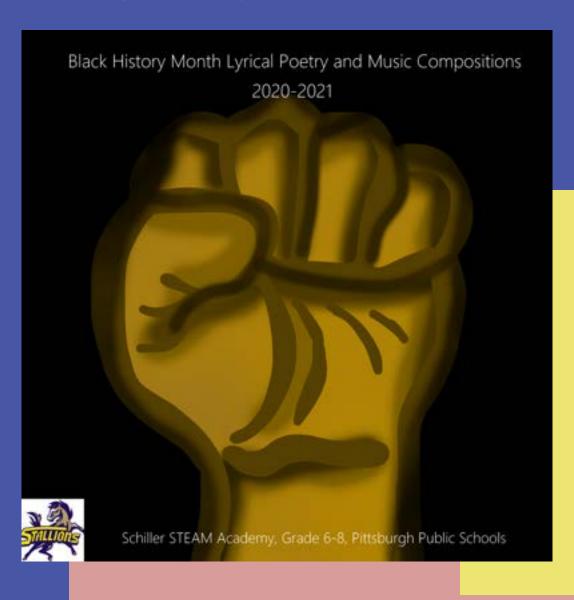
# BLACK HISTORY MONTH ANTHOLOGY 2020-2021



PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SCHILLER STEAM ACADEMY

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cover art

Jeremy Horne, Grade 7

#### INTRODUCTION

Schiller STEAM Academy is honored to present this anthology of student creative work in observation of Black History Month.

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth grade students viewed video performances of Amanda Gorman's "The Hill We Climb" and "The Republic Rising: A Tribute to the Empire State Building," as well as Andra Day's/Common's live performance of "RISE Up," the "We Shall Overcome" portion of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, and a video of the walk toward Dr. King's Speech, while spectators sang in unity, "We Shall Overcome."

Students were asked to generate a list of quotes, reactions, or take-aways from the videos. Students then chose a theme from the generated list to create

a poem with accompanying music background. Music Composition links were provided for students to create their music.

This anthology showcases their creative work, and celebrates their achievements in art-making with a message.

Thank you to teachers at Schiller STEAM Academy for encouraging and fostering student creativity and critical conversation. And special thanks to CMU's Arts Greenhouse, for supplemental creative instruction and for designing this anthology.

Most importantly, thank you to the students at Schiller STEAM Academy for sharing your work with us!

2020-2021







# Amanda Gorman, U.S. Youth Poet Laureate THE HILL WE CLIMB

When day comes we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this never-ending shade? The loss we carry, a sea we must wade. We've braved the belly of the beast, We've learned that quiet isn't always peace, and the norms and notions of what just is isn't always just-ice. And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it. Somehow we do it. Somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken, but simply unfinished. We the successors of a country and a time where a skinny Black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother

can dream of becoming president

only to find herself reciting for one.

And yes we are far from polished.

Far from pristine.

But that doesn't mean we are

striving to form a union that is perfect.

We are striving to forge a union with purpose,

to compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters and conditions of man.

And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us,

but what stands before us.

We close the divide because we know, to put our future first, we must first put our differences aside.

We lay down our arms

so we can reach out our arms

to one another.

We seek harm to none and harmony for all.

Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true,

that even as we grieved, we grew,

that even as we hurt, we hoped,

that even as we tired, we tried,

that we'll forever be tied together, victorious.

Not because we will never again know defeat,

but because we will never again sow division.

Scripture tells us to envision

that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree

and no one shall make them afraid.

If we're to live up to our own time,

then victory won't lie in the blade.

But in all the bridges we've made,

that is the promise to glade,

the hill we climb.

If only we dare.

It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit,

it's the past we step into

and how we repair it.

We've seen a force that would shatter our nation

rather than share it.

Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy.

And this effort very nearly succeeded.

But while democracy can be periodically delayed,

it can never be permanently defeated.

In this truth,

in this faith we trust.

For while we have our eyes on the future,

history has its eyes on us.

This is the era of just redemption

we feared at its inception.

We did not feel prepared to be the heirs

of such a terrifying hour

but within it we found the power

to author a new chapter.

To offer hope and laughter to ourselves.

So while once we asked,

how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?

Now we assert,

How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?

We will not march back to what was,

but move to what shall be.

A country that is bruised but whole,

benevolent but bold,

fierce and free.

We will not be turned around

or interrupted by intimidation,

because we know our inaction and inertia

will be the inheritance of the next generation.

Our blunders become their burdens.

But one thing is certain,

If we merge mercy with might,

and might with right,

then love becomes our legacy,

and change our children's birthright.

So let us leave behind a country

better than the one we were left with.

Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,

we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one.

We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west.

We will rise from the windswept northeast,

where our forefathers first realized revolution.

We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern states.

We will rise from the sunbaked south.

We will rebuild, reconcile and recover.

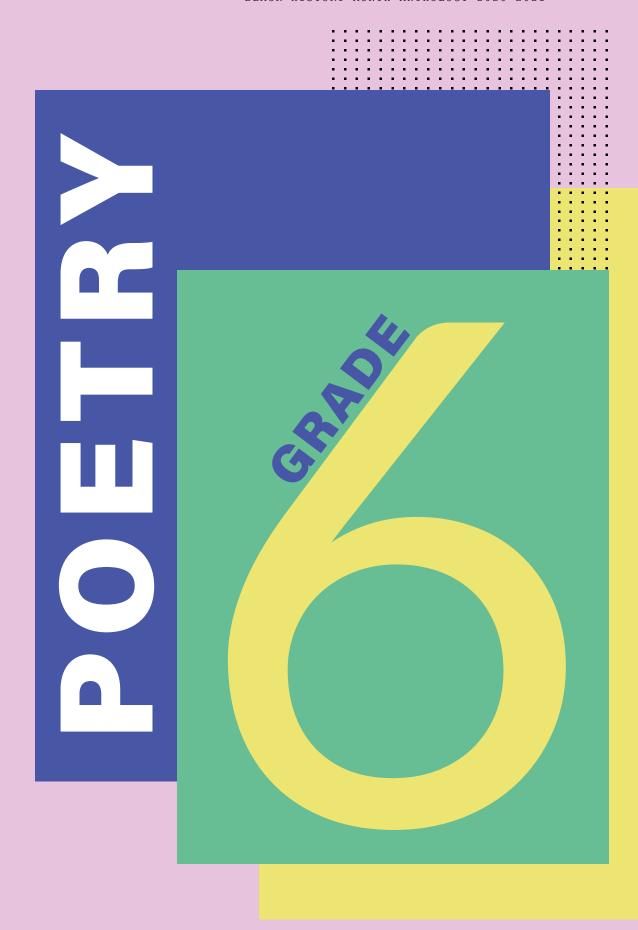
And every known nook of our nation and

every corner called our country,

our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,

battered and beautiful.

When day comes we step out of the shade, aflame and unafraid, the new dawn blooms as we free it. For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it.



# TYLEAH ALEXANDER

With this world united but also torn apart, there is still some hope in our hearts. Divided but not concerned. We shall stand for each other, one another.

We are different but all the same,

In a game, the flame is always lit the same but we can still count on one another together, forever we are human.

No matter your beliefs, your religion we are human.

The sun can still shine on the future of the world if you only were equal.

The light, so bright will guide us to a better world.

The hatred is being swirled in a poison brew.

Making people forget why we are still fighting for rights.

Because this world isn't all right.

# poem by ISMAEL BALIMA

We all have something to protect
Something we cherish
but other people don't care, they'd rather have you perish
You have to stay strong
It won't be for long
Until we're all happy again.
Those lies that they tell you, you mustn't believe
because most definitely they are saying things that'll make you bleed.
If you stay strong
It won't be for long
Until we're all happy again.

#### poem by KALIYAH BRENTLEY SMITH

The theme is racism, the message is to be kind, being American is more than a pride we inherit, it's a past we step into.

The message is persistence.

even as we hurt we hoped.

