



# Progress, Not Perfection: DEI in Student Orchestra Programs

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## Topics

- Names and Pronouns
- Gender-inclusive language in rehearsals
- Gender-inclusive options for concert attire
- DEI Committee
- Safe Zone Training
- Publishers
- Composers
- Repertoire



“What’s in a name?”

William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*, Act II, Scene 2

# Names and Pronouns

- An act of respect and validation
- “I respect you for who you are.”
- “I do not want to cause you harm.”

# Names and Pronouns

- Introductions at the start of the year
  - “Hello! My name is Thomas, and my pronouns are he/him.”
  - Student Info Sheet → kept confidential between teacher and student
  - Pronouns included in email signature

# Gender-Inclusive Language

- Avoid gender-specific language
  - “Ladies and gentlemen”
  - “Boys and girls”
  - “Guys and dolls”

# Gender-Inclusive Language

- Encourage gender-inclusive terms
  - “Y’all sounded great at the concert!”
  - “Friends, at Rehearsal A...”
  - “May I have woodwind folks at the Allegro?”
    - Other options include Fam, Team, your school mascot, etc.

# Gender-Inclusive Options for Concert Attire

- Avoid stating that gentlemen shall wear... and ladies shall wear...
- Consider having Option 1 and Option 2
- When in doubt, have everyone wear Artist Black.



# DEI Committee

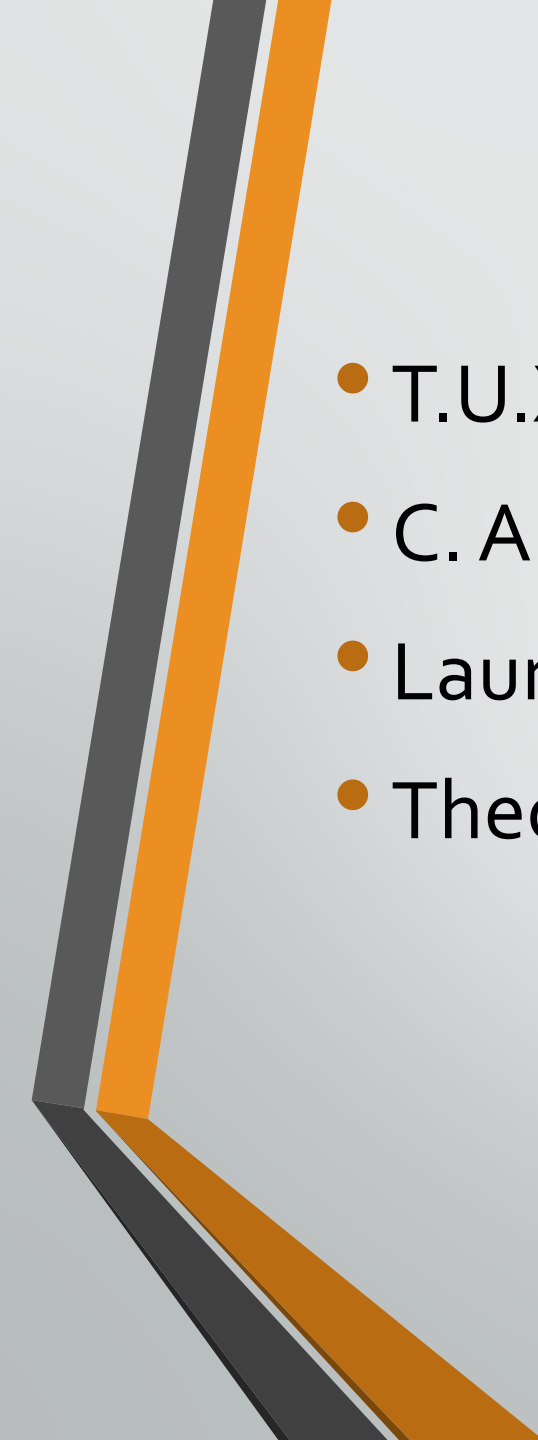
- Does your school already have a committee devoted to diversity, equity, and inclusion?
- If not, then start one!
- Student representatives
- Parent representative or two

# Safe Zone Training and Other Workshops

- Does your school district offer Safe Zone Training?
  - If so, attend and then display your sticker of completion.
- Could you bring in a special guest?




