



Festival of African-American Spirituals

February 16-18, 2017

Central Visual and Performing Arts High School Kirkwood Baptist Church

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In February 2007, the U. S. House of Representatives approved a resolution recognizing the African-American Spiritual as a National Treasure. The resolution "recognizes that African-American spirituals are a poignant and powerful genre of music that have become one of the most significant segments of American music in existence." The mission and responsibility of the Legend Singers Choral Ensemble is to educate, promote and perform this treasure, so that it endures and continues to enrich our American culture.

Dr. Doris Jones-Wilson and The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble are excited to again welcome the Clinician for the **2017 Festival of African-American Spirituals**, composer, educator, choir director and pianist, Dr. Roland Carter. Throughout this weekend experience, participants will learn vocal style, performance practices, and ensemble techniques which are appropriate for the authentic interpretation of this rich and diverse art form.

The purpose of the Festival is threefold:

1. Stimulate greater understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the African-American Spiritual.
2. Provide a valuable educational and musical experience for participants and spectators.
3. Encourage the singing of spirituals again in homes, schools and communities.

Registration fee: \$20.00 per person. Fee includes music package.

The Festival schedule includes the following:

Central Visual & Performing Arts High School, Thursday February 16, 2017

9:00am – 2:00pm **School Choirs**

Kirkwood Baptist Church, Friday, February 17, 2017

6:00pm - 7:00pm **Registration for Community and Church Choirs**
7:00pm - 9:00pm **Workshop/Rehearsal with Professor Roland Carter**

Kirkwood Baptist Church, Saturday, February 18, 2017

8:30am - 9:00am **Registration/Fellowship**
9:00am - 12:00pm **Workshop/Rehearsal with Professor Roland Carter**
12:00pm - 1:00pm **Lunch on your own**
1:00pm - 3:00pm **Workshop/Rehearsal**
3:30pm - 5:00pm **Concert featuring Festival choir, Legend Singers, Choirs and Soloists**
(Concert is free and open to the public)

This event fulfills the mission of the Legend Singers Choral Ensemble to preserve and perform the indigenous music of the African-American. Financial assistance is provided by the Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis.

Dr. Doris Jones-Wilson, Ed.D.,
Music Director - The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble

LEGEND SINGERS CHORAL ENSEMBLE

3128 Somerset Green Ct.
St. Louis, Missouri 63136

Phone: (314) 524-9086

Email: legendsingers@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Dwayne Buggs
Dr. Seth Brownridge
Leonard Dickens
Elaine Flipping, CPA
Monica Henry
Dr. Celerstine Johnson
Dr. Doris Jones-Wilson
Darlean King
Jeanette Pulliam
Cheryl Walker
Junetta White

Ex-Officio Members

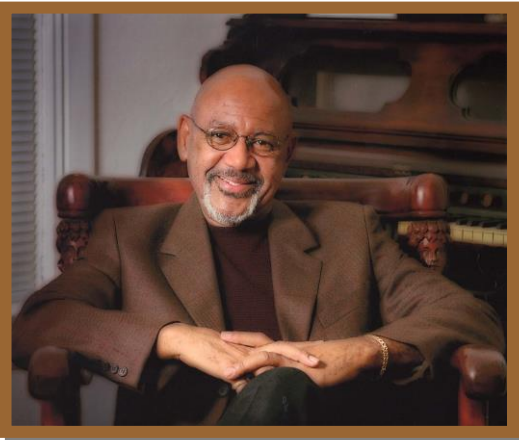
Linda Majors, Ensemble President
Karen Wilson, Ensemble Vice Pres.
Celeste Brown, Ensemble Secretary
Cheryl Watts, Ensemble Treasurer





Dr. Roland Carter, Clinician

ROLAND MARVIN CARTER is Professor Emeritus of American Music and Ear Training at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC)



His accomplishments as a leading figure in the choral arts include lectures, workshops, master classes, and concerts with major choruses and orchestras in prestigious venues nationwide. He is a noted authority on the performance and preservation of music of African American traditions and composers and is, perhaps, best known for his festival setting of *LIFT EVERY VOICE and SING* and his arrangement of the Spiritual, *IN BRIGHT MANSIONS ABOVE*.