The message behind the poem is to be united a nation that isn't broken but simply unfinished You should not be afraid today

what this world needs is peace

make it better Not by what you got, but what you got in your heart"

Rise up
"We are not afraid"

rise up unafraid

"we have weathered a nation that isn't broken but unfinished The message of that line is this nation needs improvement and that we are all not perfect.

we cannot fall we will not fall
we are the skyscraper
"bring new light into the dark"
we shall overcome what was happening in the world

# poem by BRANDON CHANEY

We cannot fall we will not fall

Blessed with power we do not rest

We are the skyscraper

On each block you'll find the black, the Latin, the indigenous, the religious, the lovers beyond labels, the disabled community, foreigners, the sojourners

Bring new light into the dark

Every day we write the future-truth marches on inside of us.

The hope that we need is succeeding

The quality, not the longevity of one's life is what is important.

The future belongs to those who prepare it for today

Education is a pass to the future for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today

# poem by IZABELLA GERNER

We find many lies are told today
We find souls slipping away
From coronavirus
To people who are not uniting us

All these people stay on the street Well some people go and eat Some people are not as fortunate And they don't act delicate

This world is real not an allusion So this means we have to come to a conclusion People should be together forever Not every so years the answers back to never

Stick up for what you know is right I and please just try to fight Nothings ever going to go back to peace If we Don't just release

# poem by **KYAIRE GRANDY**

just to let you know that black lives matter aka BLM we try to put it on a platter and try to tell y'all black lives matter we've been trying to tell y'all how we feel and what you could've did then we warned then we started to do a peaceful protest but y'all took it like we were doing a threat y'all white people and those black cops watching people get beat but we knew that y'all needed families to feed but your own kind getting beat in front on your face then we were tired of getting treated so in pittsburgh we were breaking into shoes stores groceries and all things like that now i hope you understand BLM

### "Behind Scenes" by CHLOE HARPER

COVID is breaking us down for we can not turn around and find a cure to help

stop people from dying, mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters... all crying

Doctors and nurses are not really giving us an answer they gave us the vaccine

but most people are saying they don't feel safe they don't feel clean.

But besides that, there was a BLM protest while back in 2020 most people choose to be very violent,

others chose to be behind the scenes very peaceful very quiet.

As I said, covid is breaking people, we are more diverse than equal.

I am writing a poem a young Amanda Gorman in making.

When I heard her poem at the inauguration it was nice it was beautiful but it was mostly heartbreaking.

To know that all that she said was true.

It is hard to believe that nothing has changed for there is nothing new.

My music teacher asked the whole class to write a poem about Black History Month.

At first, I didn't know what to say but I didn't want to sit there and play in my mind

thinking about what I would write at the time.

# "Bus - A Tanka Poem" by CAMRYN HILL-ANDERSON

I do fear my bus
It is dirty and not fair.
With a round white man
And an impatient eye too
When it beams I feel frightened

# poem by SYMARIA JETTER

Black History Month reminds me to Stand up for something and when wanting to make a change we need to stick together and stand united.

we've had many falls and set backs but standing tall and pushing through, have paved the way for all of us to see a new. a new way of living and a new way of life. where everyone is different in race in religion but our nation still gets stronger and walks hand in hand sided by side to make things better and prevail from the hate that once was taught and bringing more light into the dark we shall overcome, what's happening in the world with our strength and perseverance we are not afraid

RISE UP

# poem by SHAWN KNIGHT

Beautiful legal action creativity kind historic ignorant selfish time oh rights young black history

# poem by DESHRICK LEWIS

every month somebody makes a new family bringing their kids into some casualty and every hour somebody grows pain and suffering but at the same time we have to find happiness deep down and maybe you have yet not found it the only thing I am saying is do not brand yourself it is easy to be someone else

# poem by TIMOTHY LITTLE

- the people in the life that they lived did not deserve what they were given
- the people ran away and they were beaten for that and not able to defend themselves
- but then when the time was right they protected and some people went to jail for it
- but after decades black people were free and have the rights to do a lot of stuff

# "America Fighting" by ISAAC LONG

America Came together for one sole cause at the beginning of our nation

Even though we became free some had to proceed with a small caution

the injustice they go through should not continue to reign more of them should come to fame

even though the route to more secure freedom will be dangerous but we shall bring help to us

we must bring together again the same cause that brought this nation to be

we are the UNITED States of America so let it be we shall limit racism and unity shall grow the cry of unity shall crow louder than the rest we shall cry it without a foul The United States of America is the best So let's show it to the rest

[background music]

# JAMES LOZECKI

Why do we continue to divide our people into different sides? It seems like a crime yet we do it all of the time. Why do we see others as less than equal, for we are all made the same lest our appearances?

# poem by LAWRENCE LYNCH

People don't know how hard it is to walk down the street.

They think that it's a gun but it's your phone.

If you are sick of getting hurt to raise your hand because I am. It's unfair if I was to attack the white house with 50,000 other black people we would all die or go to jail. But something like that did happen and most of us did die and go to jail you know why though George Floyd died and we wanted to take action. Not many people know but we still don't feel safe. There are people that die for just looking at the cops. many people say oh it was a mistake but they make u believe that so they won't face the consequences. We fight day and night and it's not fair someone can just take it away from us.

# poem by JACE MATTHEWS

I can't ever understand all this because the color of my skin
All the others from back then fighting and suffering for my rights
That's why I gotta pray to God for waking me up to live
Things won't ever change people can't just live with the diversity of
humanity to be equal

People on social media have "BLM" in their bio but there using their platforms to dance instead of educating the unthoughtful

It's not only black people, let's talk about the Asian crimes abusing and assaulting them just because of their race

I can't ever understand all this because the color of my skin Things won't ever change people can't just live with the diversity of humanity to be equal

I just want to live where people don't HATE for other's differences
To the whole world "WE ARE ALL HUMAN SO WHY HATE WHEN
LOVE IS FAR MORE GREATER"

# poem by CONNOR MATZ

We are all united from Earth's creation
United in a country or even a Nation
We have evolved through so many ages
All of these ages are like some pages
We could do so much more if we just try
If we are tired we just try
We need at least one friend
So that if we fall they can help us up again
We can do all we can to fight
Fight for our rights.

# poem by AHARON MARGOLIS

One day when people looked out the window it was only one type of skin color

but now i can look out the window and see man types of skin colors one person changed the world by saying i have a dream when people heard his speech they listen and came together some people didn't agree with them and kept away from them days after days speech after speech more and more people would listen

when people heard the news about mlk they listened to what he said one person made a holiday about mlk and what he has accomplish he had accomplished us a community where i can be with anybody no matter what they look like no matter where there from no matter what skin color they are

# poem by OTIS MITCHELL

What's going on with the world today i just want to Breathe.

What's happened to all of God's beautiful green tree's how I just love to feel the summer breeze

As the sun shines upon me

As I see birds of all species fly above me.

Breathe

Stop hurting our wonderful earth this is the only one we have to share So we the children can grow and begin to plant our seeds and not continue to live the life of destruction.

Instead, all humans being can unite and live in peace and harmony For that's how God wanted it to be It feels so good just being able to Breathe

# poem by CARMELLA MORRIS

Freedom: they say we'll never get it.

I believe when people hear the colored side of the story injustice anywhere is an insult to justice everywhere they chant and throw objects but I'm not giving UP.

I feel like I could walk all night for freedom.

Cops yell and block the roads and order people to go back.

Groups of caucasians chant in ur face and hold up signs but all I can say is keep walking stand up let's make a difference stand up, let's fight, resistance violence won't fit we've got to resist protest and sit

#### "I don't understand" by FRANK MOSCHELLA

I don't know how someone says I can breathe I can't breathe I can breathe so many times but yet dies while someone is sitting on their neck knowing they're going to kill them.

I don't know people can't sleep in their homes without getting shot.

I don't know how black people can't be able to walk down the street without being searched

I DON'T KNOW HOW BLACK PEOPLE CAN'T DRIVE THEIR CAR WITH THEIR ID WITH THEIR DRIVERS LICENSES AND STILL GO TO JAIL OR EVEN GET SHOT

I don't understand i don't understand how all white people storm the capital and no tear gas but if black people did that they all would have been dead but black people peacefully protest they get shot there's riot shields there's army but the capital didnt have that is like these trumpys are like babies that have diaper rash they have a temper tantrum.

