



Saratoga County Program for Arts Funding (SPAF)

Shout it out! The Evolution of the Black Vocal Tradition

4 Workshops Starting In July 2007

Program Coordinator: Garland Nelson (mail@garlandnelson.com)

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Project Overview:

Present the community with a historical and interactive program of the African-American musical experience through vocalization. Garland's thesis is that "without the core of the Black American musical tradition, American music, as we know it to be, would not exist." This educational workshop will actively engage adults and children with sing along materials, audio/visual examples, and contextual date. The total foundation of this program is based on the call and response experience.

Goal:

Sow the seeds of a continuous Saratoga County's vocal community. Establish a website for materials and resources. All workshops will be recorded and downloadable for community use.

4 Workshops targeting adults and children alike

1) The African/Slave component:

- Annotating the call and response method in Africa
- Drums as primary voice
- Demonstration by Master Percussionist, Brian Melick (from the Mckrells and Soul Session)

2) Freedom Songs:

- Component highlights the relationship between the Black American experience and the evolving singing expression of the civil rights movement
- More contextual understanding of Racism, discrimination, and Christianity

3) The Blues and Beyond:

- Functionalized call and response on instruments and musical arrangements
- Demonstration by pianist/composer Elizabeth Woodbury

4) Open-Air Community Session in Congress Park

- Putting them all together

Each workshop will be spread out throughout the Saratoga Springs Community. Look for postings.

Wade in the Water

Chorus –

Wade in the water, wade in the water, children

Wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water!

Who are those children there dressed in Red?

God's gonna trouble the waters

Must be the children that Moses led

God's gonna trouble the waters

Who are those children there dressed in white?

God's gonna trouble the waters

Must be the people getting ready for the fight

Who are those children there dressed in black?

God's gonna trouble the waters

Must be the hypocrites turning back

God's gonna trouble the waters

