



Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, Our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our GOD,
True to our native land.



Did You Know?

Who was Oliver Brown?

Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, KS was a case decided in 1954 in which the U.S. Supreme Court declared racial segregation in public schools to be unconstitutional. The Topeka case lists **Oliver Brown** and 12 other families whose parents took a stand against segregation as a group.

Who was Thurgood Marshall?

A Howard University Law School graduate, **Thurgood Marshall** served as chief counsel for the NAACP from 1938 to 1950 and director and chief counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund from 1940 to 1961. While at the NAACP, he used the *Brown v. Board of Education* case and its companion cases to challenge the "separate but equal" principal. Marshall was later appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals and then as U.S. solicitor general. President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him the first African-American justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He served as an associate justice from 1967 until his retirement in 1991.

Who were the Little Rock Nine?

President Dwight Eisenhower favored an orderly end to racial discrimination against African-Americans. But in September 1957, a crisis in Little Rock, AK, became one of the most famous cases of integration – **Little Rock Nine!** Gov. Orval E. Faubus blocked nine black students from entering Central High School because he didn't want to integrate Little Rock schools. President Eisenhower sent federal troops to protect the nine black students. He then sent a regular Army unit to enforce the court order and protect the black students. In a television appearance, the President explained that he wanted to prevent further civil disorder.

Who was Ruby Bridges?

Six-year-old **Ruby Bridges** was guarded by federal marshals when she attempted to enroll for school in New Orleans, LA, in 1960. Born in Memphis, she moved with her parents to New Orleans at the age of 2. She became the first black child to attend William Frantz Elementary School and the first black elementary school child to attend a white school in Louisiana.

What were the findings of the 2003 Harvard Civil Rights Project?

The **Harvard Civil Rights Project** found that schools were more segregated in 2000 than in 1970 when busing and desegregation began. Why is this so? There are no more laws that force people to attend segregated schools. Instead, people just seem to move to areas where there are more people like themselves, creating a kind of cultural segregation.

Who was James A. Henry?

James A. Henry, an Atlanta University graduate, became the first black principal of Howard High School in 1884. He held that position until his death in 1914. Henry held memberships and offices in many civic and social organizations and traveled to lecture on improved methods for running a school. The Henry Branch of the YMCA in Eastgate is named in his honor.

What was the name of the black school in the historically black community of Hill City (now North Chattanooga)?

Hill City School opened in the early 19th century in a one-room schoolhouse. All grades were taught by two or three teachers.

What was the name of the black school that served Chattanooga's African-American community from 1900 to 1961?

West Main Street. School reunions are still held annually to share fond memories of this school.

What was the name of the black school named in honor of the founder of Tuskegee Institute?

Booker T. Washington School was a consolidation of three schools in 1921 with J.T. Swann as principal. In 1934, the school burned, reopening in 1935 as the only black high school in the county. The school closed in 1968 due to desegregation.

Who established Howard High School?

Rev. E.O. Tate, a congregational minister who served as Hamilton County's first superintendent of education. Founded as a church school in 1865, Howard was the first free public school, black or white, established in Hamilton County. Incorporated into the city school system in 1873, the school was named after Gen. O.O. Howard, commissioner of the Freedman's Bureau. The school is now called Howard School of Science and Technology.

What year did Riverside High School open?

1963. Riverside opened to solve the overcrowded problem at Howard, which was the only school for African-Americans.

Who was the first African-American principal of an integrated school in Chattanooga?

Janie Holder served as principal of Ridgedale Elementary School during the 1970's.

Alton Park Junior High School changed to what name?

John P. Franklin. A retired educator in the Chattanooga Public School system, Franklin was appointed as the first principal of Alton Park Junior High School and became the first black elected to the Chattanooga City Commission as Commissioner of Education & Health. He also became the first black elected president of the Tennessee School Board Association and the Tennessee Municipal League of local elected officials. In addition, served as chairman of the city's Board of Education and was elected as the city's vice mayor. As a businessman, Franklin operates Franklin Funeral-Strickland Home.

The property of which black school was donated to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga?

East Fifth Street School, established in 1904, served pupils in grades one through nine. Enrollment declined after integration, and the school needed repairs beyond its budget. The remaining students were sent to other surrounding schools.