### "Black Lives Matter" by **ALEXIS MOTTEY**

Hey what's going on with your state. What's happened about love you guys are killing innocent people. Just imagine it is your dad or mom or sister or brother or cousin or aunt or uncle or neighbor or family or friend. What happened about Justice for everyone. This is not the Way we should be treating people. They are good people just like us. Just think do you want to be treated this way. No I don't think you do. That's not right to be treated this way.

"We shall overcome" we will never again sow division black history month is all about how equal rights have been fought for and are still fighting for. It's the past we step into love has no color and beauty has no shape or size does not matter your race or religion you can have a dream living life on a merry go round inspiring

Stand up for what you believe in and who you believe in and never show a fake of yourself for NOBODY peacefully singing. It don't matter what background you come from you can make a big mark in history.

Rise up...we can overcome anything, if we stand up we can do anything.

Rise up...we can overcome anything, if we stand up we can do anything. It don't matter what background you come from, you can make a big mark in history.

Rise up...we can overcome anything, if we stand up we can do anything You have to stand up for what's right You supposed to set an example for the future generation.

Let me take you back when it all started in 2013

The movement began in 2013 with the hashtag #BlackLivesMatter on social media, after the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the death of Trayvon Martin. They became famous for their street demonstrations, following the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner. The earlier sparked riots and unrest in Ferguson, Missouri. The latter sparked protests all over the United States.

Since the Ferguson protests, participants of Black Lives Matter have demonstrated against other African-Americans' deaths, like Freddie Gray, Sandra Bland, Laquan McDonald, Philando Castile and Alton Sterling

[background music]

# poem by FAYE PATEL

the seasons of oppression go on and on without end people are dead yet nothing is done people are disconnected from their roots never to learn kids are ashamed of their color in their skin they pretend to care but turn their back when asked to help the education on this problem never being taught never being recognized being criticized for caring and speaking up it's always black and white but we are all human in the end

# "You Can't Just Talk The Talk You Have To Walk The Walk" by DOMINICK PEKAROVICH

We can say we love our neighbor but will we help them in their time of need.

We say we love all but do we treat all equally?

We say we hate the way the world is but do we do anything to change it?

We call for an end to violence but we still hurt one another.

Why is the world such a bad place is it because of just one person?

They say one person isn't enough to change anything.

But I say it just takes one

To start a movement

Once one person stands up others should follow

If we can rise up in violence as a group why can't we rise up in peace?

Words are not actions Actions are stronger

Because it isn't what you say it's what you do

It's how you act, how you treat others

Set the example, be the example

Do good and others will follow

The time is now for us to stand united

You can't just say I want things to change and do nothing

Be the change

# BRIAN PEREZ VELAZQUEZ

The theme is PEACE

Colors and people are different.

People fight and fall but when we unite we stand.

When we stand were strong and when were strong we win.

There is not need to fight only to unite.

Don't let the color of your skin fail you, it's the action that counts.

Let the peace be known

and let the children be guided by all skin colors.

Show mercy to those who are different.

Let us become one again.

We might have differences

but that doesn't matter what matters is the life we want the future we want.

Let the dark shine and let love be the one to conquer hate.

We need to understand what is right and what is wrong.

We should not be afraid and we should be brave.

We need to believe, believe that we will become a community that will last on and on. We will rise because i have faith in us in me. Children from all ages from all skins will one day grow up

and have peace because we are the next generation of hope.

# poem by ANDERSON POWELL

People look up, not down, when people look at the past they might frown. The world needs peace not to be broken to pieces. We celebrate 4th of July and forth we fly, but after all that we might still wonder, why? The reply for the question is to fix the wrongs that people have applied, so don't cry, speak up, don't sigh. Everyone has a voice, everyone you see can rejoice. But it is not all that easy, some people are sleazy, it might make you uneasy, the wind isn't flat, it can always be breezy. So let's work hand in hand, save the world, save the land. For my music I have a personal piano.

# poem by AALIYAH SANDERS

love ur skin no matter what ur in it's ok to be black ur beautiful no matter what look at ur black golden glowing skin and be proud

#### poem by DIOR REED

I'm here to tell you my story, but are you willing to listen. You see, I'm a 12 yr old black girl, who saw things, who heard things, and god forbid that I will never witness these things...bad things, things that a 12 yr old boy or girls should know are. I've seen on TV a white racist police officer knee on an innocent black man who was kneed on until he couldn't breath. I heard about white police officers shooting up a beautiful black womens home, and one of those mean racist police officers had to put her name on one of those bullets. I saw my people mad because of racist are killing us innocents so we protest for want we want and for what's right. I saw these thing I heard these things. And all me and my people want is....JUSTICE

#### VALERIA AMADOR-ROSALES

roses are red violets are blue do you know the difference between the two their color is different but do you know what makes them the same it is that they are flowers and they are better together in one beautiful bokay with their lovely and beautiful colors together they make the world look more peace full and beautiful they both stand proud together and can change the next generation they have overcome so many optical's and challenges and made history

#### poem by VIVIAN ROSSELOT

they shouldn't be afraid to leave their house they shouldn't be afraid to walk around tomorrows the future but so are we they should be able to stand and say we are free the should say they are free from the chains that hold them down free from the people that push them around free from the people who tell them what to wear, eat, sleep and how they should put their hair free from the people who try to talk for them were like a skyscraper we cannot and will not fall

# poem by XAVIER SAUNDERS

People around are dealing with a crisis called Coronavirus and people are dying from the disease.

# poem by SIMON SCHACHNER

we will overcome
don't let them hold you back
we will overcome
don't stop because they tell you
we will overcome
nothing will happen if you don't do something
stand up for what you want
if you stand up, i'll stand up with you
when they say sit down you should stand up
don't let them push you don't
cause we will overcome
so pull they to your side
i, you, we will overcome it all

# poem by JAIDEN SIMPSON

Black people are scared to go out on their own thinking that they're going to get hurt by a white supremacist. Not everyone has a choice in life but you do, so make the right one. Violence wont fit we've got to resist. Protest and sit join hands to assist. When things go wrong as sometimes they will. When the road you're trudging seems all uphill. Success is failure turned inside out. The silver tint of clouds turned into doubt. And you can never tell how close you are. It may be near when it seems so far. History has shown us that courage can be contagious, and hope can take on a life of its own. I knew then and I know now. When it comes to getting justice, there is no easy way getting it.

# poem by AIDEN SMITH

i wrote Black history has come a long way, whilst growing more every day, from sitting at the back of the bus to being separated by color we have all grown to love and respect each other

#### poem by **KEVIN SMITH**

some may not be black but all need to act
we need to pick this nation up not let if fall
we need to stand tall this needs us all
we can't sit on the sideline if we do this will bundle up and become a
land mine

the deaths will be off the charts the hatred as sharp as a dart this will lead to the this nation being nothing but tart we need to solve this fast before caring becomes something of the past this could happen fast if we don't fix this

this is turning into the past we need to fix it before we get to far in because that won't be a blast

this world has turned dark but we can fix if we embark on a new way to help this nation

#### poem by AHKAYLA STARKEY

We shall overcome what was happening in the world. People were scared of it in the past but now it's different. Donald Trump fans are tearing this world apart and you know we ain't going to let that happen. So we all are going to stand up and fight for what is right. we are not weak, we are not going to fail, and we also are not going to let them stop us. covid-19 is kind of getting better but doctors are not telling us what is going on. Now we just stay inside and do school on our laptops. But it's 2021 now we can change things we can stop the fires that are happening in 2021. Doctors have the cure to help people but kids can't take it yet they are a little bit unsure to give it to them. we need to do is keep our mask on and stay safe. But this got to stop why can't things can go back where it was. Sorry but I really want things to go back to normal.

