



UPON THESE SHOULDERS

Friday, February 18 | 7:30PM

National Museum of African American Music

510 Broadway, Nashville TN 37203



UPON THESE SHOULDERS: STEP BY STEP

ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

Upon These Shoulders: Step by Step honors and artistically explores historic impressions in the African American journal of racial equity and cultural inclusiveness through footprints of yesterday and today. This event features musical performances by Choral Arts Link, Intersection and Nashville Symphony's Accelerando students woven together with interviews and spoken word, and hosted by the National Museum of African American Music.

Upon These Shoulders is an annual event, launched in 2017 by Choral Arts Link and Intersection, working with community partners to celebrate the many heroes of the Civil Rights Movement, historically and today. Performances in this series have included the world premiere of a newly commissioned work by composer Jonathan Bailey Holland exploring race, equity and youth; a celebration of the music of Florence Price, and a 10 day residency by composer and performer Hannibal Lokumbe.

PROGRAM DIRECTION & PRODUCTION

Jon Royal, Program Director

Kyle Odum, Audio Engineer

Tavious Marshal, Audio Equipment

Mayah Jackson, Stage Manager

UPON THESE SHOULDERS: Honoring Extraordinary Citizens

THE INTEGRATORS

Beginning in 1957, African American students in Nashville walked or rode a school bus to new schools outside their neighborhoods for the first time. They became the personal ‘change agents’ in how families perceived the boundaries of their communities. They represent the many “Integrators” in the journal of Nashville integration, who actualized what school communities should have been and could become.

These three honorees represent the grade segments of Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools as it transitioned from separate to equal:

Ethel Carr Crowder, Buena Vista Elementary
Teree Campbelle McCormick, Wright Junior High
Brenda Harris Haywood, Stratford High School

*“We [they] became part of the interstitial space that moved forward
in the wake of the movement, filling in the spaces between
the pieces of a fractured culture.”
-Teree Campbelle McCormick*

THE CONNECTOR

Our present-day honoree is Shawn Marqus Dromgoole, who was raised in a neighborhood that was gentrified by African Americans in the late 50s and early 60s as a result of families taking action to cultivate safe communities in Nashville. In 2020, Shawn responded to the impact of re-gentrification and the trepidation generated in our nation by harmful incidents toward African American joggers/walkers in other communities. Being a frequent walker, Shawn reached out to his neighbors and asked them to walk with him. Now, the #WeWalkWithShawn movement is being duplicated across our city and nation.

**These journeys, draped in insecurity yet emboldened by faith, grace,
and determination, are pathways that relate to and play out in our communities.
Yesterday, today, and tomorrow we move forward, step by step.**

PROGRAM

Jon Royal, Program Director

Margaret Campbelle-Holman, Nita Smith & Kelly Corcoran, Conductors

MET Singers

He's Got the Whole World

African American Folk Spiritual

National Museum of African American Music

From Nothing to Something: Lyrics

John Early Middle School students

Extraordinary Citizens Feature

The Integrators

Ethel Carr Crowder
Teree Campbelle McCormick
Brenda Harris Haywood

MET Singers

You Raise Me Up

Music & Words by Brendan Graham
& Rolf Løvland
Arr. Roger Emerson

Extraordinary Citizens Feature

Walk with Shawn

Shawn Marqus Dromgoole

Spoken Word

Tia Smedley

Intersection & Accelerando

Starburst

Jessie Montgomery

Extraordinary Citizens Feature

Walk with Shawn

Shawn Marqus Dromgoole

Intersection & Accelerando

Lyric for Strings

George Walker

Extraordinary Citizens Feature

Walk with Shawn

Shawn Marqus Dromgoole

MET Singers, Intersection, & Accelerando

He's Got the Whole World

African American Folk Spiritual



PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

MET SINGERS

MET Singers, a signature program of Choral Arts Link, consists of public, private, charter and homeschooled youth, grades 2-12. MET Singers prepares students to perform on honor choir level by teaching student leadership, rehearsal-performance decorum, team building, sight-reading, peer mentoring, vocal health habits, collaboration, and professionalism. The MET Singers is most notably known for involvement as the Celebration Youth Chorus at Nashville Symphony's annual Let Freedom Sing concert – the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute held each January.

