

PHENOMENAL QUEEN: CORETTA SCOTT KING



**A Curriculum Guide
for the Song Cycle by
James Lee III**

Phenomenal Queen: Coretta Scott King

Curriculum Guide for a Song Cycle

by James Lee III

Teacher/Instructor Guide:

For best use of this guide, we recommend the following process:

1. Display the text of each movement from Unit 3: Examining the Text as you play the entire concert for the students. Have them take notes about their favorite pieces or how each movement made them feel.
2. Ask students to read each unit of the curriculum and instruct them to complete the additional activities.
3. Encourage discussion with students after each unit is completed.
4. Listen to the concert again after all curriculum units have been completed. Have students write an answer or discuss the following questions:
 - What do you get out of this concert now that you did not before?
 - How does knowing more about the composer's history improve your concert viewing experience?
 - How does this concert as a whole or a specific piece make you feel with your new knowledge?

Note: Some of the linked articles and resources included in this guide may be written at a challenging reading level for lower grades or contain moderately sensitive material. We encourage teachers to screen and revise the information into a more accessible format based on your students' needs.

MOVEMENT RECORDINGS

MOVEMENT 1: "...and I can sing"



MOVEMENT 2: "Movement"



MOVEMENT 3: "Choose Justice"



MOVEMENT 4: "Beloved Community"



Morning Brown wishes to thank the Philip and Elizabeth Smith Fund, a fund of The Indianapolis Foundation, the generous grantor for this curriculum that is free to teachers and classrooms.

Meet the the Curriculum Guide Creators for Phenomenal Queen: Coretta Scott King



Joshua Thompson
Curriculum Writer

Joshua Thompson is a pianist, music sociologist, and lecturer recognized nationally for his expertise on classical composers of African descent. A recipient of numerous awards, national fellowships, and grants, Thompson received a Challenge America Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and has completed residencies at the Berklee School of Music in Boston, University of Puget Sound, University of Louisville, Seaside, FL, University of Nebraska Omaha, and currently serves as the Creative Partner in Residence with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. A 2019 TED Talk presenter, Thompson is the creator of the award-winning podcast, *Melanated Moments in Classical Music*, which has a global listening audience in over 2,000 cities and is used as curriculum in colleges and universities. Thompson's 2024 production "Black Keys: The Evolution of the Black Classical Arts" (<https://youtu.be/OWiDi-cE66o?si=reLbqZ3oQbocagbf>) was awarded an ARTI award from the Arts Council of Indianapolis for community partnerships. Joshua has worked and performed with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Pulitzer Prize winning composer, Anthony Davis, New York Philharmonic clarinetist Anthony McGill, Grammy winning operatic baritone Kenneth Overton, and legendary operatic soprano, Angela Brown.



Terry Taylor
Curriculum Assistant

Terry Taylor recently retired as Managing Editor for a nationally-branded music curriculum. He received music degrees from Belmont University and from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Terry is widely respected for his creativity, advocacy, and leadership in music education with children. His advocacy initiatives gained national exposure when the American Choral Directors Association *Choral Journal* documented his ENCORE program, which led to the hiring of music teachers in Dothan, Alabama's city elementary schools. In 2007, Terry was presented the J. E. Saliba Friend of the Arts Award by the Dothan Cultural Arts Center. He has served as an adjunct professor at Samford University's School of the Arts, and recently helped develop a curriculum companion for international opera superstar Angela Brown's popular "Opera...from a Sistah's Point of View" program. Terry is the founder of the Children's Freedom Choir, which reaches out to socially and economically-challenged children in Nashville, TN.