

A Lightly Annotated and Very Incomplete List of
American Black Classical Composers

Compiled Dr. Allegra Martin
allegra.martin@gmail.com

Dedicated to Dr. Janet McCumber, who requested it

Author's note: There are too many Black composers to name, and yet, because their contributions are often overlooked, I believe that lists such as this are an important starting point for assistance in programming and exploration. If I left off your favorite, forgive me! Feel free to e-mail me and I will consider including them on a subsequent draft. I tried to only include composers who have composed a significant number of works for large ensembles, whose scores are available, and whose works would be technically accessible to students of college age or younger.

I strongly recommend programming non-idiomatic music by Black composers. ("Idiomatic" means in a distinctive style we immediately associate with Black musicians, such as Negro spirituals, jazz, hip-hop, R&B, etc.) Do not just default to spiritual arrangements and program nothing else by Black composers. This is a problem because it confines composers to a narrow range of style, and a narrow range of visibility. Program a madrigal, motet, or symphony by a Black composer!

This list is dominated by choral composers, because that is my specialty, but I made sure to include at least a dozen composers who primarily compose for orchestra and band. The ensemble that a given composer has written most often for is noted under their name. This is to help educators focus in on the composers they might want to research first. This does not mean that they have not written for other ensembles.

If you cannot find some of this repertoire, consider reaching out to a HBCU (Historically Black College or University) in your region. They have great libraries! Remember to offer to pay for borrowing music.

Jazz is not present on this list because it is not my area of expertise. Likewise, gospel is not present on this list because it is not my area of expertise, but I recommend looking up the work of Dr. J. Donald Dumpson as a starting point if you wish to educate yourself more on gospel.

Thanks to conductors and educators Destiny Cooper and Ernest Jennings for helping me with brainstorming this list. Thanks also to the scholarship of Marques L. A. Garrett, Rachel Barton Pine, André J. Thomas, and William J. Zick, all of whose work was very helpful.

Black American Composers

H. Leslie Adams (b. 1932)

- Professor at Stillman College, University of KS, and other institutions
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.hleslieadams.com/>
- <https://composers.com/h-leslie-adams>
- Recommended titles: Madrigal; Rememb'ring, Rejoicing
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Uhf1QthU7s>

Kevin Allen (b. late 20th century)

- Director of Schola Laudis in Chicago
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.ccwatershed.org/allen/>
- <https://bit.ly/39POzUY>
- Recommended titles: O Sacrum Convivium; Tantum Ergo
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ykqr1awLxIY>

Regina Harris Baiocchi (b. 1956)

- Previously a professor; now composes full-time and writes; performed by Chicago Symphony, Seattle Symphony, and others
- **Orchestra, also some chorus**
- <http://reginaharrisbaiocchi.com/>
- Recommended titles: African Hands (Concerto for Hand Drummer and Orchestra); Muse; Orchestral Suite
- <https://reginaharrisbaiocchi.com/listen-purchase/>

Ysaÿe Barnwell (b. 1946)

- Member of Sweet Honey in the Rock, who has recorded much of her music; famous choral conductor and educator
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.ymbarnwell.com/>
- Recommended titles: On Children; We Are...; Would You Harbor Me? Also has large-scale works for chorus and orchestra.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYAkL36aCE>

Margaret Bonds (1913-1972)

- Good friends with Langston Hughes. For more info, look up my dissertation.
- **Chorus, some orchestra**
- Recommended titles: The Negro Speaks of Rivers; The Ballad of the Brown King. For orchestra: Montgomery Variations. **Contact me for choral scores.**
- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8-kH1qiLOZZm-az3bfEoygG4EehKK5XJ>

B. E. Boykin (b. late 20th century)

- Teaches at Spelman College, Georgia Institute of Technology, Agnes Scott College
- **Chorus**
- <https://beboykin.com/>
- <https://soundcloud.com/user-539063463>
- Recommended titles: Music of Life; We Sing as One; Coventry Carol
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2O_BO5q8e1o

Valerie Coleman (b. late 20th century)

- Flautist and composer; creator of wind quintet Imani Winds; first Black woman commissioned by Philadelphia Orchestra
- **Band, orchestra**
- <https://www.vcolemanmusic.com>
- Recommended titles: For band, Umoja; Roma. For orchestra, Seven O'Clock Shout (written to honor frontline workers); Phenomenal Women
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvBkdLqbKfw>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHlxqNW7aG8>

Kevin Day (b. 1996)

