



Washington Conservatory Alumni in the Long History of Black Music Studies

Louis Epstein and Maeve Nagel-Frazel

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Graduates of the Washington Conservatory 1910-14

Daisy O. Westbrook

Desiree C. Catlett

Della B. Turner

Harriet L. Collier

Cornelia B. Seele

Christine M. Jackson

Helen A. Moss

Angela B. Bishop

Minnie G. Young

Florine M. Lawson

Emma L. Williams

Rosa B. Mitchell

J. Cleveland Lemons

Wilhelmina B. Patterson

Elsie A. Wiggins

Nathaniel L. Guy

Gladys C. Fearing

Ethel M. Wilson

Ruth M. Brown

Ruth E. Weatherless

Jewel Jennifer Phillips

Celestine E. Lott

Grace Gibbs Brown

Arthur R. Grant

Henry L. Grant

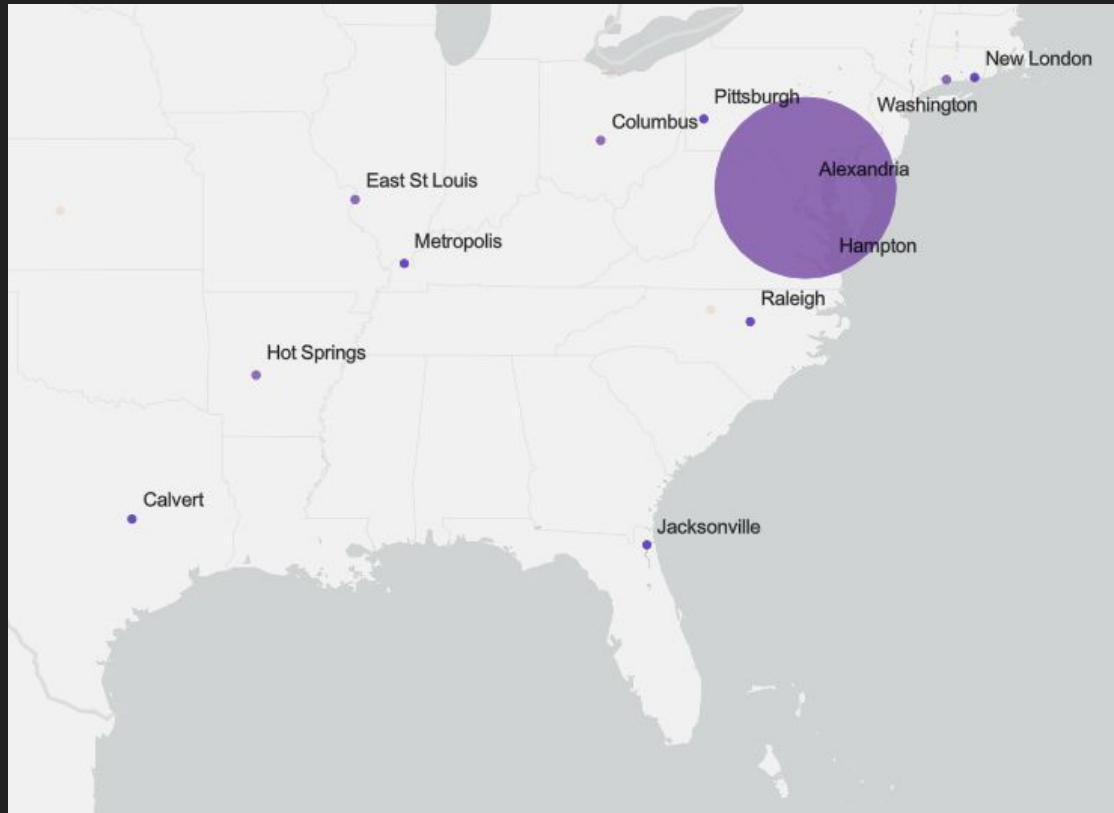
Jane R. Fisher

Grace D. Anderson

Mamie L. Hope

Katie F. Phipps

Pearl M. Taylor



Hometowns of the First 30 Graduates



Lizzie Gray '25, Jack Slavik '23, Davis Moore '23, Ariana Raduege '23

Founder of the Washington Conservatory of Music



HARRIET GIBBS MARSHALL

Harriet Gibbs Marshall (1868-1941)

