


**age
friendly**
BEDFORD-STUYVESANT
& CROWN HEIGHTS

THIRD CHAPTER LIVING



**BLACK
MUSIC
MATTERS**

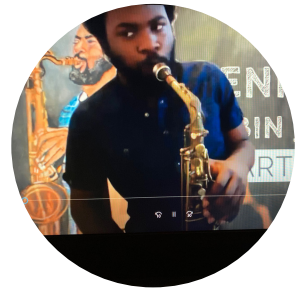
**Out of RAGE
Comes RHYTHM**

ISSUE 6 | #BLM SPECIAL EDITION

**A PUBLICATION OF AGE FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE**

OH, WHAT A NIGHT!

THE DELLS 1956



JAZZ MUSIC TO THE RESCUE

BY STEFANI L.ZINERMAN

There is an old saying that goes, "one monkey don't stop no show!" In the case of COVID-19, one global health epidemic could not stop our Age Friendly family from hosting a foot-stomping good time broadcasted live via Zoom.

After three months of social isolation, we decided to ask our friends at the Central Brooklyn Jazz Consortium to help us identify talent for our virtual jazz concert and they did not disappoint! Age Friendly Advisory Committee Member and CBJC member Bessie Edward called us back and said, "Antoinette is interested and is putting together a band for you" and yes she did!



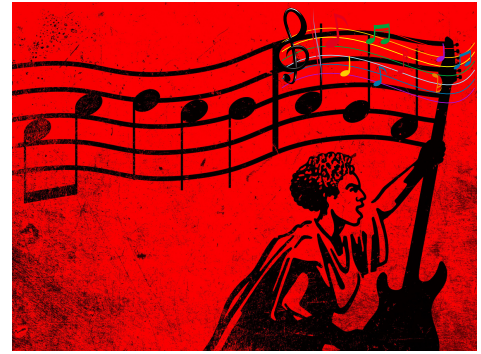
Nearly 100 older adults dressed up and showed up virtually to witness Antoinette Montague do her thing! Accompanied by Danny Mixon on piano, Melissa Kay Slocum on bass and Benny Rubin, Jr. on saxophone, the concert was a mixture of history lesson, music therapy and a call to action! We danced and swayed, reflected, rejoiced and chased our blues away!

As a vocalist, Ms. Montague is phenomenal and if you've ever had the opportunity to participate in one of her live performances, you know that she is a dynamo. She is a vocalist, musician (she plays the keys) and an orchestra leader in her own right. She has enormous respect for musicians and their craft, which is evident in every interaction and every note.

We are blessed to have this jazz woman come to our rescue in the Age of COVID and grateful for the lesson she shared: When life gets you down - keep swinging!

THE REVOLUTION WILL NOT BE TELEvised!

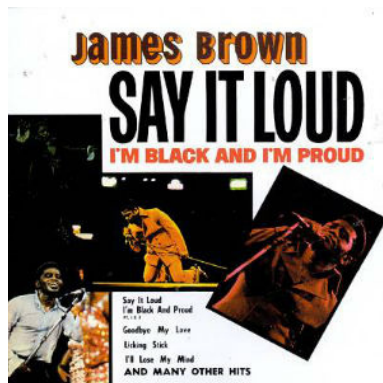
GIL SCOTT-HERON 1971



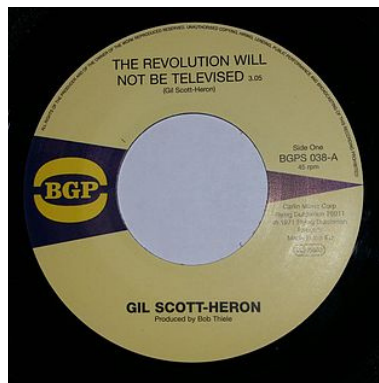
“The legacy of African-American composers, singers, songwriters, and musicians is an indelible piece of our Nation's culture” reads the opening line from a 2009 proclamation signed by President Barack Obama declaring June as African American Music Month. First created as Black Music Month in 1979 by Grammy Award-winning songwriter Kenny Gamble, Cleveland radio DJ Ed Wright, and broadcaster Dyana Williams, it was officially recognized that year by then-president Jimmy Carter. In 2000, Black Music Month was codified into law when Ms. Williams who currently serves on the board of the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) successfully lobbied for its official designation.

