

# Genius

# **Generation Lab**

"The Black Family: Representation, Identity & Diversity"

## **ASALH Student Workshop**

**Presenters:** La Vonne I. Neal, Ph.D., Alicia L. Moore, Ph.D., Regina A. Lewis, Ph.D., Sarah Militz-Frielink, Ph.D., Karsonya Wise Whitehead, Ph.D., Kelly J. Cross, Ph.D., Greg Wiggan, Ph.D., Joseph E. Flynn, Jr., Ph.D., Erika Freitas, Ph.D., and Maria Colompos-Tohtsonie, MPPA

Genius Generation Lab Activities: Aug. 25, 2020; Sep. 1, 2020 & Sep. 8, 2020

### Scholar Learning Goals:

- Analyze music and videos as historical artifacts through understanding and using primary and secondary sources;
- Become a social historian and research family history;
- Present a history lesson based on family history research.

### Lesson Plan Components:

### Lesson Plan components:

- Focus: The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity American History Through the Lens of My Family History
- Breaking down BLaCK GeNiUS into its elements

### Schedule:

Day 1: 8/25	<ul> <li><i>"It's Okay to Be Black"</i> by Jac Ross</li> <li>Analyzing Video (Large group)</li> <li>Becoming a Family /Social Historian</li> <li>Meet Dr. Karsonya Wise Whitehead (Family /Social Historian)</li> <li>Primary vs Secondary sources (Breakout small group session)</li> <li>Breaking down the <i>brick wall</i></li> <li>Roots of Knowledge Discussion</li> <li>B.R.A.I.N. Growth assignment</li> </ul>
Day 2: 9/1	<ul> <li>Extending Knowledge (Discussion)</li> <li><i>"Finding Your Roots"</i> in Mobile, Alabama by Henry Louis Gates</li> <li>Analyzing Video (Breakout small group)</li> <li>Building your family Interviews (Breakout small group session)</li> </ul>
Day 3: 9/8	<ul> <li>Virtual field trip to the Family History Center)</li> <li>Making your Meme <ul> <li>Meet virtually Kehinde in Nigeria (Meme creator)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Roots of Knowledge Discussion</li> <li>B.R.A.I.N. Growth assignment</li> <li>Extending Knowledge (Discussion)</li> <li>Pulling From our Past "Black Parade" by Beyoncé</li> <li>Analyzing Music (Breakout small group session)</li> <li>Teaching your American History (Student Presentations)</li> <li>Roots of Knowledge Discussion</li> </ul>

# **Profile of the Alabama Graduate**

# Every Child a Graduate. Every Graduate Prepared.

As a student of the Dr. Carter G. Woodson Scholars Program, you are among the youngest scholars to participate in the 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Conference.

[Insert this into your leadership profile and your resume]

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS Conferences: International and National

Last Name, First Initial. Middle Initial (2020, September). Dr. Carter G. Woodson Scholars Program at the 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Conference.

### **Tools We Will Use:**

**Roots of Knowledge** is an end of session discussion around added information you learned and your existing knowledge base.

**B.R.A.I.N. Growth:** In the Black Genius Lab, we do not have "homework" instead, we use a B.R.A.I.N. Growth Chart. This chart focuses on your **B**rilliance, the **R**eality of your knowledge base, your **A**bility to learn, your **I**ntellect, and **N**ew information you gain. Does two things: 1. Gives relevancy to the assignments given and 2. Allows for you to conduct a self-analysis of your learning.

### Songs & Videos:

### Songs:

- It's Okay to Be Black by Jac Ross
- Black Parade by Beyoncé
- U 2 Luv by Ne Yo
- Computer Love by Roger & Zapp

### Video:

• Finding Your Roots (Mobile, Alabama) by Henry Louis Gates

**Textual Lineage** is literacy research by Dr. Alfred Tatum. We will use this tool to connect words, ideas, and research to stretch and strengthen your knowledge base.