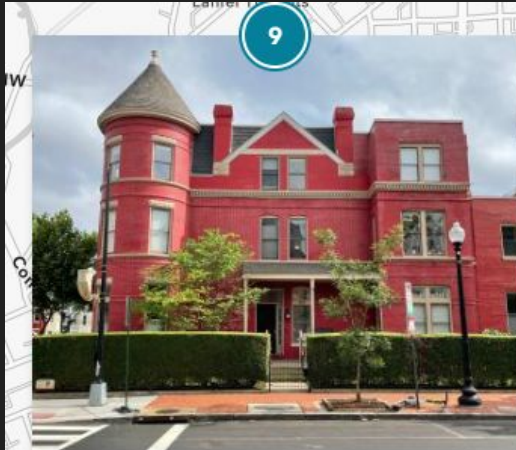
Oberlin Conservatory Graduate

Concert Pianist

The Washington Conservatory of Music

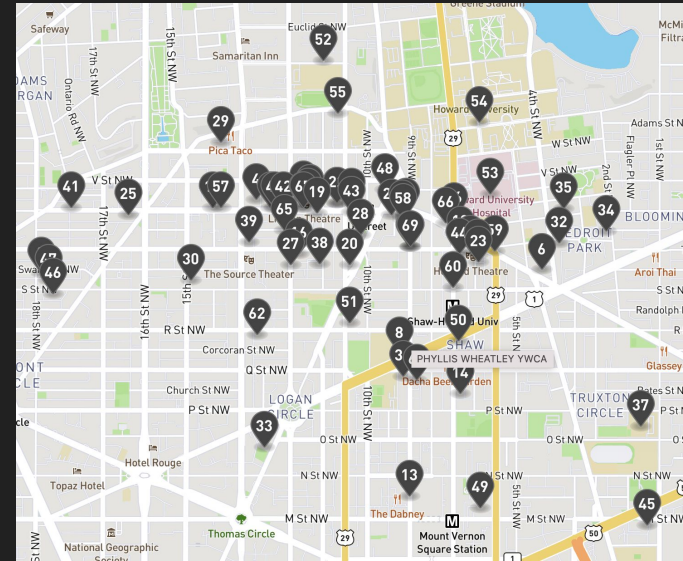
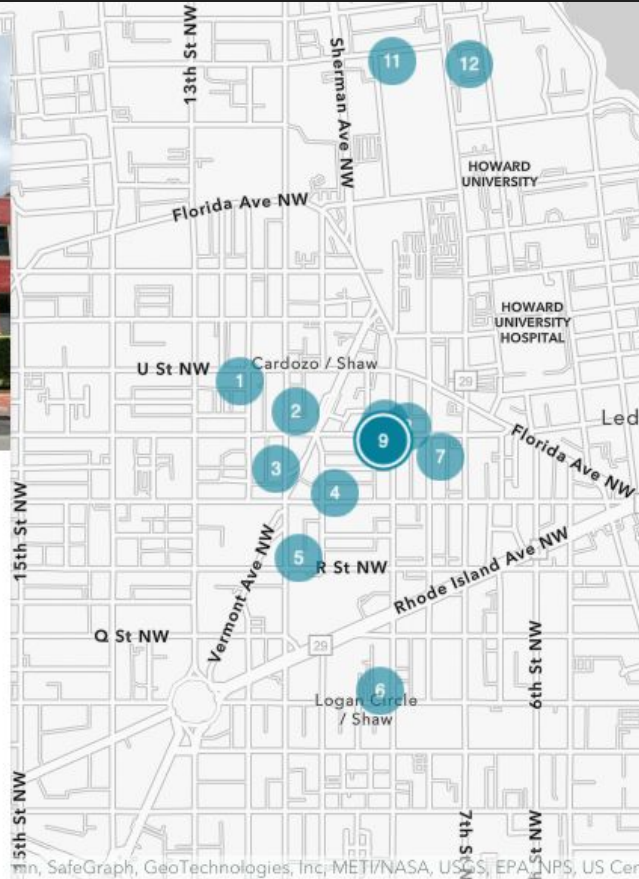


The Washington Conservatory of Music



Washington Conservatory of Music

The Washington Conservatory building from 1904 until its closure in 1960.



www.blackbroadwayou.com/explore

Early Conservatory Faculty

CONSERVATORY FACULTY :



Pianoforte.

