



WOMEN RISE!

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Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts

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PROGRAM

Founder/Executive Director

Jerri Price-Gaines/MBA

Rachel Fine, Host/Moderator

Shana Blake Hill, Soprano

Simple Gifts, Copland

Dee Dee Stephens, Actress

Fight for the things that you care about but do it
in a way that will lead others to join you.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Gabriela Bonet, Actress

Nia Allen, Vocalist, Smile

Charlie Chaplin, composer

Gigi Yam, Actress

***Josie Hung,** Chinese Bamboo Flute

Affection for Qinchuan (秦川情)

Zeng Yongqing, composer

Brittany Daniels, Dancer

A tribute to dancer, choreographer

Katherine Dunham

Munyungo Jackson, composer

Nia Allen, Vocalist

It Is Well With My Soul

Horatio Spafford, composer

Cross Talk-Rachel Fine, w/Dee Dee,
Gabriela Bonet & Gigi Yam

Shana Blake Hill, Soprano

Carmen, Seguedille, Bizet

Dee Dee Stephens, Actress

Nia Allen, Hold On! Traditional Gospel

Shana Blake Hill, Soprano

Final Remarks

Jerri Price-Gaines

Unsung Women Activists of the Era

For as long as socially and politically aware citizens have gathered to protest laws and voice dissent, music has served a paramount role; the women's suffrage movement proves no exception. From local community suffrage meetings, to large-scale city-wide marches, to prison cells -- suffragists consistently unified, rallied, and asserted their unbreakable spirit in song.

Eleanor Sophia Smith (1858-1942) was the founder of Hull-House Music School. She studied music in Germany and the United States. She composed many songs for the labor movement as well as the women's suffrage movement. Furthermore, Smith was a member of the Chicago Woman's Club and the North Side Branch Equal Suffrage League. She was an advocate for music education and composed many pieces for children's music books in addition to her political songs. You can hear her songs, as organized by Graham Cassano and funded by a grant from the Oakland University Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice **Mabel Ping Lee** started her studies at **Barnard College** in New York City in 1912. Barnard College, an all-women's school, was founded because Columbia University refused to admit women. While there, Mabel joined the Chinese Students' Association and wrote feminist essays for *The Chinese Students' Monthly*. Lee was involved in the suffrage movement throughout college. Her May 1914 essay, "The Meaning of Woman Suffrage," argued that suffrage for women was necessary to a successful democracy. The extension of democracy (through voting) and "equality of opportunities to women" was, she stated, the hallmarks of true feminism.

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper was an early abolitionist and women's suffrage leader. She was one of the few African American women present at conferences and meetings about these issues between 1854 and 1890. Harper was also a well-known author whose poetry and essays focused on issues of slavery, gender, and racial discrimination. Her writings and lectures made Harper one of the first popularizers of African American protest poetry.

María Jesús Alvarado Rivera, born in Chincha, Peru, on May 27, 1878, was a sociologist, modernist educator, and feminist writer. In 1912 she published *El Feminismo*, the first revolutionary essay of the twentieth century in Peru. In 1914 she formed Evolución Femenina, an association for women's progress, with a defiant political stance that demanded changes in society: education for women, access to jobs and professions, **civil rights** equal to those of men, and, as she put it

in *El Feminismo*, "the political rights to participate directly in the nation's destiny." In her novel *Nuevas Cumbres* (1923), Alvarado envisions a utopia of men and women living as equals.

Sojourner Truth 1797 was given the name Isabella Baumfree at birth. She was born near Roundout Creek in the town of Hurley, Ulster County, New York. Although her exact birth date is unknown, it is believed that she was born around 1797 on the estate of Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh.

Sojourner Truth a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights in the nineteenth century. Her Civil War work earned her an invitation to meet President Abraham Lincoln in 1864. Quotes. "If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them."