Publishers

- 
- T.U.X. People's Music Publishing Company
  - C. Alan Publications
  - Lauren Keiser Music Publishing/Kaiser Southern Music
  - Theodore Presser



# Resources

- 
- Christian Michael Folk, [Graded Orchestral Repertoire](#)
  - The [ADORE Project](#)
  - [Music by Black Composers](#)
  - [String Orchestra Music by Black Composers series](#)
  - [Institute for Composer Diversity](#)
  - [Composers Diversity Collective](#)
  - [Center for Black Music Research](#)
  - [Composers Equity Project](#)
  - [Latin Orchestral Music](#)
  - [African Diaspora Music Project](#)



# BIPOC Composers

# Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

- Anglo-African composer
- *Danse Negre* from African Suite (Grade 5)
  - Arranged for strings by Daniel Bukin (Grade 3)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> movement arranged for strings by Tyler Meredith (Grade 6)
- *The Bamboula*
  - Arranged for strings by Troy Peters (Grade 3)
- *Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*
  - Arranged for strings by Troy Peters (Grade 5)





# Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

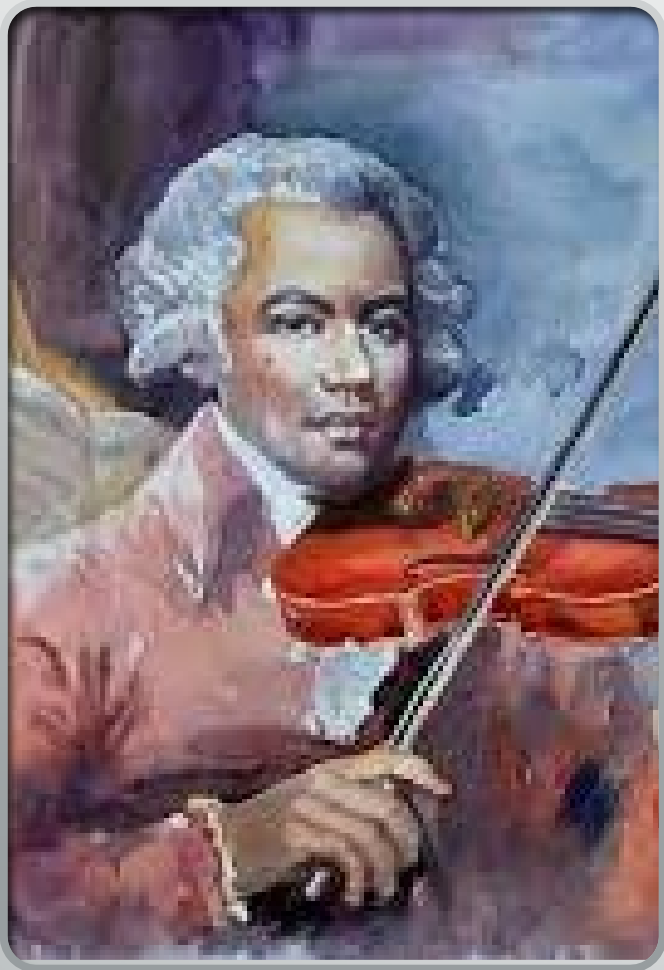
- Scenes from an Imaginary Ballet
  - Arranged for strings by Ollyoxal (Grade 3)
- Four Noveletten, Op. 52 → Grade 6
  - Strings and two percussionists
  - 2-4 minutes per movement
  - No. 1 in A Major, No. 2 in C Major, No. 3 in A Minor, and No. 4 in D Major

# Clarence Cameron White (1880-1960)

- American composer and concert violinist
- Bandanna Sketches, Op. 12 (Grade 5)
  - 1,1,2,1 – 2,2,1,0 – timp – strings
  - Four movements



# Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges (1745-1799)



- French Classical composer, violinist, conductor, and fencer
- Symphony No. 2 in D Major
  - 1st movement arranged for strings by Daniel Bukin (Grade 3)
    - Also arranged by Dion Morales (Grade 3)
  - 3rd movement arranged for strings by Deborah Baker Monday (Grade 3)
  - All movements arranged for strings by Reynard Burns (Grade 3)

# Florence Price (1887-1953)

- Composer, organist, pianist, and teacher
- *Adoration*
  - Arr. by Tyler Meredith (Grade 1)
  - Arr. by Alexander Dee (Grade 1)
  - Arr. by Thomas Dickey (Grade 2)
  - Arr. by Elaine Fine (Grade 3)
- *The Old Boatman's Song*
  - Arranged by Dana Perna (Grade 3)



# George Walker (1922-2018)

- Composer, pianist, organist
- First Black composer to win the Pulitzer Prize
- Lyric for Strings
  - Original version (Grade 5)
  - Version in F (Grade 4)



# Adolphus Hailstork (b.1941)

- American composer and educator
- *Sonata da Chiesa*
  - Grade 4 - 5, strings only