Miss Harriet A. Gibbs

Mrs. Gabrielle Lewis Pelham

Mrs. Lovinia Haywood Johnson

Miss Jeanette Williamson

Mr. J. Hillary Taylor

Voice.

Mme. E. Azalia Hackley

Violin, String and Ensemble.

Mr. Clarence Cameron White

Organ.

Mrs. Gabrielle Lewis Pelham

Miss Harriet A. Gibbs

Harmony, Counterpoint, Canon and Fugue

Mrs. Lovinia Haywood Johnson

Miss Harriet A. Gibbs

Analysis, Interpretation and Musical Kindergarten for Piano.

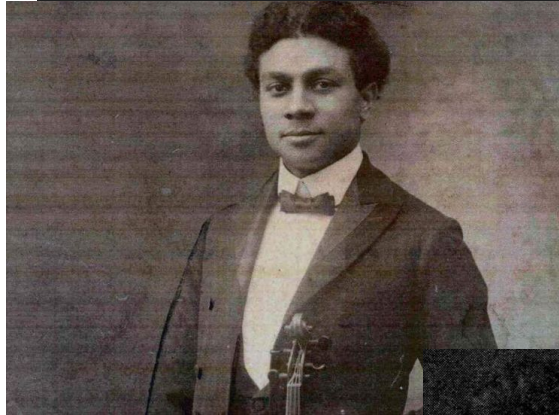
Mrs. Gabrielle Lewis Pelham

History of Music and Musical Biography.

Mr. J. Hillary Taylor

Public School Music.

Miss Harriet A. Gibbs



Clarence Cameron White.
Courtesy of Detroit Public
Library.



Emma Azalia Hackley.
Courtesy of Detroit Public
Library.



Abbie Mitchell. Reproduced from
Maud Cuney-Hare, *Negro Musicians
and Their Music*.

Curriculum

HARRIET GIBBS-MARSHALL, President
HARRY A. WILLIAMS, Vice-President

LOUIS G. GREGORY, Financial Secretary
GREGORIA A. FRASER, Recording Secretary

The Washington Conservatory of Music and School of Expression

Piano, Violin, Wind Instruments, Piano Tuning, Vocal Expression, History of
Music Theory and Modern Languages

The first and only Mission Music School founded and controlled by Negroes
in America.

Many scholarships awarded. Talented students never turned away unaided.