# "Life" by GAVIN STOJHOVIC

life is like a skyscraper
we keep growing higher and higher
and to learn to overcome the challenges of life
to bring new light into the dark every day
in life we change the future and make it brighter
and on this challenge that we call life we grow stronger
and that lets us grow stronger and not be afraid
your the worlds hate which gives you these traits
that we can relate and to show we are all not perfect
and to make the world better
we show that all should be treated the same
and make each other feel great
and make the world a better place

#### poem by ETHAN TAVARES

February is Black History Month, Martin Luther King fought for equal rights, Barack Obama was the first African American president of the USA. These people are important without them the world would be different. Rosa Parks stood up on the bus for her rights without her African Americans could only sit in the back. These people built up the future for African Americans. This is the structure of African Americans' futures. If you are an African American without these people life would be worse.

# poem by DRE'MIR WATSON

We need to overcome what was happening in the world.

All these people in the world making things happen.

The people that are making things happen are the ones that made this happen in the first place.

We need to go to the light instead of the darkness.

This is not a game to me we need this.

We are not all perfect but sometimes we are good.

During the wars and fight to the death, we can not keep during this.

There is no hope for the people we lost.

We can't keep doing all these bad things.

We have this to do, we have the fight to do.

# poem by SHAHIF WELLONS

black songs poems
are not what you write or make up
it's how you feel
the song that make your brain go like *i like this is the song.*I can feel it see it through anything in my brain
it is i want to do
play basketball or sing swim be actor
that is the point of music.
i like rap it makes my body breakdance
to do it anywhere
that's my thing for music

# poem by MORIAH WRIGHT

black history is the thing to be amazing about because you got believe in yourself don't let nobody tell you different because the heroes didn't care what they say because they believe in their self Dr. Martin Luther King Harriet Tubman they stood up to make it happen ( be the one who you want to be )

#### "let's bring new light into the darkness" by **DANIELLE ZUPANCIC**

even with such darkness, you shouldn't fear you shouldn't worry you should instead stand stand tall stand strong and stand proud you shall overcome struggles and problems have hope and have faith





# MUSIC BY ALEXIS MOTTEY

#### **MUSIC BY FRANK MOSCHELLA**

MUSIC BY JAIDEN SIMPSON



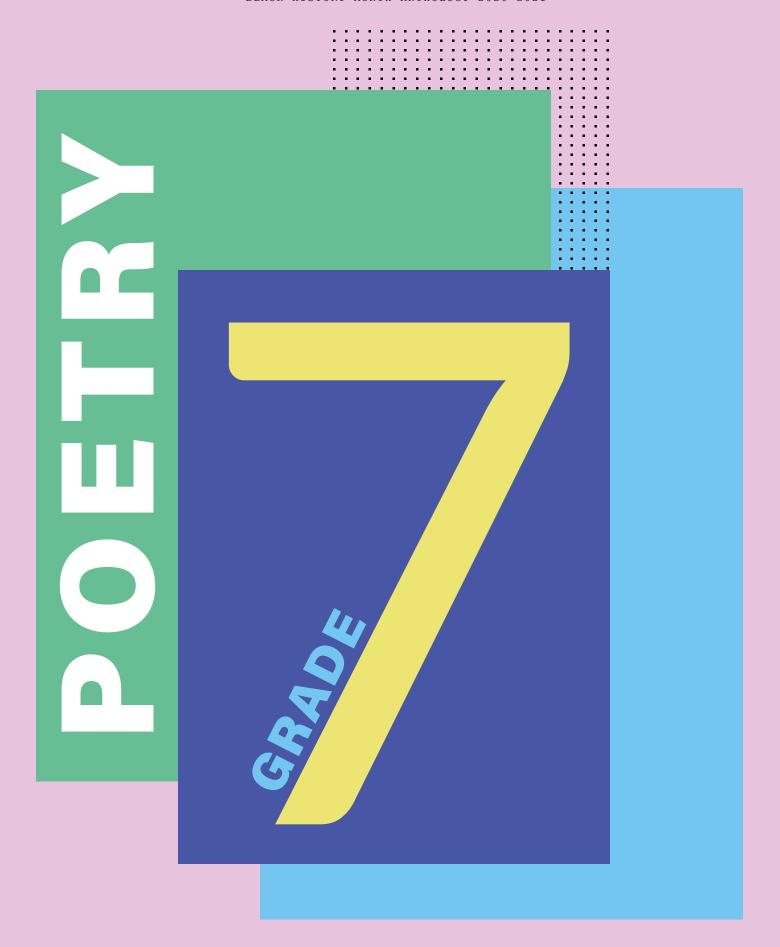
# MUSIC BY KHALIYAH BRENTLEY-SMITH

#### **MUSIC BY DONTE HARRIS**

MUSIC BY OTIS MITCHELL







# poem by AIYANNA ADZOGBA

black history month is all about how equal rights have been fought for and are still fighting for. Black history month is all about fighting for what you believe in.

And it is about fighting for what is ours as human being's.

The pain, the struggle we endured to be free.

The equal rights that we have fought for.

And we are still fighting to have those equal rights.

Every year something takes us back from the goal.

And we have to fight more and more for those equal right's.

So that everyone knows that everybody is an equal.

And that we can all live as equals.

# poem by SHANIYA AUSTIN

Freedom isn't a something you give, it's something you earn Freedom isn't a choice, it's a need

Some may say that once you get freedom, you are free to do whatever but because of m skin color, freedom isn't a option for me

Some may say that freedom is always with you, but with me it is gone with the wind

Most will say that something will change, but to me few thing stay the same,

A few say that some things can always change but the police, keep it the same

Change isn't a want, it's a need but with police the make it seem that it's a want and not a need

People always say a change will come but, how much more can we fight before we get our change

A change will come for us but how long will it be, before it is here?

# "They Fought For Us" by MICHAELA BROWN

They fought for us - they did not fold,
They were enslaved, beaten and sold.
They fought for us to live equally on this land,
They marched and rallied and took a stand.
They fought for us to be treated equal,
To be treated the same as all of the people.
They fought for us so we could learn and live without fear,
They sat where they wanted - they came out of the rear.
They fought for us for people who look like me,
They fought for us-so we could be free.

#### poem by DAIRA BLAIR

we shall overcome what was happening in the world
We need to notify our little boys and girls
To know the history of many mystery stories
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken but simply is unfinished

Being an American is more than a pride we inherit. it's a past we step into

It's the new beginnings that can be continued and renewed for new rights ad laws and changes in the world New people coming together as one and standing together to make rights equal

we cannot fall we will not fall

we will stand up to make a difference in the community

On each block, there will be different people and different rights but we still will not fall.

[background music]

# poem by IMANIBLAIR

freedom, freedom, let it ring let it ring, said Dr. King rise up unafraid see things you never seen we cannot fall we will not fa together forever and that's all

# poem by MICHAEL CASKEY

Where can we find light in this never-ending shade? this pandemic will take all of us we cant just do this by are self we need to unite together to wear a mask social distancing is the key. if we all come together we can beat this horrible virus we can beat this together and were all in this together

# poem by FRANCISCO CELIS

You couldn't divide if you tried Because unity is hunting you down to combine our power To devour them My dad told me, "They are cowards, son." I've known that for a while But sometimes I've just been too scared to confront Everybody is so blunt when they talk to my face Making fun of my race This change is too fast of a pace I need to slow down the pace of change Maybe one day I'll morph into a brave kid to say hi to a cop Without the thought that I'll get shot Sometimes my family will be taken from me I'll be caged up like a dog with a temper Never let the thoughts get to you I said But I'll eat my words when I'm laying on the street dead

# poem by CARL COGAN

Black History Month is a time for realization, Not a time for condemnation, What has happened can not be forgiven, Which is why we have striven, To make a holiday for not just a day or two, But for an entire month's way through, To spread awareness and recall, What black people have done for us all, MLK and Rosa Parks together, Had much more of an impact than just a feather, Their impact is what shaped America, Their impact is what made us inherit a, Bit of love and kindness to all races, And keep things equal in all places, Which is why this month should be celebrated, Which is why this month is not seperated.

