



UNITING  
VOICES  
CHICAGO

\* FORMERLY CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR \*

2023-24  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT SERIES

# SOUL TO SOUL

THE EVOLUTION OF  
AFRICAN MUSIC IN AMERICA

February 22 & 23, 2024

## THE TREMENDOUS IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

**LAST WEEK, IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH,** Uniting Voices Chicago's 83 school program partners and premier ensemble Voice of Chicago performed on the iconic Chicago Symphony Center stage and celebrated the evolution of African music in America. Singers were joined by special guest artists and culture bearers, including an exhilarating opening set from Roxanne Stevenson and the Chicago State University Community Jazz Band.

Led by Director of Africana Studies, Lonnie Norwood, Jr., this two day concert series was the culmination of months of learning about the music and culture of the Africana diaspora. This custom curriculum is integrated through all program levels year-round, centering Black artists, culture and history for over 3,000 singers.

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### THANK YOU

Uniting Voices relies on donations from our devoted donor community for more than 80 percent of annual operating revenue. **Your commitment ensures the continuation of important programs like the Black History Month Concert Series.**

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*Premium Sponsor*

JACKSON  
LEGACY  
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## SPECIAL GUESTS INCLUDED:



### Sunn m'Cheaux

Sunn m'Cheaux is a South Carolinian Gullah hero and first and only instructor of Gullah at Harvard University.

### 79rs Gang

A band formed when the Big Chiefs of two rival gangs of New Orleans (the 7th Ward Creole Hunters and the 9th Ward Hunters) came together to create music.



### Jenipher Jones

A local Chicago artist, Jenipher Jones led Uniting Voices singers in our gospel anthem "For Every Mountain."

## BLACK HISTORY LEARNING EXPERIENCE BY THE NUMBERS

Uniting Voices programs are designed to nurture the social and emotional learning of our singers, helping them to develop skills they need to be successful. Our most recent assessment of student growth shows that **4.3 out of 5 school program singers believe they have the power to achieve their goals.**



**3,660**  
total  
learning hours



**2,681**  
students  
in attendance



**3,194**  
students who learned  
custom curriculum



**83**  
schools  
involved



**52**  
neighborhoods  
represented

### NO SINGER IS TURNED AWAY FOR FINANCIAL REASONS

**100%**

of singers participate at  
subsidized cost



**70%**

of singers participate  
at no cost



Nearly 76 percent  
of the singers in our  
School Program come  
from low-to-moderate  
income households.

### DIVERSITY