902 T Street, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mention THE CRISIS.

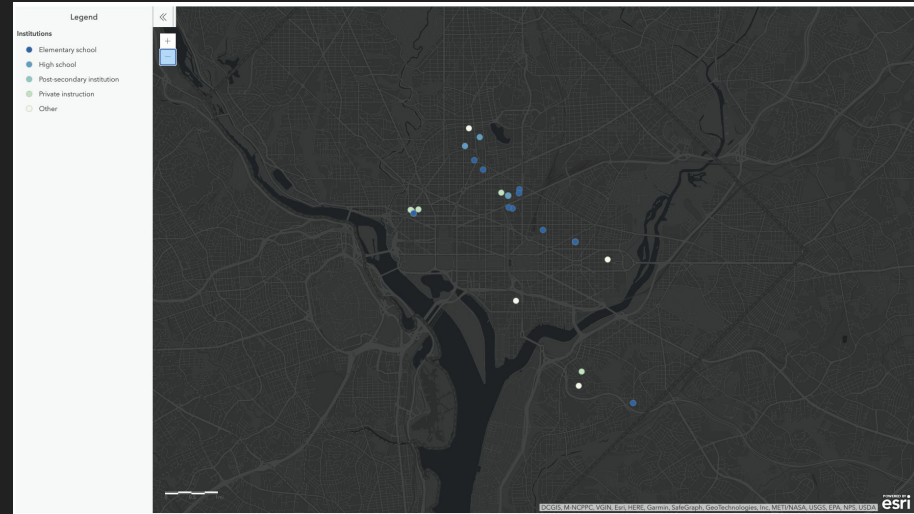
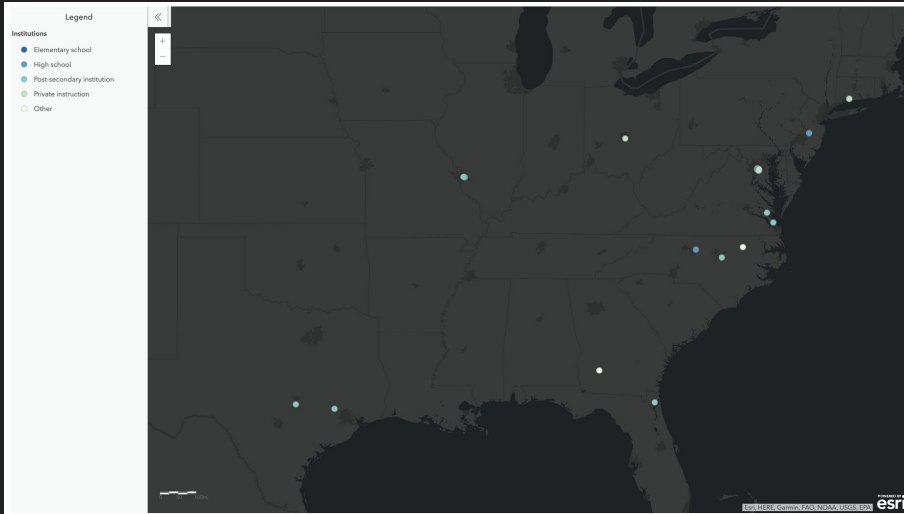
Ad in *The Crisis*, ed. W.E.B. DuBois, V. 6-7 (1913-1914), 101.

Art Music by Black Composers: A New Canon



Performed at 1910 Commencement: Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's ["She Rested by the Broken Brook"](#) and Harry T. Burleigh's "Jean."

WCM Educators Nationally and in DC



Daisy Westbrook (1886-1970)



THE 55-VOICE LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR, under the direction of Miss Daisy O. Westbrook, will sing "I Believe" on High School Revue at 6:30 tonight. This weekly broadcast is a co-operative presentation of the Globe-Democrat and Radio Station KWK. —Globe-Democrat Photo

St. Louis Globe Democrat, St. Louis, MO, 14 February 1954, 20.

Grace Gibbs Brown (1892-1993)



Grace Gibbs Brown, undated portrait. Carter G. Woodson, "The Gibbs Family," *Journal of Negro History* 11, no. 1 (October 1945), 9.



Grace Gibbs Brown, memorial program, 26 August 1993. Courtesy of Phylcia Fautleroy Bowman.

Wilhelmina B. Patterson (1888-1962)

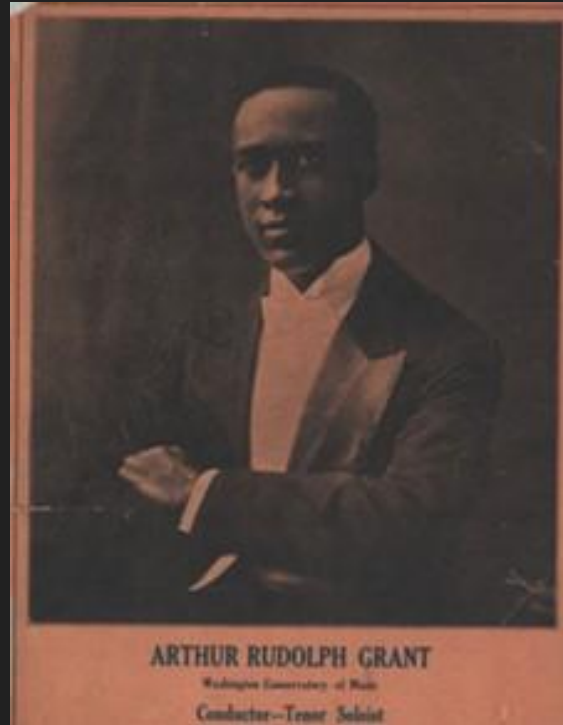
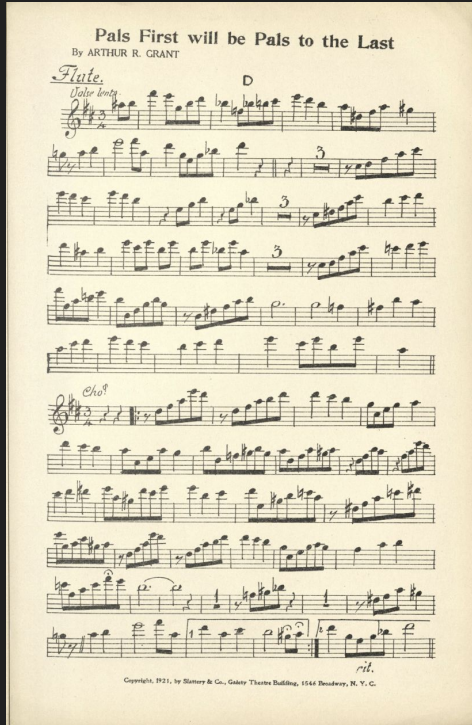