# poem by TRU DOBBINS

We shall overcome everything that happened to the black community Everyday there is a new struggle

# poem by SYDNEY EDMOND

Racism needs to stop.

It's wrong and it can hurt other people.

We can stop racism by being nice to people of different races.

The thing that we say to offend people of different races, is wrong and it shouldn't be done.

Racism has been around for a long time.

People of different races were treated differently and called names.

Racism isn't as bad as it was but it's still here.

We should call people nice names.

Be nice to them.

Just because they're a different race doesn't mean you should treat them differently.

#### poem by BRUCE FERRER

Never give up, and if you do you will never know Always try there no way to tell until you go We can all work together and stand tall No matter what you can always stay on the ball And when the trouble is serious then we will always help Our power combined will make them all yelp We will show those people what our power is really made of Our power is so strong is goes so above It goes higher than the clouds and higher then from beneath It is so strong it can take on 1000 men And with our power alone it is bigger then Big Ben If we use our power we would have to use it or good Because if we fell into darkness we wouldn't be able to withstood All the hopes and joy from all the children would shred And none would believe what we said But we would stay in the light To have all the hopes stay and fight It would fight off the darkness of the evil men We could beat them even with a single pen And all the problems would be all gone

# poem by ROSCOE FEY

First oppressed just waiting to rest Now fighting for freedom and trying their best Attacked and sacked now that's just a fact But this didn't leave them cracked they did react And they fought for freedom and justice to unite us But no one was ready, and we refused to discuss The ones who fought for racial equality They never strayed from their policy They stayed steady and stood strong Never bowing to the ones doing wrong They may have had trouble but we finally united Justice was sited New laws were indicted and they continued fighting Now all this was exciting But remember not all was righted And as a black president was elected We all reconnected After that, we all made a mistake We stumbled and chose a really dumb snake But we've fixed that and now we all celebrate That we can do it and we're about to accelerate

[background music]

# poem by CALEB GILBERT

Rise up
"We are not afraid"
rise up unafraid
the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice
if you don't take action now, it'll probably never happen
all of us as one, we're gonna try to fight for others and do it all the
time...

and do it again, like we did in May 2020

Where a skinny Black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother can dream of becoming president only to find herself reciting for one

# poem by COLE GRODES

We all should stand united
Everything is better when we work together
If there is a problem we all will fight it
Like birds of a feather,
we will always stand united forever
If we work together,
We will be able to make accomplishments that will last forever.
If we care for each other,
We will and we can help another.
Kindness is how we build the future
Hate is how we advance no more
If we include all,
We can climb any problem no matter how tall
If we just work together,
Peace and harmony will exist forever

# poem by ERIC HARPER

You can't just talk the talk you've gotta walk the walk sisters and brothers of all colors walking through the dark you can't just say you were there you gotta have heart to fight with us you've gotta fight smart or your enemies will tear your hopes apart life isn't meant to be lived on the sidelines you've got to be in the field You go through the struggle in hopes of a nation to heal black lives for white lies is that really a deal you can't be soft you need to have a heart of steel don't sit back take charge of how you feel we fight injustice in small ways even using rhymes I know people who fought injustice and they got hit with cold hard time but that is the risk you have to take no time off we fight injustice day by day

# poem by GAVIN HAZLIP

- Once upon a time not long ago there was a black little kid walking down the road making his way home from school
- One his way down the block he froze in shock to see the cops he turned to walk because he didn't know what to do
- Like any other kid he ran in panic through the hood he scrambled frantic through the woods to make it home
- But little did he know the cops he spotted from before had spotted him before he rolled the chase was on.
- So down the street he ran the plan to get away and scram had failed because the cops had finally caught the kid.
- You know he tried to cry but tell me why the cop had tried to punch him in his eye but Timmy ducked and slid.
- The cops they had him on the ropes but his hands were in his coat so now the cops they seemed provoked to draw their gun.
- In a few split seconds, the cops assumed he had a weapon now their fingers firmly pressed against under the thumb.
- Before he barely sneezed the cops began to flinch and squeezed and now the hole in Timmy bleeds he's not alone.
- You see this cycle will repeat unless we defund the police or black kids will have no peace when walking home.

# poem by HANZHELL HERNANDEZ CRUZ

community, foreigners, the sojourners.

it gets progressively stronger

The story of struggle comes with a nation's strength

Every day we write the future- truth marches on inside each of us "we have weathered a nation that isn't broken but unfinished." The message of that line is this nation need improvement and that we are all not perfect.

we cannot fall we will not fall
we are the skyscraper
"bring new light into the dark"

we shall overcome what was happening in the world

# poem by AH'YONNA HOLIDAYWILLIAMS

They say we'll never get

I believe when people hear the colored side of the story "Injustice anywhere is an insult to justice everywhere.

They chant and throw objects but I'm not giving up.

I feel like I could walk all night for freedom.

Stand up!
Let's make a difference
Stand up!
Let's fight resistance
Violence won't it

We've got to resist

Protest and sit

join hands to assist

Stand up!

Let's fix the wrong

Stand up!

And make us strong.

If Black History Month is not visible then the wind does not carry the seeds and drop them on fertile ground.

Rain does not dampen the land and encourages the seeds to root.

The sun does not warm the earth and kiss the seedlings and tell them plainly.

Cops yell and block the roads and order people to go back.

Groups of Caucasians chant in our faces and old p signs but all I can say is "Keep Walking"

#### poem by JEREMY HORNE

First off, I hate you racist cops Even though they never did anything to a person like me They keep my frown upside down Just because I was different and my skin was dark brown Hating and spreading rumors all over IG IC them coming for everything that IB Trolling hard and making fun of my teeth My skin, my hair, and the way that I speak They might shot me down because of my clothing Or make me have my hands up like a Boeing Then they say I'm smoking But there unknowing They don't know what I'm undergoing When George Floyd couldn't breathe they thought he was trolling Don't get me wrong I don't think all cops are controlling Some are very easygoing But the cops that are bad need exposing 'No Justice, No Peace" dang now you got me quoting Ok, now I'm done with all this flowing.

Second off, I hate staying home
All I do every day is look at things on Chrome
I feel like there's a big Superdome
Around my home and am bored cause everything is closed
It got me playing Fortnite
Come on we got to go to zone
Combed my hair 1,000 times
Now there's no need for the comb
We only 9 verses in, there's 11 more to go
Most people are scared cause most things are unknown
But now since I'm bored at home

I made a cardboard throne,
Randomly started placing a bunch of gardens gnomes,
Filed for a loan,
For how much I owe,
Had my fan on 24/7
Mine as well call me Frozone,
But now I'm out of rhymes
So I'm gonna end this poem
Goodbye, have a nice day, and take a break from phones.

#### poem by JULLIAN JETTER

we shall write our own future
we shall work together
we are united
as we get over are past
we forgive each other
as we get together
we don't have the same color
but we love each other
we are united
denied or don't we still love each other

### poem by KOKO LLOYD

black lives matter
BLM
always and forever
you try so hard
but that try is not enough
do something
bring equality
Black Lives Matter
Always and forever
help make peace
you try
its not hard

#### poem by **KALLI LOWE**

This is black history month
We honor those who fought to get rid of slavery
Those who lost their lives
For the people who had to sneak out of their house at night
Well that was not right
They just wanted to see the light
The kids were sad they didn't get to hang out with their friends
They didn't know if it was the end
They were all very sad
But some people didn't feel bad

#### "we shall overcome" by CORWIN MANKER

We shall overcome
We shall overcome
We shall overcome some day

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe We shall overcome some day

We'll walk hand in hand We'll walk hand in hand We'll walk hand in hand some day

We shall all be free We shall all be free We shall all be free some day

We are not afraid We are not afraid We are not afraid some day

We are not alone We are not alone We are not alone some day

The whole wide world around
The whole wide world around
The whole wide world around some day

We shall overcome We shall overcome We shall overcome some day

#### poem by JOSH MOORE

here we are in the midst of pain the world right now its no game the violence the madness we still complain the tears of the lost have left a stain but now is our moment to rise and claim our time to shine to make this world sane what is happening right now yet we still remain even though we fight through this we still sustain the peace, equality shall not fall we will stay equal through it all