- Student at University of Georgia; Composer-In-Residence of the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra; works performed in U.S., Austria, Australia, South Africa, Taiwan; performed at many education conferences
- **Band; also some orchestra and choral**
- <https://www.kevindaymusic.com>
- Recommended titles: For band, Rocketship! (flexible instrumentation); Havana; Dancing Fire
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AliktOacJlk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKhR0eALr5g>

Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943)

- Director of the famous Hampton Choir; arranged many pieces for them.
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.200038840/>
- https://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Dett,_Robert_Nathaniel
- Recommended titles: Listen to the Lambs; The Ordering of Moses (oratorio)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zv2LxSqBfDE>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdeSS7PWgso>

Rollo Dilworth (b. 1970)

- Professor at Temple University; famous choral conductor and clinician
- **Chorus - writes for all voicings and ages.**
- <https://www.temple.edu/boyer/about/people/rollodilworth.asp>
- <https://www.halleonard.com/biographyDisplay.action?id=106&subsiteid=1>
- Recommended titles: Trilogy of Dreams (three easy settings of Langston Hughes poetry); Walk In Jerusalem; Give Us Our Peace
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8sGPKwuPU8>
- (Hal Leonard has video recordings of many of Dilworth's works with score follow-along.)

Marques L. A. Garrett (b. late 20th century)

- Professor at University of Nebraska-Lincoln; scholar of Black composers
- **Chorus - writes for all voicings and ages.**
- <https://www.mlagmusic.com/>
- Recommended titles: My Heart Be Brave; Invitation to Love; O Praise the Lord; Sing Out My Soul
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sj2Dxkliunc>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6WlcDawNi4>

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

- Professor at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA; commissions from Cincinnati Opera Company, LA Philharmonic, et. Writes frequently for chorus and orchestra.
- **Orchestra, Chorus**
- <https://www.adolphushailstork.com/>
- Recommended titles: O Praise the Lord; 7 Songs of the Rubaiyat; Three Dunbar Hymns; I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes (3-movement cantata w/ tenor solo and orchestra)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Khw7yhtRDM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SOR5JJXQVrI>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66E-qHLVHYA>

Christopher Harris (b. late 20th century)

- Professor at Arkansas Tech University; founder of Houston Master Singers
- **Chorus**
- <https://graphitepublishing.com/composer/christopher-h-harris/>
- <https://musicspoke.com/composer/christopherharris>
- Recommended titles: I Am Loved (SATB); You (TTBB). Lots of both SATB and TTBB.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnR5Yzcy0Y>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fb_7aKMNIxQ

Chad “Sir Wick” Hughes (b. 1977)

- Director of Bands at Morehouse College; also professional trombonist
- **Band; also some orchestra**
- <https://sirwickmusic.com>
- Recommended titles: Symphonic Suite No. 1 (for symphonic wind band); Ruth and Boaz (for concert band)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6poG0I7xXI>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hy_eaY4LCFY

Eva Jessye (1895-1992)

- Conductor of Eva Jessye Singers, choral director for Porgy and Bess premiere
- **Chorus**
- <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/jessye/>
- <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/b/bhlead/umich-bhl-2009184>
- Scores difficult to find; you would likely need to contact U. Michigan

Victor Johnson (b. late 20th century)

- Teacher at Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts; also director of Children’s Choir of Texas. Large choral output for all ages, both religious and secular.
- **Chorus - writes for all voicings and ages.**
- <http://www.victorjohnsonmusic.com>
- Recommended titles: Kuimba; Stars I Shall Find; Will You Teach Me; Sing Out Your Joy
- Many, many titles can be found with scores on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/319zppV>

Ulysses Kay (1917-1995)

- Huge output; professor at Lehman College; recipient of many prizes, including Rome Prize; neo-classical in style; wrote five operas, including one on Frederick Douglass
- **Orchestra, Chorus, some Band**
- <https://chevalierdesaintgeorges.homestead.com/Kay.html#16>
- <https://www.prestomusic.com/sheet-music/composers/9935--kay-u>
- Recommended titles: For orchestra: Fantasy Variations; Orchestral Rhapsody; Six Dances for String Orchestra; Symphony. For choral: O Praise the Lord; How Stands the Glass Around. For band: Forever Free; Silhouettes
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZuYols0RGk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wp-4swkyiGU>
- <https://youtu.be/Z4pWRqQemUY?t=1430>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgP92jShnUo>

Betty Jackson King (1928-1994)

- Professor at Dillard University
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.bettyjacksonking.com/>
- Recommended titles: Psalm 57; many Negro spiritual arrangements
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cO3mS2KVECo>
- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-PSrAvF4d-MxZYNOFGa1EHMGpFJZ0gNp>