This year's theme is “Black and Proud” and the members of our Editorial Board proudly lift up "The Power of Protest Music" as a nod to our nation's current social climate. We've each compiled our favorite list of protest songs and were pleasantly surprised to note the common ground.

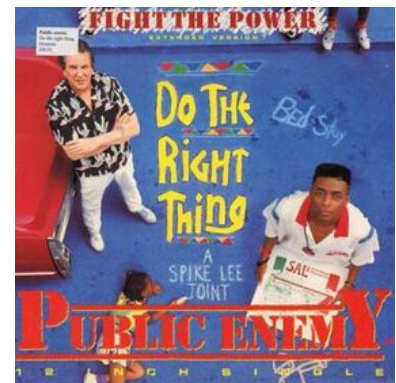
Check out our full lists on page (14) starting with the three songs that made it unto our collective lists:



SAY IT LOUD,
I'M BLACK AND
I'M PROUD
James Brown
1968



THE REVOLUTION
WILL NOT BE
TELEvised
Gil Scott-Heron
1971



FIGHT THE POWER
Public Enemy
1988

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A CHANGE IS GONNA COME

SAM COOKE 1964

50 years after the passage of sweeping Civil Rights legislation racism against African Descendant People in America is as prevalent as ever. A multigenerational coalition here and across the globe has organized protests to call attention to this injustice and to demand change. In this issue, the Editorial Board weighs in on the possibility of eradicating racism - in all of its forms. These are our stories...



STATE OF CIVIL RIGHTS IN AMERICA

By Sheila Cox

My granddaughter Tiffany -- daughter, great human being, wife, mother, army reservist -- called me up to ask me about how I felt about the police brutality, protesting and unrest going on in America. I told her it was not new to me. I said that in my lifetime, I had witnessed civil rights marches, assassinations, church bombings, and school integrations, some as close as Brooklyn, New York. So, I told her I understood that she, being a mother of male and female children, was troubled about current events. But, I told her that this generation of protesters was not going to be turned around. I said that we have to stay focused and not be distracted. We must vote and fill out those census forms. So the conversation continues...

RACISM, AGEISM AND SEXISM: 101

By Lorraine Gamble-Lofton

One afternoon several years ago, my Mom gave my number to someone who was trying to buy my friend's house which I manage. So, he called and said, "I'm interested in your property on Madison Street." That home has been and still is in my friend's family since 1932. They were the first people of color on the block. After refusing several times to breakdown and sell he says to me "I'll give you plenty money!" As if I had never seen more than one \$20.00 bill at a time. Well I was done! I came back with "You might be able to buy the property, but you can never buy its legacy" and slammed down the phone.

DON'T GIVE UP

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

By Selma Jackson

Here we are yet again in pain and angry that another unarmed Black man was murdered by law enforcement. I feel helpless and hopeless. USA has never apologized for slavery, nor fully abolished it. How can I nurture myself in this period of two pandemics: COVID-19 and racism?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

CHANGE GONNA COME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



ABUSES OF POWER CONTINUE

By Glenda Patterson

I've experienced quite a few racial injustices in my life time. In the late seventies, I worked for NYPD as a PAA, (principal administrative aid) in the complaint room. This is where the public goes or calls to file police reports for stolen property, stolen cars and anything in between.

One night a complainant was stopped by police with guns drawn for driving his car. The car had been reported stolen and an alarm was put on the car as procedure. When a car is recovered the alarm is suppose to be canceled by the police officer who recovered the car. That did not happen. The complainant came to the precinct justifiably enraged.

He wanted someone to pay for those police officers pulling a gun on his son. Guess who was made the fall guy. When I got to work the next day I was called to the Sergeant's office and told of the incident. I was going to be written up for the incident. I asked why? He said because I put the alarm on the car.

A PAA can put an alarm on a car which is what I was supposed to do, but I can't cancel it. That has to be done by the police officer who recovered the car. So they wrote me up and wanted to take a day's pay. I declined to sign because I didn't do anything wrong. I was told I was making trouble and if I didn't sign they would make trouble for me. I still wouldn't sign. He then asked what he could do for me to sign. I said I'd sign if I can make up the day they wanted to take from me. He agreed. I signed the complaint and made the day up. Once the Sergeant let me make up the day I was vindicated. This precinct only had one Black detective and one Hispanic officer. Before they would let the white police officer face his mistake they made the Black woman the scapegoat. The police officer that killed George Floyd was use to getting away with bad behavior and felt it was okay to keep his knee on George Floyd's neck. He felt Black lives don't matter.