Artistic Team

Margaret Campbelle-Holman, Executive
Director of Choral Arts Link
Nita Smith, Co-Director of MET Singers
Barb Santoro, Artistic Associate &
Accompanist

Alumni Parent Leadership Team

Kimberly Frierson
Kelly Lawrence
Mary Anne Williams

MET Singers

Brooklyn Carroll
Arianna Dinwiddie
Luke Garver
Benjamin Jennings
Lily Sweets
Brandon Townsend
Faith Wright
Franklin Wright

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC

NMAAM is the only museum dedicated to preserving and celebrating the many music genres created, influenced, and inspired by African Americans. The museum's expertly-curated collections share the story of the American soundtrack by integrating history and interactive technology to bring the musical heroes of the past into the present.

The National Museum of African American Music is the premier global destination for music lovers of all generations and inspires, educates, and transforms your appreciation of American music.

Staff

Tamar Smithers, Senior Director of Education & Exhibitions
Brandon Reid, Senior Education Manager



PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

INTERSECTION

Intersection is a flexible contemporary music ensemble dedicated to challenging the traditional concert experience, exploring music of the 20th and 21st centuries, supporting living composers, presenting programs for younger audiences, embracing collaboration, technology and the avant-garde, while expanding, respecting and embracing the musical and cultural diversity of Nashville.

The vision of Intersection is to expand and shift the perspectives of audiences and musicians of all ages, through the creation, cultivation and performance of contemporary music, a vital, thriving and inspiring form of art.

Musicians

Carrie Bailey, Violin
Rachel Englander, Violin
Melissa Bull, Violin
Carl Larson, Viola
Meghan Berindean, Cello
Tiffany Freeman, Bass
Alessandra Volpi, Piano
Deanna Little, Flute
Emily Bowland, Clarinet

Artistic Team

Kelly Corcoran, Artistic Director & Conductor
Katie Arata, Social Media, Marketing & PR
Anne Dickson Rogers, Orchestra Contractor



PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

ACCELERANDO

The Nashville Symphony's Accelerando initiative is an intensive music education program designed to prepare gifted young students of diverse ethnic backgrounds for pursuing music at the collegiate level and beyond. Accelerando seeks to create professional opportunities for musicians from ethnic communities underrepresented in today's orchestras by providing them with instruction, mentorship, performance experiences and assistance with applying to music schools. With access to the resources of a major American orchestra, these students will be able to realize their full potential and will form the next generation of orchestra musicians.

To learn more and apply, visit nashvillesymphony.org/Accelerando

The Nashville Symphony's vision is to:

- Become the leading orchestra for the performance, recording and commissioning of contemporary American Music.
- Transform into an equitable and inclusive institution that is representative of the diverse community it serves.
- Deliver visionary artistic and educational programming that excites the public, drives institutional growth and contributes to the growth of the art form.

Staff

Kimberly Kraft McLemore, VP of Education & Community Engagement

José Muñiz, Accelerando Coordinator

Accelerando Musicians

Alliese Bonner, Flute

Icsis Church, Clarinet

Antonio Thai, Violin

Luka Hernández-Palmer, Cello

Edward Owens, Bass



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UPON THESE SHOULDERS

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INTERSECTION

Web: <https://www.intersectionmusic.org/>

Facebook: [@IntersectionCME](#)

Twitter: [@IntersectionCME](#)

Instagram: [@intersection_music](#)

Soundcloud: [@IntersectionCME](#)

NMAAM

Web: <https://nmaam.org/>

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NASHVILLE SYMPHONY & ACCELERANDO

Web: nashvillesymphony.org/Accelerando

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When sharing about this event on social media, use these hashtags:

#UponTheseShoulders2022

#ExtraordinaryCitizens

#FromNothingToSomething



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