Tania León (b. 1943)

- Cuban-American composer, lives in NYC, many awards
- **Orchestra, also some Chorus and Band**
- <https://www.tanialeon.com/>
- <http://peermusicclassical.com/composers/11902>
- Recommended titles: For orchestra: Batá; Stride; Horizons. For chorus: El Manisero (commissioned and recorded by Chanticleer); Drume Negrita; Rimas Tropicales. For band: Alegre.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfuMbD_A6bg
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YlrUfJYhZQM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEK7O599aNo>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YxxT66ZSPI>

Lena McLin (b. 1928)

- Taught in Chicago Public Schools for over 35 years
- **Chorus**
- <https://kjos.com/catalog/person/view/id/886/> (at the time I found this link, this website only works in some browsers)
- <https://www.adsmm.org/index.php/payton-archive/adsmm-living-legends/78-dr-lena-mclin>
- Recommended titles: Free At Last; Psalm 117; Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round
- Playlist of many works: <https://bit.ly/2Pej2CM>

Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)

- Professor at Virginia State College and other institutions; nominated for a Pulitzer in 1981 (did not win – first Black composer to win was 1996, see George Walker)
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.musicbyblackcomposers.org/2017/08/25/undine-smith-moore/> (see also Grove Online article)
- Recommended titles: We Shall Walk Through the Valley; Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord; Scenes from the Life of a Martyr (on life of MLK, 16-pt. oratorio)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pT3qIpDuL4>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ltO8m2eCCI>

Nkeiru Okoye (b. 1972)

- Composer of opera *Harriet Tubman: When I Crossed That Line to Freedom*.
- Recipient of NEA grants, commissions from Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and others
- **Orchestra; also a lot of opera**
- <http://www.nkeiruokoye.com>
- Recommended titles: Voices Shouting Out; The Journey of Phyllis Wheatley
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8U1ZnSi7sY>

Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)

- Professor at Auburn University; nationally known clinician
- **Chorus - writes for all voicings and ages.**
- <http://rosephanyepowell.com/>
- Recommended titles: To Sit and Dream; Non Nobis Domine; Still I Rise
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVhJT-6Bz0E>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYKeHFyT0HI>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUaeAYSZH-A>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0HIDFbdMMs>

Florence Price (1887-1953)

- Trailblazing African American composer; published a great deal; first black woman performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- **Orchestra; also some Chorus**
- <http://www.florenceprice.org>
- <https://wophil.org/african> for some score sources
- Recommended titles: Mississippi River Suite; Piano Concerto in D minor. For Chorus: Praise the Lord; Resignation
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_YDuiDjV4I
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wfdvCrqzTm0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vell8qIvGsk>

Bernice Johnson Reagan (b. 1942)

- Former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock; former professor at American University and Spelman; Curator Emeritus at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.bernicejohnsonreagon.com>
- Recommended titles: Ella's Song; We Are the Ones We Been Waiting For
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6Uus--gFrc>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFPfnKNqcpl>

William Grant Still (1895-1978)

- Trailblazing African American composer; recipient of Guggenheim fellowships and many prizes; major commissions from American musical institutions
- **Chorus, orchestra, also symphonic band**
- <http://www.williamgrantstillmusic.com>
- Recommended titles: For choir, *Christmas in the Western World*; for orchestra, *Afro-American Symphony*
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RO_KAmCSJIA
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4wVSdzWd-M>

André Thomas (b. 1952)

- Professor at Florida State; author; famous conductor and educator
- **Chorus - writes for all voicings and ages.**
- <http://www.drandrethomas.com/conductor>
- Recommended titles: I Dream a World; Rockin' Jerusalem; I Hear American Singing. Many titles available in multiple voicings.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZU0zTBfhRdo>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEqwxayg-gk>

Omar Thomas (b. 1984)

- Professor at University of Texas at Austin; composes both jazz and classical
- **Band**
- <https://www.omarthomas.com>
- Recommended titles: A Mother of a Revolution!; Come Sunday
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6ieR-YZ4eY>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZDB8OhQP4Y>

Joel Thompson (b. 1988)

- DMA student at Yale
- **Chorus (so far)**
- <https://sevenlastwords.org/about/composer/>
- <https://www.morningstarmusic.com/composers/t/joel-thompson.html>
- Recommended titles: Most famous for *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed* for men's chorus, piano, and strings. Also recommended: America Will Be!; Hold Fast to Dreams
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=od6DMd3sP4s>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVMWR2SCbOU>

George Walker (1922-2018)