5 23 Boron 10.811	57 Lanthanum 138.90547	6 2 4 Carbon 12.0107	<sup>19</sup> <b>K</b> <sup>2</sup> <b>K</b> <sup>8</sup> <sup>8</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>19</sup>
<sup>32</sup> Germanium 72.63	28 <b>Nickel</b> 58.6934	92 2 <b>U</b> Uranium 2 238.02891 238.02891	16 2 8 6 5 Sulfur 32.065

# **Genius Generation Lab**

"The Black Family: Representation, Identity & Diversity"

BLaCK GeNiUS			
Boron:         Strengthens brain function         • Apples         • Dried beans         • Milk         • Potatoes	Germanium:         Increase circulation of blood         to the brain         • Milk         • Celery         • Garlic         • Sauerkraut         • Onions         • Broccoli		
Lanthanum:         Keeps bones strong & reduces heart disease         • Broccoli         • Carrots         • Dill         • Tomatoes         • Garlic         • Cow Milk	Nickel: Improves bone health Oatmeal Whole grain or multi-grain bread Peas Sunflower seeds Pineapple Dates		
Carbon:         Promotes growth         • Asparagus         • Beets         • Collard Greens         • Cabbage         • Yams         • Mustard Greens         • Garlic	Uranium:         Produces energy         • Water         • Cereal         • Fruits         • Eggs         • Potatoes		
Potassium:         Supports the nervous system         • Avocado         • Spinach         • Sweet Potato         • Broccoli         • Salmon         • Bananas	Sulfur:         Clears skin and slows down aging skin         • Chicken         • Beef         • Ham         • Black Beans         • Cheese         • Mustard         • Ginger		

## Thinking About Songs As historical artifacts

	ILLUSTRATION	LYRICS	MUSIC
Looking at THE SONG	Look at the physical format and graphical elements. What do you see?	What people, places, and events are mentioned?	What do you notice about the music (fast, slow, catchy, dull)?
Responding	W hat are your personal reactions to the images?	What are your personal reactions to the lyrics?	W hat emotions might this song produce when sung or played?



Why do you think the artist(s) wrote this song? What clues do you find to suggest this?

For what audience was the song written?

Why is the music important to this song?

What does the song tell you about what life was like during this period in history?

### WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT TO KNOW, AND HOW CAN YOU FIND OUT?

### www.loc.gov/teachers/lyrical



# TEACHING

My Textual Lineage

TEXT/AUTHOR

WHEN AND WHERE I READ THIS TEXT...

WHAT THIS TEXT MEANT TO ME WHEN I FIRST READ IT...

WHAT I STILL CARRY WITH ME FROM THIS TEXT TODAY ...

HOW THIS TEXT INFLUENCED ME...

HOW THIS TEXT INFLUENCED MY IDENTITY ...

THIS TEXT LED ME TO READ ...

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Looking at this generation feeling hopeless Looking cross my shoulder keep my eyes open Keep my mind focus ain't no hocus pocus 'Cause When it's all said and done they will all know us Trying to bring us down keep us at our lowest You thought you broke us, uh huh, but you woke us Be a leader not a follower modern day Moses I'm the water to the seeds that becomes roses Don't let no one put you down Let me see your smile Don't cry daughter (it's ok to be black) Don't cry baby (it's ok to be black) Get up my son nothing can hold you back Don't cry children (it's ok to be black) Shine shine You're beautiful inside Rise up rise up don't you know you can fly The darker the berry the sweeter the juice You may not like it I'm speaking the truth Just like a panther that's out on the loose I stand for the people and fight for the youth Don't let no one put you down Let me see your smile Don't cry daughter (it's ok to be black) Don't cry baby (it's ok to be black) Get up my son nothing can hold you back Don't cry children (it's ok to be black) Shine shine You're beautiful inside Rise up rise up don't you know you can fly The world will judge you But God knows your heart They say they love you But leave you in the dark Child when you fall down You better get up Go on dust your crown Victory is won Don't cry daughter (it's ok to be black) Don't cry baby (it's ok to be black) Get up my son nothing can hold you back Don't cry children (it's ok to be black) Shine shine You're beautiful inside Rise up rise up don't you know you can fly