Carter was music director of the acclaimed Hampton University Choirs for two one-half decades where he also taught Ear Training and serve as Chair of the Department of Music. Upon moving home to Chattanooga, TN, he assumed director of Chattanooga Choral Society for the Preservation of African American Song. For 23 years and led the ensemble founded by his high school teacher and mentor Edmonia J. Simmons and her protégé Lee Norris Mackey. For twelve seasons, Carter was music advisor and principal guest conductor for the Houston Ebony Opera (TX) Gala Concerts. He has been active with the Hampton University Ministers Conference for over five (5) decades, having moved through the ranks from student accompanist to assistant director to Director of Music. Since 2011, The Roland M. Carter Living Legends Award has been presented annually by the Choir Directors – Organists Guild of the Hampton University Ministers Conference.

Carter's honors include serving on National Endowment for the Arts' Heritage, Access and Choral Panels. He was elected to honorary membership of the internationally acclaimed Morehouse Glee Club, joining two other musicians so honored during the history of the award - Robert Shaw and Leonard DePaur. Shaw University, Raleigh, NC, awarded Carter an honorary Doctor of Music degree for his outstanding achievements and contributions to American music. Carter is a Signature Sinfonian of PHI MU ALPHA Sinfonia and National Arts Associate and honorary member of the Sigma Alpha Iota Music Fraternity. He received the Tennessee American Choral Directors Association's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013 and A LIVING LEGEND AWARD from the National Hampton Alumni Association.

A past president of the National Association of Negro Musicians, Carter has a distinguished service record having held seats on the on the boards of directors of the League of American Orchestras and the SPHINX organization. He is founder and CEO of Mar-Vel, Inc., a music publisher specializing in the music of African American composers and traditions. He currently serves on the board of CHORUS AMERICA and conducts the Chancel Choir of the Cascade United Methodist Church, Atlanta, GA.



DR. DORIS JONES-WILSON is a graduate of Sumner High School and a proud student of Dr. Kenneth Brown Billups. She holds a BMed. from Lincoln University and the MAT and EdD in Music Education from Washington University.



An accomplished composer and arranger, Dr. Wilson has been honored numerous times for her work in the field of music education and church music. As the former Professor of Music and Director of the award-winning Concert Chorale at Harris-Stowe State College, her choirs traveled and performed throughout the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean.

Dr. Wilson has also served throughout the United States as a guest director and adjudicator. Rooted and grounded in church music, she previously served as Minister of Music at the Liberty Baptist Church and as Minister of Music at the West Side Missionary Baptist Church, both in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble, founded in 1940 by the late Kenneth Brown Billups, take pride in their cultural heritage and continue the preservation and performance of choral music of the African-American culture as well as other choral works.



The Singers have an educational and community outreach program which takes them to schools, churches, and community agencies in the metropolitan area. The oldest choral group of its kind, the Legend Singers have performed with the St. Louis Symphony, as well as other major symphony orchestras in the area. Additionally, the Singers have appeared in major productions such as “*Showboat*”, “*Porgy and Bess*”, and “*Treemonisha*”.



FESTIVAL OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUALS

Presented by

The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble

February 16 – 18, 2017

Central Visual and Performing Arts High School

Kirkwood Baptist Church

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

SCHOOL/CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHOIR DIRECTOR'S NAME _____

PHONE _____

WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM IN THE FINALE CONCERT ON SATURDAY:

YES _____ NO _____

NUMBER OF SINGERS _____

WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN FESTIVAL AS INDIVIDUAL ONLY _____

VOICE PART: SOPRANO _____ ALTO _____ TENOR _____ BASS _____

The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible. **Please return this form with registration fee: (\$20 per person), checks made payable to "The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble":**

**The Legend Singers Choral Ensemble
Attn: Dr. Doris Jones Wilson
3128 Somerset Green Court
St. Louis, MO 63136**