#### "Let love lead the way" or "love lead the way" by

#### RAEMIR MOORE

let your heart lead you we shall overcome this powerful and meaningful even as we hurt we hope I stand with compassion I stand up

the earth is hurt or broken up into pieces but and there always a way to fix it.

even he hurt we got hope as a country where can we find light in this endless shade but we bring light into the dark be a changemaker

you can have a dream it doesn't matter what religion or race you are but everyone remember love has no color and beauty has no shape or size

to do something right you have to make sacrifices I stand up with compassion I stand up

#### poem by CHRISTIAN MORRISSEY

Back then people where in the wrong place
Telling others that they cant causes of there race
I cant change the past without a bigger change
The change might be good rearrange
The past we hold the future we build
But still people feel the guilt
And that is what the white has caused
But it was like a button that turned of or went paused
But at least we made it out in time
and plus we still have a hill to climb
Also to thanks to the African American help
So we gave you a month to show mark u made in this step
And overall I am happy we are stronger together as a team

#### poem by RICHARD ROBINSON

Being an American is more than a pride we inherit, it is a past we step into I'll rise up.

America united and that we are all not perfect.

we cannot fall we will not fall "we have weathered a nation that isn't broken but unfinished."

we shall overcome what was happening in the world.

Blessed with the power we do not rest.

we cannot fall we will not fall.

Every day we write the future- truth marches on inside each of us

You should not be afraid today

what this world needs is peace to make it better

we shall overcome what was happening in the world

stronger we stand united

we should stick together through the rough times

Deep in my heart I do believe

we shall overcome and with this faith we shall succeed

## poem by TAYLOR ROSSER

let love lead the way or let love be the way,
Always love yourself before loving anyone else,
Care for others even when they are going through the roughest times,
Because you would want them to care for you like any olf dime
Be kind and careful when speaking to others
And don't let anyone bully you

#### poem by ANDREW RUSYN

Sing Dance Or Prance People dancing Everywhere For They don't have a care But to share Black History Aware Fed Up with how blacks are treated Now they take action Peacefulness aware Marches everywhere for they have been mistreated and will no longer feel depleted Making the world a better place with peacefulness and grace For generations to come the wish mistreatment is done For they want a better life to come Because the one right now is not fun Sing Dance Prance

#### poem by JULIE SANTANA

All the women, girls, men, and boys
Been through that stage
Of not feeling that they fit in
But now we're moving forward for change
To change so those people don't get judged for the color of their skin
To give thanks to those who made a change
And I don't know what to think
If the people who made a change never did
This world would be filled with hate
So thanks to those who made those changes
Because now we have a world where we treat each other equally
Where we can all treat each other fairly
And that is what Black History Month means in my eyes

#### poem by MICAH SAUNDERS

I was young
I didn't know what was to come
I didn't even know where I was from
Who knows what I had to become

Many years ago a war had begun We had lost a ton It took too long to be done Even though we won It could never be undone

I wouldn't go back to rerun
The risk of losing their daughter or their son
To risk their own lives by maybe getting shot with a gun
We will rise past all the hatred and the truth that was spun
To make us blacks a target to be traded as if we were an item on the market.

I was young
I didn't know what was to come
I didn't even know where I was from
Who knows what I had to become
I am done

[background music]

#### poem by **KENNADI SMITH**

God made us all equal and stuff
But why is that so tuff
Everyone is valid and equal
We should stand and fight against this
It is ridiculous how African Americans are treated nowadays
I thought this was resolved in the early 2000
We are bringing it back for what, joy
Its selfish how people just can't accept how people are different
Your skin color doesn't define you
Its the person that's inside you
We wish and wish that it will go away
But we have to fight for equal rights until it is served

#### poem by DEMONTE SMITH-WIGGINS

I know that I'm tired of corona 19
and worried about everybody else
I don't know if they're are sad happy sick hungry angry
in this upsetting world people seem upset
but people are like cockroaches we never stay down
about this Corona sickness you could be smart about it or stupid
either way they might still get Corona 19
for sec forget about Corona and think about all the black people that
paved the way for future

## poem by KOBISTEIN

Black history music started like a breeze But now it turned into something made with ease mainly black rap this and do but some white people do it too

#### poem by NAIJAH STEVENSON

Back then there was slavery, we blacks couldn't live freely.

We celebrate those days this month when fought for our rights and are still fighting.

Back then there was slavery, we blacks couldn't live freely.

We celebrate those days this month when fought for our rights and are still fighting.

### poem by LEYLA THREATS

Thank you to all the people that fought for our country and The ones that fight for.

Black life does matter, they just got to the glory.

They just got to see the glory of our skin.

We used to be able to ride our bikes

now we scared to even go outside.

All they think is hate and hate.

We just trying to live our lives.

We run around and drive around but we just get pulled over.

One day we will fight until we get what we deserve.

We're not gonna stop until we get the prize.

Life is too short

we have to live our lives

but don't think we forget about all the hate.

### poem by NOAH ULRICH

United we stand
Divided we fall
when we are together
we can live
when we are divides
we cannot sustain
we come together
stand together, be together
be the world
be amazing

## poem by ALAN VASQUEZ ROJAS

No justice no peace No peace without justice Justice brings peace For Breonna and George Fight today for a better tomorrow there comes a time when silence is a betrayal all lives cant matter until black lives matter peace today peace tomorrow peace forever

# poem by MELVIN VELAZQUEZ GALDAMEZ

Let me lead way" or "Let love be the way"
"bring new light into the dark"
"We are not afraid"
"..a nation that isn't broken but simply unfinished."
I stand up for compassion"

## HARPER WEATHERFORD BROWN

through the hardest times empathy has grown though maybe not in everyone it was made known when black people were beat in the street for peacefully protesting, empathy grew

when things started to change empathy was sewn into a system that had previously rejected it

even still the system rejects this empathy if in small ways or large it was there lingering

for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction so while they flew flags of the confederacy and hate

the response was to fly flags of love and support

we have made progres from the 50's and 60's but if we were to stop now we would regress to a point perhaps behind that

black people should be celebrated and loved just as equally as anyone else

such is the goal that peaceful protestors from the nineteen hundreds share with black lives matter protests today.

### poem by BIANCA WELLEN

He kept going
He wanted to succeed
So he did
He went and did what he wanted
To get people to follow
To not be racist
Or not be a rude person
Be nicer to people
Stay nice
Be nice

#### poem by BRANDON WILLIAMS

Everybody is unique

Everybody is unique so we should stand up for injustice and inequality. History is beginning to repeat itself but we are wiser than last time We should learn that everybody is human so race doesn't matter because we live together

We should stop the inequality

Treat others with respect

We need to stop this or we will be divided

There is a reason we are called the United States, it's because we are united

We should take action against inequality

We are unique and we shouldn't discriminate against people because of that

This nation isn't finished yet but we are closer every time we respect each other

Everybody is unique so we should stand up for injustice and inequality Inequality is the wrong type of way to treat people Treat everybody the same.