Patterson at the piano, circa 1920. Courtesy of Dale-Patterson Papers, Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum.



Hampton Glee Club, conducted by Wilhelmina B. Patterson (second row on the far right), unknown year, Courtesy of Dale-Patterson Papers, Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum.

Arthur R. Grant (1887-1949)



Arthur R. Grant circa 1919. Washington Conservatory of Music Papers, Box 1, Folder 2, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University.



Courtesy of Library of Congress

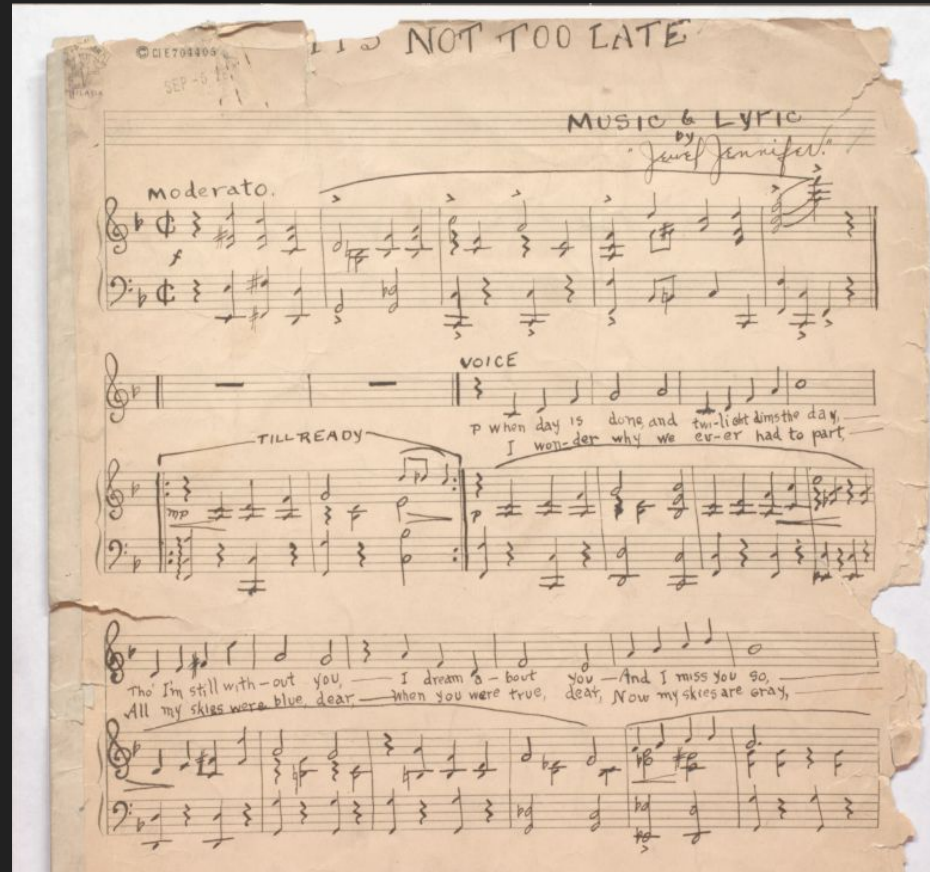
Jewel Jennifer Phillips (1897-1949)

© E704405
SEP 1914

IT IS NOT TOO LATE

MUSIC & LYRIC
By Jewel Jennifer Phillips

Moderato.