# William Grant Still (1895-1978)

- The “Dean of Afro-American Composers”
- Serenade
  - Full Orchestra (Grade 5)
- From the Black Belt
  - Full orchestra (Grade 5)
- Danzas de Panama (Grade 6)



# Ulysses Kay (1917-1995)

- An American Neo-Classical composer
- Six Dances for String Orchestra (Grade 6)
- String Triptych
  - Written for the 1988 Missouri All-State Orchestra
- Suite for Strings
- Pieta for English Horn and String Orchestra (Grade 4)

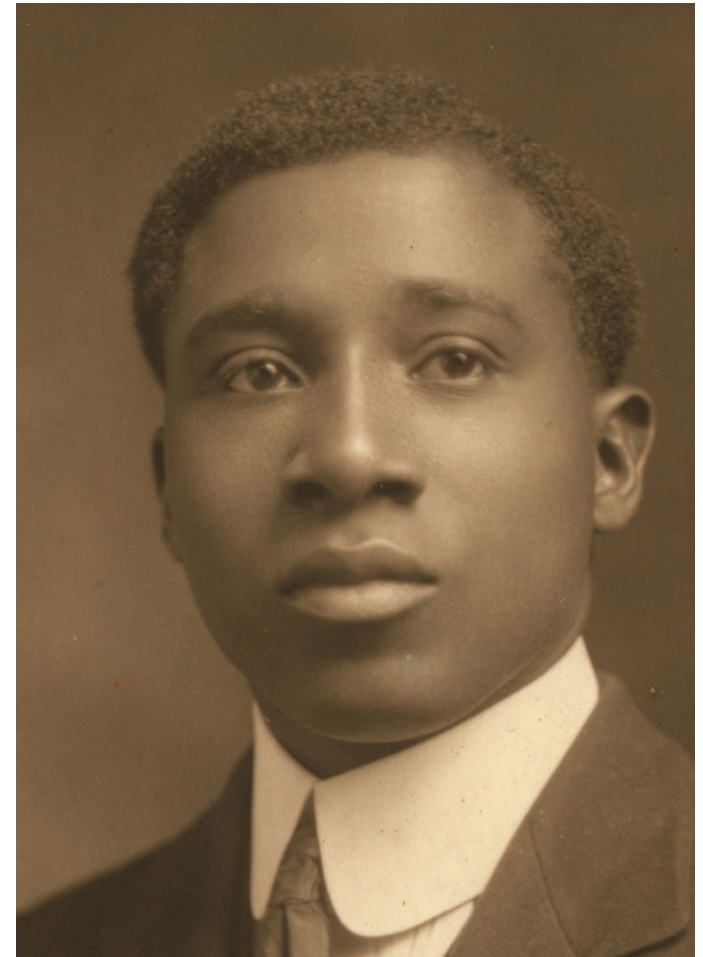




# R. Nathaniel Dett

(1882-1943)

- A Canadian-American Black composer, organist, pianist, choral director, and professor
- *Cave of the Winds*
  - Arranged for strings by Troy Peters (Grade 2)
- *Petite Suite*
  - Arranged for strings by Norman Phillip Hart (Grade 5)



# Yukiko Nishimura (b.1967)

- Japanese composer and pianist
- Grade 1 Piece → *Songbird*
- Grade 2 Pieces (9)
  - *Autumn Waltz*
  - *Primula*
  - *Interlude Nightfall*
  - *Silver Moon*
  - *Evening Dusk*
  - *Furusato*





# Yukiko Nishimura (b.1967)

- Grade 4 Pieces (12):

- *Ripples*                      *Water Reflections*                      *To the Ocean*
- *Cherry Tree*                      *Falling Water*                      *The Horizon*
- *Meteor Shower*                      *Petite Suite–Beautiful Flowers*                      *Snowberry*
- *Raindrops*                      *Tree House*                      *Sailing!*

# Yukiko Nishimura (b.1967)

- Grade 5 Pieces (2):
  - *Swinging Door*
  - *Orange Moon*

## Chen Yi (b.1953)

- Chinese-American composer and professor at UMKC
- *Shuo* for full orchestra (Grade 6)
- *Duo Ye* No. 2 for full orchestra (Grade 6)



# Stella Sung (b.1955)



- Asian-American composer and professor at the University of Central Florida
- *Chorale* for String Orchestra (Grade 3)
- Other accessible works for full orchestra available through the composer's website



# Women Composers from Previous Centuries



# Clara Schumann (1819-1896)

- 19<sup>th</sup>-century composer and pianist
- Prelude and Fugue in D Minor
  - Arranged for strings by Robert Frost (Grade 3)



# Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel (1805-1847)

- 19<sup>th</sup>-century German composer, pianist, and choral conductor
- Song without Words, Op. 8 No. 3
  - Arranged by Daniel Levitov
  - Grade 4



# Dame Ethel Mary Smyth (1858-1944)

- English composer and member of the women's suffrage movement
  - March of the Women
    - Arranged for strings by Daniel Bukin
    - Grade 1
    - Can be played entirely in 1<sup>st</sup> position!