- Professor at Rutgers, Peabody Conservatory, and University of DE; first Black recipient of the Pulitzer Prize in 1996
- **Orchestra**
- <http://georgetwalker.com/>
- Recommended titles: Lyric for Strings; Address for Orchestra
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZLLVacAT6Y>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l68tHsyHIVE>

Trevor Weston (b. 1967)

- Professor at Drew University; performed by Roomful of Teeth, American Composers' Orchestra, Seraphic Fire, Bang on a Can, etc.
- **Orchestra, Chorus**
- <http://www.trevorweston.com>
- Recommended titles: For chorus, Given Sound; Ashes; Magnificat. For orchestra: Flying Fish; Juba for strings
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHXDntCgalo>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SV1b6s47hXc>

Dolores White (b. 1932)

- Teaches at Kent State University; works performed by Dallas Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Cleveland Chamber Symphony
- **Orchestra**
- <http://www.doloreswhite.com>
- Recommended titles: Crystal Gazing; Celebration
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9j_auaHTmQk

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu (b. 198x)

- Conductor at St. Olaf College; co-founder of Justice Choir movement
- **Chorus**
- <https://www.tesfawon.com/>
- Recommended titles: Weep Not for Him; A Dream Within a Dream
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2SzpSVqQf4>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SiGWGxJ_1WY

To be included on future versions: William Banfield, Valerie Capers, Cynthia Cozette Lee, Mark A. Miller, Jessie Montgomery, Dorothy Rudd Moore, Fred Onowwerosuoke, Julia Perry, Zenobia Powell Perry, Irene Britton Smith, Mary Watkins

Composers known for setting Negro Spirituals

Please note:

- There is much debate about whether we in the choral community should perform Negro spiritual arrangements by white composers and arrangers. I personally plan to avoid weighing in on this topic until I have performed **all** the arrangements by Black composers.
- It is also important to discuss with your students the appalling and dehumanizing conditions under which these spirituals were originally created and performed. There is a shocking legacy in the U.S. of portraying slavery as “not that bad” in history books, saying that many slaves were “happy”, etc. Some of your students may have learned this incorrect idea before reaching you. If you perform Negro spirituals, I recommend you teach your students the history behind them in a way that is honest and direct but also protects your Black students.
- It is not acceptable to put a Negro spiritual last on your concert for an upbeat finale, and never perform any other music by Black composers.

OF COURSE this is a non-exhaustive list, but these twenty names can provide a starting point.

Edward H. Boatner
Margaret Bonds
Harry T. Burleigh
Roland Carter
Damon Dandridge
William Dawson
R. Nathaniel Dett
Rollo Dilworth
Marques L. A. Garrett
Stacey V. Gibbs
Jester Hairston
Moses Hogan
Eva Jessye
Hall Johnson
Victor C. Johnson
Betty Jackson King
Lena Johnson McLin
Undine Smith Moore
Rosephanye Powell
André J. Thomas

A more complete list of spiritual composer-arrangers can be found in [Way Over in Beulah Lan': Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritual](#) by André J. Thomas.

A Few Black Composers from Other Countries

Eleanor Alberga (b. 1949), Jamaica

- **Orchestra**
- <http://eleanoralberga.com/>
- <https://wophil.org/african/>

Catalina Berroa (1849-1911), Cuba

- **Chorus**
- <https://peoplepill.com/people/catalina-berroa/>

Joseph Boulogne (1745-1799), Guadeloupe

- **Orchestra**
- Also known as the Chevalier de Saint-Georges (lived in France most of his life)
- <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/22/arts/music/black-mozart-joseph-boulogne.html>
- Scores: <https://bit.ly/3k3tWJR>

Avril Coleridge-Taylor (1903-1998), England

- **Orchestra**
- Daughter of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, below
- https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Avril_Coleridge-Taylor

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912), England

- **Chorus, orchestra**
- Wrote a trilogy of cantatas for orchestra and chorus called *The Song of Hiawatha*; very under-performed in the U.S.
- <https://chevalierdesaintgeorges.homestead.com/Song.html>

José Mauricio Nunes Garcia (1767-1830), Brazil

- **Chorus**
- Most work is sacred; he was a priest
- Many scores on CPDL: <https://bit.ly/2OYbEez>

Hannah Kendall (b. 1984), England

- **Chorus, Orchestra**
- <https://hannahkendall.co.uk>
- Please someone program her Regina Caeli for a cappella choir SSAATTB – it's difficult but gorgeous! <https://soundcloud.com/hannah-kendall/regina-caeli>