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DANCE WITH MY FATHER

Luther Vandross - 1980



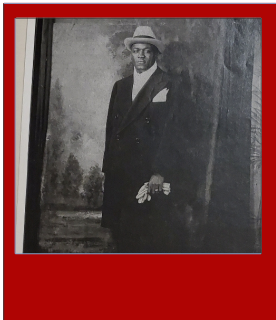
John L. Cox, Sr. - *Sheila Cox's Dad*

My father instilled in his children pride in our history coming from Queens and Kings! Also taught us a love for all types of music, especially Jazz!



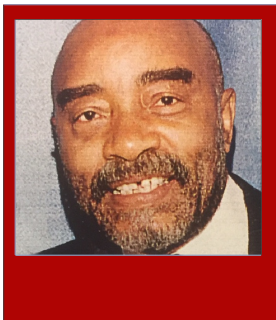
Walter R. Douglas, Sr. - *Lorraine Gamble-Lofton's Bruhvah*

In 1985 while a member of Bridge Street AWME Church's New Day Singers, I met my "Bruhvah", Roland Walter Douglas Jr. One of the very many things that I love about him is that he knows how to critique me without ever leaving me feeling criticized. One night while I was in school, my Mom thought that she was having a heart attack. She could not reach me so whom did she call? Roland, of course, and he was there, Johnny on the spot. He called the ambulance and safely got her to the hospital. I will love him forever and a few more days.



James W. McNeely - *Selma Jackson's Dad*

My dad gave me two important gifts. First, he inspired me to start my own business. The second gift was deciding I would go to an all women's college. Those two gifts helped shape the woman I am today. He died before he could see the results, but I thank him for his love and foresight.



Horace Williams - *Donna Williams' Dad*

My father had a way of making everything seem so simple and easy. Many of my fondest memories are of spending time with him. Because of my father, I grew up feeling loved, protected, safe and content. Thank you, Daddy.

DOING THE RIGHT THING

DAUGHTER - 2016



ALZHEIMER AWARENESS MONTH

BY STEFANI L. ZINERMAN

The name Solomon Carter Fuller, M.D., is unfamiliar to the average person but it is renowned in the field of psychiatry. As a researcher, medical educator and the first Black psychiatrist in America he was an early pioneer in the fight against Alzheimer's Disease.

Dr. Fuller was born on August 11, 1872 in Monrovia, Liberia. His grandfather was a Virginia slave who bought his and his wife's freedom and moved to Norfolk, Virginia. They then emigrated to Liberia in 1852, as medical missionaries to help establish a settlement of African Americans.

In 1889, Solomon migrated to the United States to attend college. He eventually became a faculty member of the Boston University School of Medicine where he performed autopsies, an unusual procedure for that era.

Fuller became one of the five foreign students chosen by Alois Alzheimer to do research at the Royal Psychiatric Hospital at the University of Munich. His major contribution was to the growing clinical knowledge of Alzheimer's disease researching pathology and specifically neuropathology.



Dr. Fuller made a huge contribution to our knowledge about Alzheimer's dementia, and his legacy lives on. He provides hope to African Americans and other minorities: that they too can go on and make impactful contributions to science, especially dementia science.

We still don't know what causes Alzheimer's and why African-Americans are about two times more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease than whites. They are also less likely to receive a diagnosis, which results in less time for treatment and planning.

That's why the research the Alzheimer's Association is doing to reduce risk factors while continuing to provide care and support for those affected by this fatal disease is so important.

For more information, visit:
<https://www.alz.org/>

GET UP, STAND UP

Bob Marley & The Wailers - 1973



BY LORRAINE GAMBLE-LOFTON



I think that until relatively recently, most of us thought that when slavery ended in 1863, it was done. Not quite. The slaves were set free January 1, 1863. In Texas, however, the slaves were not informed that slavery was abolished until June 19, 1865, hence Juneteenth. Juneteenth is also called Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, the colors of its flag are red, white and blue to symbolize that they, former slaves, were now real American citizens.



Juneteenth is celebrated in most states of the Union as well as abroad. There are fairs, contests, concerts and of course nothing would be right without a good old-fashioned Barbecue with everything you could want, especially red soda and watermelon.