# Living Women Composers

# Emma Lou Diemer (b.1927)



- American composer, organist, and music theory professor
- Youth Overture (Grade 3)
- Festival Overture (Grade 4)
- My Eyes Have Seen the Glory (Grade 4)
- Chumash Dance Celebration Grade 6)
- St. Anne (Our God, Our Help in Ages Past)
  - (Grade 6)



## Emma Lou Diemer (b.1927)

- Aria for string orchestra (Grade 2)
- Lament for Oboe and String Orchestra (Grade 3)
- Serenade for String Orchestra (Grade 4)



## Gwyneth Walker (b.1947)

- American music educator and composer
- Suite for Strings (Grade 3)
- Folk Carols for Strings (Grade 3)
- The Dove and Other Songs of Peace (Grade 4)
- Shady Grove and Other Songs from the Appalachian Mountains (Grade 5)
- The Spirit of the Mesa (Grade 5)




# LGBTQ+ Composers





# Famous LGBTQ+ Composers

- Tchaikovsky
- Copland
- Barber
- Saint-Saens
- Handel



# Solo and Ensemble Repertoire

# Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

- Deep River, Op. 59, No. 10
  - Violin and piano
  - Grade 6
- Five *Fantasia-Stuecke*, Op. 5
  - String quartet

# Florence Price

- String Quartet in G Major
- Quintet in A Minor for Strings and Piano
- Three Negro Spirituals for Violin and Piano

# George Walker

- Violin Sonata No. 1
- Viola Sonata
- String Quartet No. 1
- String Quartet No. 2

# Clarence Cameron White

- Bandanna Sketches
  - Violin and piano
  - Grade 5
- Levee Dance
  - Violin and piano
  - Grade 5

# Adolphus Hailstork

- Divertimento for Violin and Viola (Grade 5)
- Cello Sonata (unaccompanied) (Grade 5)
- *A la Mozart* for Two Violins (Grade 5)
- Suite for Solo Violin (Grade 5)

# William Grant Still

- Mother and Child → string quartet (Grade 5)
- Danzas de Panama → string quartet (Grade 5)
- Christmas in the Western World
  - String orchestra and piano
  - String quartet and piano
- Summerland for Solo Violin or Cello and Piano





# Ulysses Kay

- Sonata for Viola and Piano
- Sonatina for Viola and Piano

# R. Nathaniel Dett

- *I Am the True Vine* for String Trio
  - Arranged by Norman Phillip Hart
  - Grade 5

# Chen Yi

- *Sound of the Five* for Cello and String Quartet (Grade 4)
- *Energetic Duo* for Two Violins (Grade 4)
- *Memory* for Unaccompanied Violin, Viola, or Cello (Grade 6)
- *Fisherman's Song* for Violin and Piano (Grade 6)
- *Tibetan Tunes* for Violin, Cello, and Piano (Grade 6)

# Clara Schumann

- Fugue in F# Minor for String Quartet
  - Arranged by Norman Phillip Hart
  - Grade 5
- Fugue in G Minor for String Trio
  - Arranged by Norman Phillip Hart
  - Grade 5

# Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel

- Adagio for Violin and Piano (Grade 1) → arranged by Rosario Marciano
- Adagio for Viola and Piano (Grade 4)
- Piano Quartet (Grade 4) → arranged by Renate Eggebrecht-Kupsa
- String Quartet in E-flat (Grade 4) → arranged by Eggebrecht-Kupsa
- Piano Trio in D Minor (Grade 5)



# Ethyl Smith

- String Trio in D Major (Grade 4)
- String Quartet in C Minor (Grade 6)

# Emma Lou Diemer

- *Lovely Song* for Violin and Viola
- Sonatina for Two Violins
- *Going Away* for Violin and Piano
- Violin Concerto → with piano reduction
- *Homage to Paderewski* for Viola and Piano
- String Quartet No. 1 (Grade 6)
- *Before Spring* for Violin and Piano
- *Catch a Turian Toccata* for Unaccompanied Violin
- Suite for Violin and Piano (Grade 5)



# Gwyneth Walker

- Let Us Break Bread Together
  - Piano, Violin, and Cello
  - Grade 3



# Q&A

Let's talk about DEI