Vicente Lusitano (dates unknown – died after 1561), Portugal

- **Chorus**
- Priest, composer, and well-known theorist; famous for debating Vicentino
- <https://van-us.atavist.com/vicente-lusitano>
- [http://www2.cpd.l.org/wiki/index.php/Vicente Lusitano](http://www2.cpd.l.org/wiki/index.php/Vicente_Lusitano)

Edward Margetson (1891-1962), Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis

- **Chorus**
- Composer, conductor, organist
- <https://www.historicstkitts.kn/people/edward-margetson>
- “He Stooped to Bless” published by GIA

Ignatius Sancho (c. 1729?-1780), England (born on a slave ship crossing the Atlantic)

- Keyboard and chamber music
- Writer, shopkeeper, and notable abolitionist
- [https://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Sancho, Ignatius](https://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Sancho,_Ignatius)
- <https://www.bl.uk/people/ignatius-sancho>

Fela Sowande (1905-1987), Nigeria

- **Orchestra, chorus**
- Considered “father of Nigerian art music”
- <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25433787?seq=1>

José Silvestre White (1835-1918), Cuba

- **Orchestra**
- [https://imslp.org/wiki/Category:White%2C Joseph](https://imslp.org/wiki/Category:White%2C_Joseph)
- <https://www.blackpast.org/global-african-history/people-global-african-history/white-joseph-silvestre-1835-1918/>

A Few Other BIPOC Composers to Explore

Marcelo Adonay
Josefina Benedetti
Carlos Chavez
Oscar Escalada
Gabriela Lena Frank
Alberto Ginastera
Alberto Grau
Emily Lau
Zhou Long
A. R. Rahman
Bright Sheng
Mari Esabel Valverde
Chen Yi

List of Resources

Websites:

<https://www.mlagmusic.com/research/beyond-elijah-rock> - Dr. Marques L. A. Garrett's list of non-idiomatic music by Black composers. (Non-idiomatic means not based on a black idiom, such as spirituals, jazz, ragtime, hip-hop, etc.) Dr. Garrett's handout for his NafME presentation on this topic can be found here, with repertoire recommendations: [https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2020/01/Non-Idiomatich-Choral-Music-of-Black-Composers-Handout Marques-L-A-Garrett.pdf](https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2020/01/Non-Idiomatich-Choral-Music-of-Black-Composers-Handout_Marques-L-A-Garrett.pdf)

<https://chevalierdesaintgeorges.homestead.com/> - Africlassical.com: African Heritage in Classical Music is a website by William J. Zick, a retired administrative law judge. This website is quite comprehensive and will offer some of the best biographies of black composers available.

<https://www.musicbyblackcomposers.org/> - This website is a project of the Rachel Barton Pine foundation. Pine is a world-famous violinist with an interest in music education. The stated goals of this project include "inspiring Black students to begin and continue instrumental training by showing them that they are an integral part of classical music's past as well as its future, and to make the music of Black composers available to all people regardless of background or ethnicity."

<https://africandiasporamusicproject.org/> - the African Diaspora Music Project is run by Dr. Louise Toppin and her non-profit Videmus. Videmus aims to shine a spotlight on music by under-represented composers in many categories.

© August 2020, Allegra Martin

This document may be freely copied and used for educational purposes, provided credit is given.

<https://www.darryltaylor.com/alliance/> - the African American Art Song Alliance was founded by countertenor and professor Darryl Taylor, who serves on the faculty of the University of California, Irvine.

<https://www.composerdiversity.com/> - The Institute for Composer Diversity operates within the School of Music at the State University of New York at Fredonia. The Institute for Composer Diversity is committed to the celebration, education, and advocacy of music created by composers from historically underrepresented genders, racial, ethnic, and cultural heritages, and sexual orientations as well as disabled composers.

<https://www.nanm.org/> - The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc., by far the oldest organization on this list, was founded in 1919, and supports African American musicians working in all genres.

<https://wophil.org/african> - The Women's Philharmonic Advocacy supports the work of the historical Women's Philharmonic, an orchestra comprised of all women musicians that performed works by women.

Books and Articles:

"Choral Works by African-American Composers" by Lee V. Cloud. In *The Choral Journal*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (September 1992), pp. 44-48. An overwhelming list that has less than 50% overlap with this one!

The Music of Black Americans: A History by Eileen Southern. The definitive work on the subject, but it is *dense*. Third edition published in 1997.

From Spirituals to Symphonies: African-American Women Composers and Their Music, by Helen Walker-Hill. A FABULOUS work of scholarship, and so readable – HIGHLY recommend.

Way Over in Beulah Lan': Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritual, by André J. Thomas. A must-have if you wish to perform Negro spiritual arrangements.