VOICE

TILL READY

p when day is done and twilight dims the day,
I wonder why we ever had to part

Tho' I'm still with-out you, I dream a-bout you - And I miss you so,
All my skies were blue, dear, when you were true, dear, Now my skies are gray,

Henry Lee Grant (1886-1954)



Henry Lee Grant, courtesy of findagrave.com

The 1933 All School Orchestra, led by Henry L. Grant. Dunbar High School 1933 Yearbook, pg. 69, Courtesy of Sumner School Museum and Archives, Washington, DC.

The National Negro Music Center

HARRIET GIBBS MARSHALL, *President*

National Negro Music Center

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902 T STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEGRO MUSIC

HARRIET GIBBS MARSHALL, *President*
A. K. SAVOY, *Treasurer* LOUISE H. PACK, *Secretary*

MUSIC CENTER FUND

MRS. MILTON A. FRANCIS,
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902 T STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Walter Damrosch
Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.
Lieut. Charles Benter
Leader, U.S. Navy Band
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Symphony Orchestra

David Mannes
Director, New York
Mannes Music School
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Musicians

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Afro-American Composers
William Grant Still
Nathaniel Dett

Clarence Cameron White
Mrs. Florence Price
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Urban League

Contributions to the work of the Association for the Development of Negro Music should be made payable to the *Music Center Fund*.

A. K. Savoy, Treasurer,
902 T Street, N.W.

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Campbell C. Johnson
Ambrose Caliver
Emmett J. Scott
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Carter G. Woodson

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NATIONAL NEGRO MUSIC CENTER

ESTABLISHED BY THE
ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF NEGRO MUSIC

§

902 T Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Marshall's letterhead circa 1940. Courtesy of Sarah Schmalenberger

Undated brochure from National Negro Music Center. Courtesy of Sarah Schmalenberger

NANM Founded in 1919

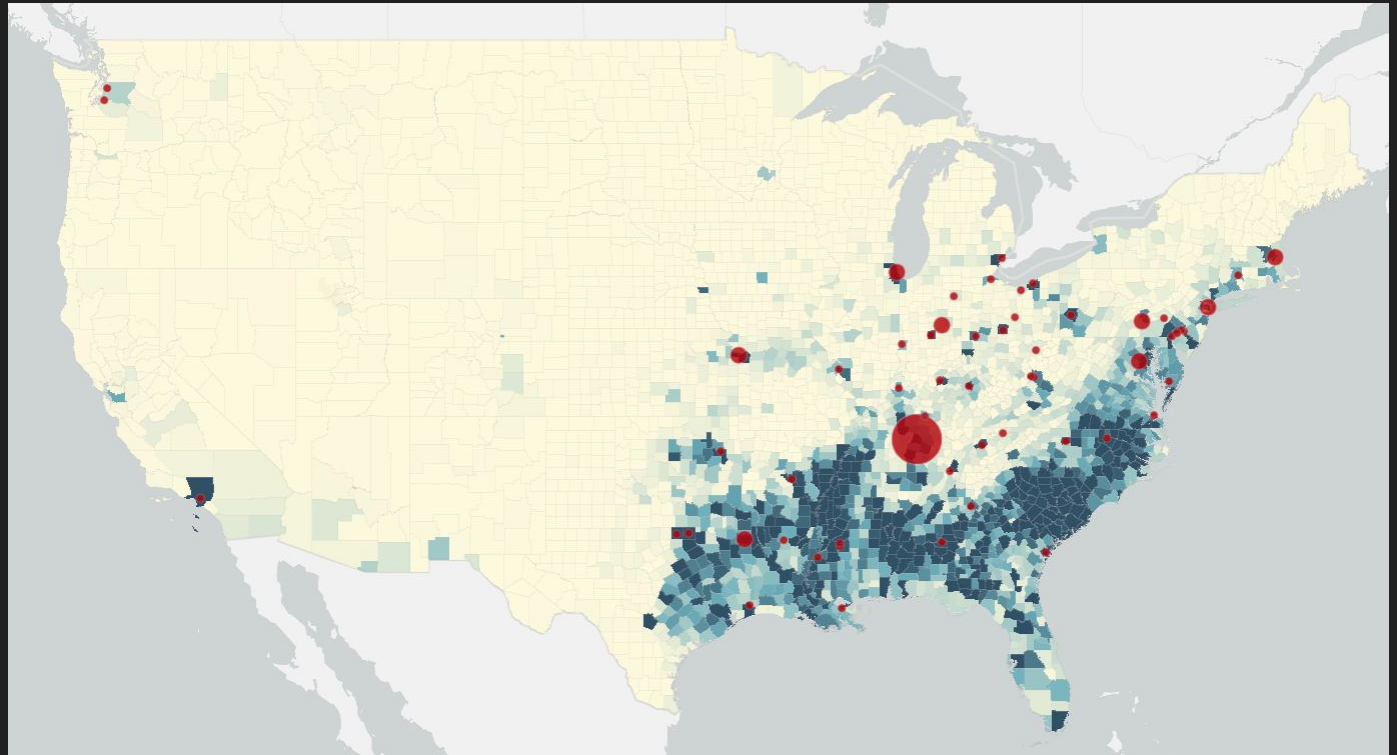
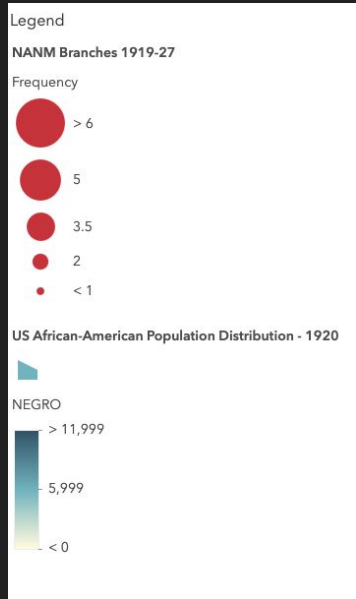
Mission:

“NANM promotes, preserves, and supports all genres of music created or performed by African-Americans.”



NANM Seventh Annual Convention Photo, Indianapolis, IN, 1925. Courtesy of Indiana Historical Society.

Local Branches of the National Association of Negro Musicians (NANM) 1919-27. Juxtaposed with 1920 U.S. Census Data Color-Coded by Percentage of African-American Residents.



NANM branch data courtesy of Doris Evans McGinty, ed., *A Documentary History of the National Association of Negro Musicians*, (Chicago: Center for Black Music Research Columbia College, 2004). Map by Maeve Nagel-Frazel

...reached by a full-blooded West African.

Columbus Means To Lead.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, July 5.—The Columbus Branch of the Association of Negro Musicians is making elaborate preparations for the entertainment of the Fourth Convention of the national organization.

Columbus expects to "go Nashville on better." "We are anxious for the musicians of the country to realize that Columbus really appreciates them and the great work which the association is doing for the race," said Mr. I. Cleveland Lemons when interviewed by a representative of the Associated Negro Press. Mr. Lemons is president of the Columbus Branch.

"It is safe," continued Mr. Lemons, "that there are more colored musicians in Columbus than in most cities. Whether this is literally true or not, we do not know, but we do know that the people of this city have a high appreciation of high-type music and are interested in any organization which is laboring for the advancement of this type. We shall certainly do all within our power to make the convention a success."

The evening programs represented the trend for which the association stands, namely, beginning with a high standard and reaching the climax of artistic excellence in the national artist program on Thursday evening. The St. Louis branch program on Tuesday evening contained an unusual feature, a successful rendition of "Vorsplele," by Wagner-Singer, and "Tannhauser Overture" for piano (16 hands). The following musicians received the hearty applause of the delegates and fellow pianists: Eva L. Wilkerson, Pearle C. Flipper, Estelle Scroggins, Eliza Elford, Luberta Massey, Annette Watkins, Carolyn Williams and Daisy O. Westbrook.

Maude Roberts George, "News of the Music World," *Chicago Defender*, Chicago, IL, 10 September 1927, 7.

