



A Catalog of Music Written in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

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In 1983, Ronald Reagan signed into law a federal holiday to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. Three years later, the holiday was first formally observed by the federal government. In response to the growing number of musical celebrations surrounding the holiday, Anthony McDonald published in 1996 the first edition of *The Catalog of Music Written in Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Now, more than a decade since its second edition in 1999, McDonald presents his definitive third edition of the catalog.

McDonald organizes information on music suitable for concert performances by symphony orchestras, school music departments, church choirs, or solo performers, including works that celebrate not only Martin Luther King Day, but Black History Month as well. His selections comprise musical work written to honor King, as well as other Americans engaged in the struggle for equality and freedom such as Abraham Lincoln, Malcolm X, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, and John F. Kennedy. McDonald also incorporates works that more broadly address African American history and culture, such as William Grant Still's *Afro-American Symphony*. This third edition contains a considerable number of revisions, updates, and new work and includes entirely new sections devoted to jazz and blues songs, sample programs of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day concerts, and a discography, along with appendixes of works listed by orchestration, subject, and a list of publishers and sources.

A Catalog of Music Written in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr. is the ideal tool for symphony orchestras, choruses, music departments, and other performing groups and organizations seeking to present concerts that celebrate Martin Luther King Jr., his legacy, and African American history more broadly.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Anthony McDonald is music director of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, Ohio. He was associate professor of music at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan, and Centre College, in Danville, Kentucky.

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