Stand up for equality
We are like a tree
We grow but not without being kind to everybody
We should stand up for justice

#### "Stand Up" by HALEY ZASTAWA

I stand up For what's right I help others That don't fit in I feel like This America is not united As one Why can't you Help others Why can't you Stand up For what's right Why can't you Help this America **Become United** Be EQUAL Be ONE

It's easy

Do your part

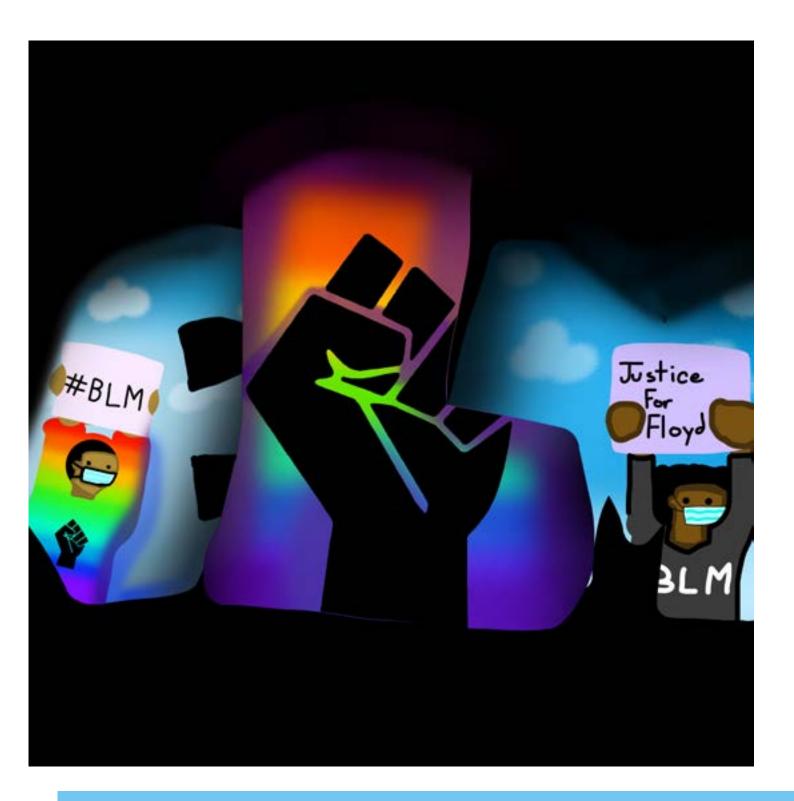




# MUSIC BY HALEY ZASTAWA

#### **MUSIC BY MICHAEL CASKEY**

MUSIC BY ROSCOE FEY



JEREMY HORNE





#### **MUSIC BY AIYANNA ADZOGBA**

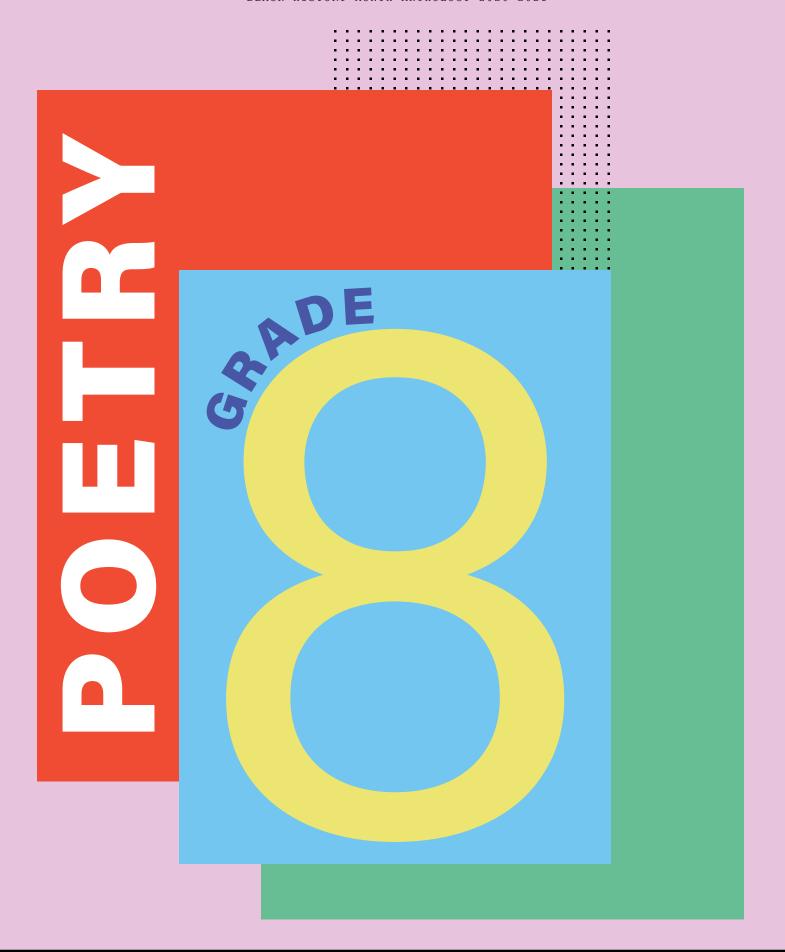
MUSIC BY CARL COGAN (1)



# MUSIC BY LEYLA THREATS

**MUSIC BY CALEB GILBERT** 

MUSIC BY CARL COGAN (2)



#### poem by AALIYAH ALLEN

I was born for this.

I must overcome it.

I cannot be afraid, of what might change.

We will stand together

and overcome the challenges.

Nothing will bring us down.

We will rise up

and be on top of the world.

We cannot fail

for what might come.

This world needs to be peaceful

and learn to love each other.

Don't be afraid

for what might happen

It will all change.

It will all be different.

It will happen,

it will happen very soon.

Just be prepared

for what might come.

I once saw a quote that said,

"Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated."

It's a choice we all need to make,

as a whole,

because we all bear down his burden for too long.

Those exact words,

are what Dr. King dedicated his life for.

#### poem by ALEC BANKS

we shall overcome help one another Rise up rise up unafraid I stand up for you we stand united we stand together help one another be a CHANGEMAKER let your heart lead you, to a better change it gets progressively stronger we are the skyscraper bring new light into the dark Blessed with power we do not rest don't worry about us before the victors run some of us will lose jobs but we shall overcome "even we hurt we hoped we shall overcome adversity

#### poem by BLAISE CASTANO

Black or white peach or brown we are all brothers

tall or short big or small fat or skinny we are all brothers

american or mexican italian or african canadian or peruvian we are all brothers

athletic or lazy rich or poor fast or slow we are all brothers

we are all equal
we all can achieve our goals
we all are brothers

#### poem by BENJAMIN GERST

Despite segregation back in the day,
We are together for the nowaday.
While whites used to be over color,
We are all in for any color.
They might act like us and vice versa,
But we are with them anytime, anywhere.
When we're the center of our area
We all matter, and it's never a lie.
We'll bring the best of the world and its happenings
by making a difference any way we can.

#### poem by JOE GRATTON

- pledge allegiance to the Flag and to the Republic for which it stands: one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all,
- this is a lie that has towered to the sky and let the words fly and people die.
- These words are lies because of a system that defies, and lies, and just stands by and watches as another man, woman, or child dies.
- They just blatantly ignore all of our cries for freedom, and justice, while we trust a system meant to keep us in place because we have a thing called race.
- While we so desperately look for the cure
- A disease that is riddled in every white man, who thinks lowly of another fellow man
- But we have to take a stand, because this is our land!
- but these recent events have made us see the types of people we can be and now we will see what is going to be
- as we emerge from the dark ashes and still racism Bashes, it smashes the fellow man who is going to take a stand because of a brother that was murdered.
- Our attempts are not in vain as some are slain, racism has been bane towards the fellow black man.
- As we all stand black or white we are here to fight and finish and our

#### spirits will not be diminished

- We will not stop till this war is won, we gather here because of a white man who shoots a black boy with a toy gun invented for fun.
- While his mother feels pain because he was slain and that will forever be a stain on our history.
- While we fight for life during this unholy strife to gain nothing but pain to bring justice to a man who took a stand and was beet on the street, killed left filled with lead because of a man with a messed up head.
- While I'll reach out my hand to another and help take a stand to bring back a land where people aren't afraid to hold out their hand.

#### poem by ISABELLE GRUENDL

We won't stop fighting
We won't stop trying
It's been too long
To start crying

It's never too late for change And we all know it's the truth We aren't scared of you We won't stop until...

We get what we deserve A peaceful world for everyone to live together

#### poem by **DYAMOND HORNE**

love stand together
and we will not fall
we are not perfect
we all stick together
our skins are all different.
love stand together
the world is not perfect
it is dark and we can overcome
we can believe that we can be perfect.
black history is all about people and helping people overcome their
mood
to not be afraid.
the world needs us to make sure it doesn't fall
and for us to get back up on our feet.

America needs improvement for peace and not to struggle.

