison Johnson
Sound of Victory [Vincent Bohanan](#)
Changed [Walter Hawkins](#)

Dimitri Roach-Harris and the Singing Angels
Everett Williams Jr., piano

Closing Remarks J W Johnson CSA

Lift Every Voice and Sing [James W. Johnson](#) / [J. Rosamond Johnson](#)
The Audience



James Weldon Johnson Community School of the Arts

The James Weldon Johnson Community School of the Arts (JWJCSA) was established to provide opportunities for children, adults, and families to study and enjoy the arts in an uplifting and nurturing environment that welcomes people of all backgrounds and abilities. Instruction is provided by artists trained at some of the renowned institutions in the world who are professionals active in their field(s) of expertise.

Dedicated to the memory of the renowned writer and educator James Weldon Johnson, JWJCSA works in collaboration with other institutions to encourage the use of the arts as a positive stimulus in (1) helping children to prepare for a life of learning, (2) helping youth and young adults to prepare for life as a working professional, and (3) helping adults and children to create better communities through learning and growing together.

About James Weldon Johnson

As a creative writer and librettist, his two most well-known works are "God's Trombones," a collection of sermon-poems that include his most famous poem, *The Creation*, and the Negro anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing." His accomplishments include distinguished service as a teacher, principal, lawyer, editor, ambassador, and artist. The James Weldon Johnson Community School of the Arts is named after him in recognition of his many contributions to the arts, education, and society.

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***Bennett Realty Solutions congratulates
JWJCSA for presenting the Black
Composers Concert. We support uplifting
and inspirational programs that bring
value to our local community.***



KAREN EGYPT
REALTOR®



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SAVE THE DATE

JWJCSA 25th Anniversary Celebration

🎉 Join us as we celebrate **25 years of Arts, Culture,
and Community!** 🎵 ✨

📅 **June 21-June 22, 2025**

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details!

For updates, visit [jwjcsa.org](https://www.jwjcsa.org).

JWJCSA relies on our friends and supporters to offer many exciting programs, such as the Black Composers Concert®, free of charge as a public service to our community. Please consider supporting our programs by making an online tax deductible donation today.

For additional options, visit <https://www.jwjcsa.org/support-jwjcsa>



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