Mary Church Terrell (September 23, 1863 – July 24, 1954) was one of the first [African-American](#) women to earn a college degree, and became known as a national activist for [civil rights](#) and [suffrage](#).^[1] She taught in the Latin Department at the M Street school (now known as Paul Laurence Dunbar High School)—the first African American public high school in the nation—in Washington, DC. In 1896, she was the first African American woman in the United States to be appointed to the school board of a major city, serving in the District of Columbia until 1906. Terrell was a charter member of the [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People](#) (1909) and the Colored Women's League of Washington (1894). She helped found the [National Association of Colored Women](#) (1896) and served as its first national president, and she was a founding member of the National Association of College Women (1910).

Ida B. Wells -Barnet 1862-1931 was an African American journalist, abolitionist and feminist who led an anti-lynching crusade in the United States in the 1890s. She went on to found and become integral in groups striving for African American justice

In 2020, Wells was posthumously honored with a [Pulitzer- Prize special citation](#) for her outstanding and courageous reporting on the horrific and vicious violence against African Americans during the era of lynching."¹

Katherine Dunham is a legendary dancer, choreographer, and anthropologist who was born on June 22, 1909 in Chicago, to an African American father and a French-Canadian mother. Katherine Dunham revolutionized American dance by going to the roots of black dance and rituals transforming them into significant artistic choreography that speaks to all. She was a pioneer in the use of folk and ethnic choreography and one of the founders of the anthropological dance movement. She showed the world that African American heritage is beautiful.

She is credited for developing one of the most important pedagogues for teaching dance that is still used throughout the world. Called the "Matriarch of Black Dance," her groundbreaking repertoire combined innovative interpretations of Caribbean dances, traditional ballet, African rituals, and African American rhythms to create the Dunham Technique.



Participants' Bios

Shana Blake Hill, vocalist continues to excite audiences and critics alike as she proves herself a multifaceted performer in both operatic and orchestral repertoires.

Brittany Daniels began dancing ballet at the age of eight and later studied hip-hop, jazz, modern, and ballroom at the age of 14. She completed Cecchetti examinations 1-5 and earned international honors for her last examination. Some summer dance intensives she attended are Cecchetti USA (nominated for an award in her division), American Ballet Theater, Ballet Magnificat! (full scholarship), and LINES Ballet (scholarship).

Nia Allen, to describe Nia Allen's music is to describe the sound of pure, passionate worship. Nia is one of this generation's fresh talents leading the way in praise and worship.

Gigi Yam (任霜霜) is a TV personality and Event MC in Los Angeles. She hosts several shows on Chinese broadcasting television station SkyLink TV. She studied silver flute at Orange County School of the Arts and in 2015, she toured around Europe with the OCSA Symphony Orchestra, performing at Vienna's Musikverein, Bratislava's Slovak Radio Hall, and Prague's Dvorak Rudolfinum.

Dee Dee Stephens is an actor/comedian, producer and acting coach. She plays the role of Kai in her 1st feature film entitled, 'My Name is Myeisha', which premiered at the 2018 Slamdance Film Festival and won several awards on the film fest circuit since then.

Josie Hung is a 22-year-old Taiwanese American Dizi (Chinese bamboo flute) player based in Southern California. She studied silver flute at Orange County School of the Arts and in 2015, she toured around Europe with the OCSA Symphony Orchestra, performing at Vienna's Musikverein, Bratislava's Slovak Radio Hall, and Prague's Dvorak Rudolfinum.

Gabriela Bonet MFA, is an actor who was born and raised in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. She has performed in numerous theaters including Antaeus Theater, The Boston Court, The Kennedy Center in Washington DC

Rachel Fine was named Executive Director/CEO of the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts (The Wallis) in June 2018. Before assuming her position as Managing Director of The Wallis in November 2015, she was a Senior Consultant at the DeVos

Institute of Arts Management. and fundraiser, as well as a professional classical musician, Fine served as Executive Director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra (LACO), establishing LACO as orchestra-in-residence for the Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA in an ongoing and mutually beneficial collaboration; successfully shepherding LACO through the challenges of the Great Recession; and expanding the reach of the Orchestra with prestigious debuts beyond Los Angeles.

Mission Statement

To create engaging, educational and experiential music and artistic performances that foster community understanding across diverse cultures, genres and generations.

Clazzical Notes

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Free Will Donations Accepted

Thank you!