#### poem by TRULY JAMES

With black lives we concur and fight for lives while our ancestor's watch and wonder why is this still feeding and feeding the hunger of the ones who run but none have the strength to fix our broken nation but as Amanda Gorman once said "we have weathered a nation that isn't broken but unfinished" this should give us the strength to march on and out march the great's to bait the hate and await for the haters to become blurs to all of the pride, black, and other ethnicities to say we are here and we are without fear near faith, hope and love just like a dove we soar beautiful and unique we seek freedom and justice not to make a fuss but call us freaks but we are amazing and breezing through life like we are kings on top and we will not be beaten down and shot was given to us and stop we are flowers ready to bloom. For black lives.

#### poem by BRAILAH JERNIGAN

"I'm black, I'm female and I'm proud" —Amanda Gorman

My skin is like the gold in the ground,
My hair stands tall as the heavens,
My voice as loud as the lions that roam
the lands of creations.
I am proud that my skin is as dark as
the soil that feeds our hunger,
and that my hair is as thick as wool,
my voice is my power, and my copper
skin is like magic running through my veins.
I am the power, and wealth that people seek,
I am proud that i'm me.

#### poem by OLIVIA JIMENEZ

I've been criticized so much, I have indigestion But even if I'm upset, what can I do, I do Everyone's trying so hard to hate me If they break me down Does it feed them?

I'm lonely, what do I do?
So I swallowed up even the hate
I have no strength to get mad
No time either
What is so upsetting for you?
Just go on your way
What's wrong with everyone

### poem by LINCOLN LANZA

Stick together We are not afraid we cannot fall we will not fall "bring new light into the dark" we shall overcome what was happening in the world The story of struggle comes with a nation's strength what this world needs is peace You should not be afraid today rise up unafraid "the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice" rise up and i'll do it a thousand times again rise up You have to stand up for what's right to you. stand up for yourself Equality, Liberty, Independence People a very nation made out of nation in a foundation. out of many we are one we should stick together through the rough times we are revolutionary when we stand united we stand united

## poem by AHLAYA MALLOY-RIVERS

blood is red some bullets are blue we need to stop the hate or your kids will be just like you. the more your parents act a fool around your kids the less hope we have for living in the end.

#### poem by ABRAHAM MENDOZA

There is a lot happening in the world right now
Colored brothas and sistas being put down by some cops right now
There is a lot of things that must be done
one of which is not assuming that every colored man has a gun
Racism in America stems from southern history and culture
But we keep teaching and preaching it so it'll never get older
Some folks keep teaching the youth about southern pride
But they never bring up the many slaves that had to die
Yet most people who say they're with us don't bat an eye at actual
racial problems

Because they'd rather spend their time getting rid of Aunt Jemima Some people don't understand what colored people have to go through

Since they've been spending their whole life relaxing while eating tofu I'm not saying I hate those people because I really don't But to combat racism, we have to be in the same boat

#### poem by RA'NIYAH MORRIS

Now we demand a chance to do things for ourself We're tired of beatin' our head against the wall And workin' for someone else We're people, we're just like the birds and the bees We'd rather die on our feet Than be livin' on our knees Say it loud, I'm black and I'm proud say it loud by James Brown

#### poem by SARAH NERVAIS

One afternoon I said to myself why isn't the iodine more soluble? gently it goes the soluble the unsolvable the immorality that's really genuine above all others is the devilry are you upset by how honest it is? Does it tear you apart to see the devilry so countrirt? a bohemian however hard it tries will always be wooly now muzzy is just the thing, to get me wondering i the bohemian is wooly minded

#### poem by COLTYN OLANDER

You should not be afraid today
The pain shall soon fade away
You will be able to see the goodness when you pray
You will witness the kindness there is still plenty
We will all innocently play...one day
A day at a time is all we can say
One step a day will help us pull away and grow
There will soon be a new status quo
Don't worry, it will be here in a hurry
You should not be afraid today

#### poem by KALLI RATHBUN

How can a hood be understood to strike fear that im near that im here a can of tea becomes a weapon of mass destruction no tea parties here candy colored dreams deferred like glass tears breaking against a wretched earth how can a hood be understood to strike fear that im near i am here

#### "Megan Thee Stallion" by MALINA SANDERS

Megan out of this world she's a ufo
Megan wears designer stuff buying drippy clothes
Megan making some food yea Megan bake
Megan owns a bakery making yummy cakes
Megan getting real hungry she wants juicy steak
Megan are too much food gotta tunny ache
Megan like Marvins room call her female Drake
Megan getting real fat Megan out of shape
Megan ran a stoplight gotta hit the breaks

#### poem by KIAYA SAUD

why do we hurt
why do we put others down
let's all stand up
I say I say
I promise I'll never leave you
not because of your skin
your beautiful
no matter if you black or white
it doesn't matter about your skin
or whom you like
I love you love yourself
your skin is beautiful
black or white

## JOURNEY THORNTON DARBY

My strong people, you inspire me to write. How I love the way you fly, trot and walk, Invading my mind day and through the night, Always dreaming about the long crosswalk.

Let me compare you to a wrong cherry? You are more perfect, pleasant and brainy. Ice bites the debris of February, And wintertime has the mcenaney.

How do I love you? Let me count the ways. I love your friendly humour and culture. Wanting your intelligence fills my days. My love for you is the agriculture.

Now I must away with a blazing heart, Remember my sound words whilst we're apart.

#### "Rise" by **LEON WADE**

Hi, my people why so sad? you say you feel weak and feeble don't worry we are here we should treat people in ways that are equal so that everyone feels peaceful "Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding." so don't be afraid to speak your voice don't feel like you are the last one standing for the greats before us, Martin, Rosa, Harriet stood, and implored us to do great things don't let others stop you from doing what you love stand up for yourself don't be afraid to rise

#### poem by DAMIYAH WATSON

pulled into the parking lot, parked it Zipped up my parka, joined the procession of marchers In my head like, "Is this awkward? Should I even be here marching?" Thinking if they can't, how can I breathe? Thinking that they chant, what do I sing? I want to take a stance cause we are not free And then I thought about it, we are not we Am I in the outside looking in, Or am I in the inside looking out? Is it my place to give my two cents? Or should I stand on the side and shut my mouth? No justice, no peace, okay, I'm saying that They're chanting out, Black Lives Matter, But I don't say it back Is it okay for me to say? I don't know, so I watch and stand In front of a line of police that don't look the same as me Only separated by race and badge A baton, a can of Mace, a mask

#### poem by MADISYNE WELLEN

She looked outside to see but the window wasn't clear She cleaned and cleaned it again and again but it still wasn't clear

She waited outside for the school bus to arrive but when it didn't show she decided to glow

To show and know

She decided to copy and paste this message from the kids but everyone's parents lost their lids She cried and cried for she wanted to be free.

when she told her parents of crime they whined they gave her the cold shoulder told to get over

She at 15 was fleeing the scene worrying for her next meal all because she wasn't loved

She spoke her truth to prove she needed her friends to understand but was pushed away

### poem by BRANDON WOZNY

Work out, ten laps
chin-ups look good
steam room dress warm
call home fresh air
eat right rest well
be safe
dress warm, eat well
test blood pressure
get rest
with short breath and fatigue

#### "Let love lead the way" or "Let love be the way" by

#### TRINITY YOST

Stand up for something You can't just talk the talk you have to walk the walk let your heart lead you "we shall overcome" we will never again sow division black history month is all about how equal rights have been fought for and are still fighting for. it's the past we step into i'll rise up Amanda Gorman quote, "I'm black, I'm female and I'm proud" America united people were dismissed as rabble rousers and agitators proud single mom Being American is not something we inherit, it's the past we step into This is powerful and meaningful even as we hurt we hope the world is watching 'i stand up for compassion' i stand up for representation





### MUSIC BY ABRAHAM MENDOZA

## MUSIC BY JOURNEY THORNTON DARBY

MUSIC BY LEON WADE



#### TRULY JAMES





#### PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHILLER STEAM ACADEMY

# BLACKHISTORY MONTH ANTHOLOGY 2020-2021