### **BLACK PARADE**

BEREND

BEYONCE

#### **Beyoncé**

I'm goin' back to the South I'm goin' back, back, back, back Where my roots ain't watered down Growin', growin' like a Baobab tree Of life on fertile ground, ancestors put me on game Ankh charm on gold chains, with my Oshun energy, oh Drip all on me, woo, Ankara Dashiki print Hol' up, don't I smell like satya, Nag Champa incense? Yeah, pure ice (ice), ice (ice), buss down Uh, flooded (flooded), flooded (flooded), on my wrist, ow Ooh, goin' up, goin' up, motherland, motherland drip on me Ooh, melanin, melanin, my drip is skin deep, like Ooh, motherland, motherland, motherland, motherland drip on me Eeya, I can't forget my history is her story, yeah Being black, maybe that's the reason why they always mad Yeah, they always mad, yeah Been passed 'em, I know that's the reason why they all big mad And they always have been Honey, come around my way, around my hive Whenever momma says so, momma say Here I come on my throne, sittin' high Follow my parade, oh, my parade Talkin' slick to my folk (my folk), nip that lip like lipo (lipo) You hear them swarmin', right? Bees is known to bite Now here we come on our thrones, sittin' high Follow my parade, oh, my parade On fours, all black All chrome, black-owned Black tints, matte black Walked by, my window down, let 'em see who in it Crack a big smile (ding) Go figure, me and Jigga, fifty 'leven children They like, "Chick, how?" I charge my crystals in a full moon You could send them missiles, I'ma send my goons Baby sister reppin' Yemaya (Yemaya) Trust me, they gon' need an army Rubber bullets bouncin' off me Made a picket sign off your picket fence Take it as a warning Waist beads from Yoruba (woo) Four hunnid billi', Mansa Musa (woo)

Stroll line to the barbeque Put us any damn where, we gon' make it look cute Pandemic fly on the runway, in my hazmat Children runnin' through the house and my art, all black Ancestors on the wall, let the ghosts chit-chat (Ancestors on the wall, let the ghosts chit-chat) Hold my hands, we gon' pray together Lay down, face down in the gravel We wearin' all attire white to the funeral Black love, we gon' stay together Curtis Mayfield on the speaker (woo) Lil' Malcolm, Martin, mixed with momma Tina (woo) Need another march, lemme call Tamika (woo) Need peace and reparation for my people (woo) Fuck these laid edges, I'ma let it shrivel up (shrivel up) Fuck this fade and waves, I'ma let it dread all up (dread all up) Put your fists up in the air, show black love (show black love) Motherland drip on me, motherland, motherland drip on me Honey, come around my way, around my hive Whenever momma says so, momma say Here I come on my throne, sittin' high Follow my parade, oh, my parade Talkin' slick to my folk (my folk), nip that lip like lipo (lipo) You hear 'em swarmin', right? Bees is known to bite Now here we come on our thrones, sittin' high Follow my parade, oh, my parade We got rhythm (we got rhythm), we got pride (we got pride) We birth kings (we birth kings), we birth tribes (we birth tribes) Holv river (holv river), holv tongue (holy tongue) Speak the glory (speak the glory), feel the love (feel the love) Motherland, motherland drip on me, hey, hey, hey Motherland, motherland drip on me, hey, hey, hey I can't forget my history, it's her story Motherland drip on me, motherland, motherland drip on me Honey, come around my way, around my hive Whenever momma says so, momma say Here I come on my throne, sittin' high Follow my parade, oh, my parade Talkin' slick to my folk (my folk), lift that lip like lipo (lipo) You hear 'em swarmin', right? Bees is known to bite Now here we come on our thrones, sittin' high Follow my parade, oh, black parade

#### Breakout Room Activity 1: Primary Vs. Secondary Sources

#### **Primary Sources**

Sources obtained by, coming from, or being direct personal observations or experiences: Art Artifacts, Autobiographies, Diaries, Interviews, Journals, Letters, Music, News Footage, Personal Stories, Photographs, Poetry, Speeches.

