Lesson 1

Marian Anderson

By Jessica Shapiro & Mr. Regan and Mr. Clement
Who was Marian Anderson?

- Born February 27, 1897 in Philadelphia, PA.
- Began performing at age 10.
- One of the most celebrated American singers in its history, and one of the most famous African American singers.
- Died April 8, 1993 in Portland, OR.
Anderson’s Career

- At age 28, she won her first singing competition prize from the NY Philharmonic.
- Debuted at Carnegie Hall in 1928.
- European Debut tour from 1933-1935.
- Performed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on April 9, 1939.
- First African American to perform with the Metropolitan Opera in NYC.
- Performed at the inaugurations of Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy.
Marian Anderson Performing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, April 9, 1939.
Confronting Racism

Â Rejected from the Philadelphia Music Academy.
Â Denied hotel rooms when on tour.
Â DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) denied her the right to perform for an integrated audience at Constitution Hall.
Â Faced racism throughout her career.
In response she...

Â Took private lessons and became a success.
Â Stayed with Albert Einstein when denied rooms.
Â Eleanor Roosevelt quit the DAR. Joined Walter White (NAACP) in campaign for Lincoln Memorial performance.
Â Performed benefit concerts for CORE and NAACP.
Â Performed at March on Washington.
Â Became U.S. Delegate to the UN.
Â Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, NAACP Springarn Medal, and UN Peace Prize.
Legacy

- Introduced Black opera singers to the mainstream.
- Fought for Civil Rights.
- Revolutionized music and public performance for Black musicians in the US and around the world.
Citations


Â UCLA. “‘Marian Anderson Sings at the Lincoln Memorial’ Newreel Story.” Filmed April, 1939. YouTube video, 01:50. Posted September, 2010. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XF9Quk0QhSE&t=14s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XF9Quk0QhSE&t=14s).
Research Guide

- Google
- Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com/)
  - For primary sources: http://digitallibrary.hsp.org/
- Library of Congress: https://www.loc.gov/
  - Search the main website for biography
  - Search through their recording database
- AfriClassical web: http://chevalierdesaintgeorges.homestead.com/
  - Use the “musicians” and “composers” guides to find the right biography
- UPenn archives: http://www.archives.upenn.edu/
- For music clips: YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/
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   ï ...*Title of Book*, Edited by First name Last name...

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