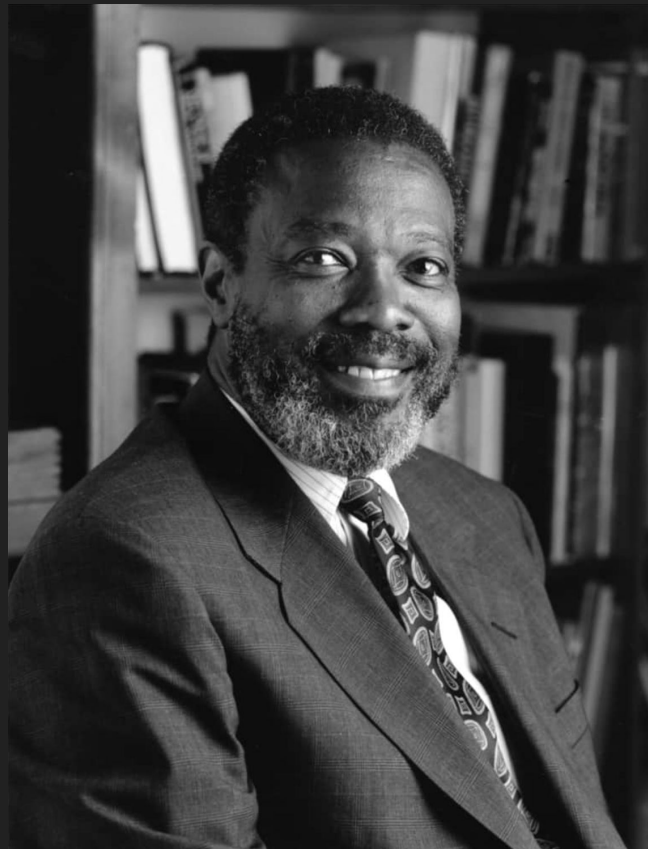
"Columbus Means to Lead,"
The Negro Star, Witchita, KS,
21 July 1922, 2.

advantage. more of the same
Many hours of toil and thousands of dollars
have been expended for our Conservator
in our central.

Harriet Gibbs Marshall to Henry Churchill King, 25
May 1914, Henry Churchill King Papers, Box 50,
Oberlin College Archives

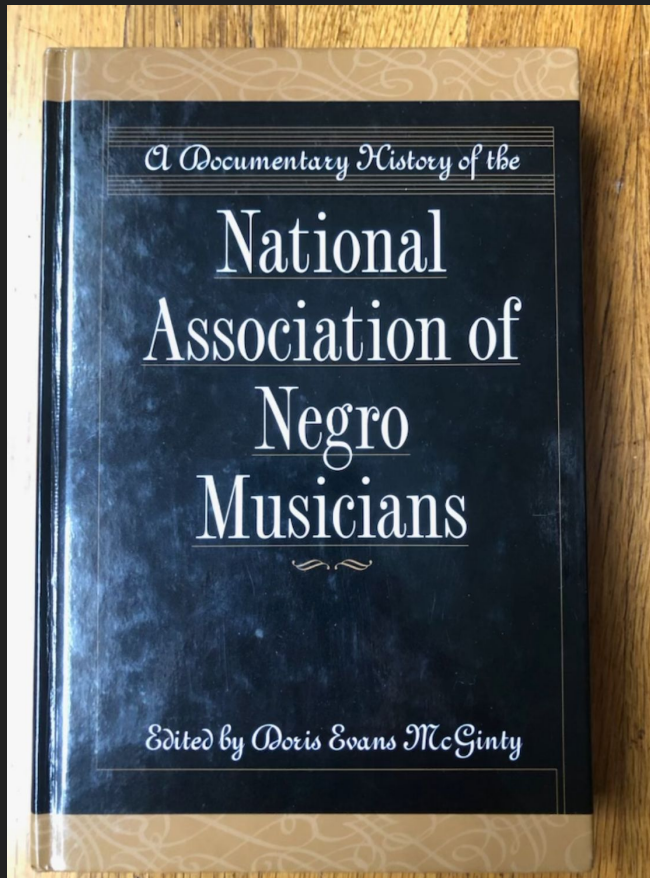


Eileen Southern, 1986.
Courtesy of Lilian Kemp
Photography



Samuel Floyd Jr. Image courtesy
of Columbia College

Doris Evans McGinty



Undine Smith Moore





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