#### **Secondary Sources**

Sources created using information provided by someone else: for example, using someone's recollection to create the item: Textbooks, Encyclopedias, Biographies, Newspapers.

### Examples

### **Primary Sources**

Sources obtained by, coming from, or being direct personal observations or experiences

Art, Autobiographies, Interviews, Letters News Footage, Personal Stories, Poetry

### Secondary Sources

Sources created using information provided by someone else: for example, using someone's recollection to create the item

Textbooks, Encyclopedias, Biographies, Newspapers

In your group identify differences between primary and secondary sources and provide examples

Name(s)	<b>GRAPHIC ORGANIZER</b> (Part 1)
DatePeriod	(Fart I)
Identify the difference between a P	rimary Source and Secondary Source
Primary Source	Secondary Source

#### The Quander Family



Rohulamin Quander (left) spoke with his cousin Alicia Argrett for a remote StoryCorps conversation about their long-standing tradition of family reunions. *Courtesy of Rohulamin Quander and Alicia Argrett* 

For nearly a century, the Quander family has come together every year to honor and preserve their history — one that traces its roots back to the story of Nancy Carter Quander, the family matriarch, who was formerly enslaved by George and Martha Washington.

The 95th Quander family reunion was scheduled to take place just outside of Washington, D.C., this weekend. But because of COVID-19, the family decided to not gather this year.

During a remote StoryCorps conversation, Rohulamin Quander, 76, and his cousin Alicia Argrett, 18, talked about their family's long-standing tradition.

The first reunion was held on Aug. 15, 1926, Quander said.

"It's always a very loving, very happy occasion. There are a lot of hugs, a lot of talk about new babies, who has gotten married and, sadly, who has passed away," he said.

Argrett remembered attending a reunion when she was younger. "It was a little bit later that I realized how precious it is to be a part of a family like this," she said.



The founders of the Quander family reunion, pictured in 1938, are (from left) Sadie Quander Harris, Tom Quander Susannah Quander and Georgie Quander. *Courtesy of the Quander family* 

"The Quander family is a very old and extended family," Quander told Argrett. "When George Washington died, he provided in his will for the freedom of his enslaved people. And one of those people was Nancy Carter, and she married Charles Quander. So, this is how it gets started."

"Your great-grandmother, Gladys Quander Tansil, was one of those griots who was a keeper of the story," he said. "Her interest was sparked as a child because she went to her first reunion in 1930."

But recently, Quander has been bothered by what he sees as a lack of sustained interest from some younger members of the family. He hopes Argrett can help continue the family tradition of gathering and preserving their history.

"One thing that I would pass on to you is that you are the keeper of the stories," he told her.

Argrett told Quander that she's going to do what she can "to keep the spirit of the family alive."

"I'm definitely going to put an emphasis on this for my kids," she said. "As we've seen this year, you never know when your last one could be. And I think it's important to capture those opportunities while you still have them in your grasp. And I'm going to do what I can on my end to keep the spirit of the family alive."

Audio produced for Morning Edition by Eleanor Vassili. Adapted for the Web by NPR's Emma Bowman.

### Social Historian Work

Name and Date\_\_\_\_\_

List 3 objects from your home that reveal family history and briefly summarize how they reveal family history.

List an object that you currently have with you and explain what it reveals about family history or your autobiography.

List any family members and identify who they are. Go back as far as you possibly can.

B.R.A.I.N. Growth Chart Brilliance Reality Ability Intellect New			
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Learned New Information			
Challenging/Confusing Information			
Reinforced Information			
Gathered Information			

B.R.A.I.N. Growth Chart Brilliance Reality Ability Intellect New			
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