Over the years, Age Friendly has celebrated Juneteenth with an Annual Black History Bus Tour of Black Notables buried in Cypress Hills Cemetery here in Brooklyn. In 2019, as part of the celebration, there was a libation ceremony followed by an ancestral tribute before the tour began.



Among the many Black Notables buried at Cypress Hills Cemetery are Jackie Robinson, the first Black to break the color line in baseball; Thomas Jennings, the first African American to get a patent; his daughter Elizabeth Jennings Graham, who was an activist here in New York City; Eubie Blake, composer,

JUNETEENTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

lyricist, and pianist of ragtime, jazz, and popular music; and Arturo Schomburg, writer, cultural archivist and collector of books, manuscripts and paintings pertaining to the history of Black culture. The Schomburg Center in Harlem is named in his honor.

Baba Stan Kinard, who transitioned last year is also buried in Cypress Hills. Stan was a husband, father, community activist, and educator. He was the Director of Brownsville Heritage House, founder of the Carter G. Woodson Cultural Literacy Project and the Director of the CARE Center at Boys and Girls High School. But most importantly, he was a friend of Bedford-Stuyvesant. Currently, there is a petition to have Baba Stan Kinard named one of the Black Notables at Cypress Hills Cemetery.

To sign and help circulate this petition, use the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2CviMwp>

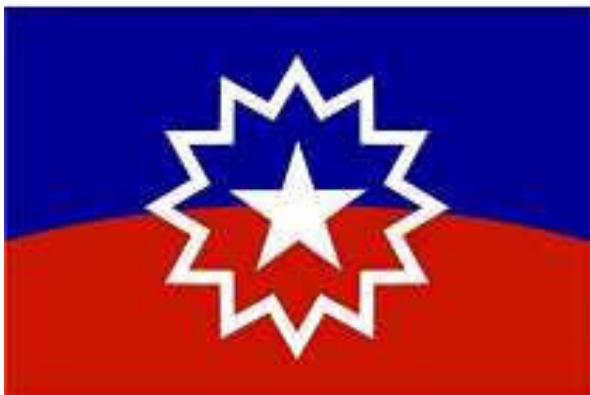


PHOTO CREDIT: STEFANI ZINERMAN

DANCE WITH MY FATHER

Continued from Page 6

Glenda Patterson

Dad, the person who named me, I miss you every day. I know that it has been a minute since you have been here with me. I miss you telling me not to focus on cooking and cleaning. You said go get an education and be the best you can be. That has stayed with me and I am becoming the best me. I have accomplished a lot. I finally got my degrees, though not my PhD. The school I registered with for my PhD was a scam and took my money. I miss you cooking Sunday breakfast and having the whole house smelling delicious. I miss our trips to the record shop on Fridays for my albums. Those were the good old days. Love you Dad, miss you much.

MAS IN BROOKLYN

MIGHTY SPARROW - 2019 *Celebrating*



BY STEFANI L. ZINERMAN

Caribbean immigrants have made enormous contributions to America society and culture and especially in the village of Brooklyn. We have been blessed to have four pillars who provided a platform for Caribbean people to excel in business, art and healthcare. In celebration of Caribbean American Heritage Month, we send heavenly Father's Day greetings to Carlos Lezama, Dr. Lamuel Stanislaus, Dr. Roy S. Hastick, and William (Bill) R. Howard. We pay tribute to them as individuals of monumental import to Brooklyn, USA and to their native countries. Their collective efforts elevated the status of immigrants of African descent and created a gateway for Caribbean people to thrive in America. Individually and collectively, they built an economic and political power base that propelled politicians like Shirley Chisholm and Yvette D. Clarke to elected office from the City Council and Albany to Washington DC.



LEZAMA
1924 - 2007

CARLOS LEZAMA

Carlos Lezama, founder of the West Indian Carnival Parade was born September 3, 1923 to Venezuelan parents who moved to Trinidad when he was a small boy. When he immigrated to the United States in the 1960s, he participated in the West Indian Carnival in Harlem at lavish events at the Savoy, Renaissance and Audubon Ballrooms. There the fire was lit. Together with friend Rufus Goring, Lezama brought the parade to Brooklyn. The parade has evolved from a five block affair to being the city's biggest parade that attracts over 2 million spectators and participants from every Caribbean nation. Lezama led the West Indian American Day Carnival Association from 1967 until 2002.



STANISLAUS
1919 - 2014

DR. LAMUEL STANISLAUS

Dr. Lamuel Stanislaus, a dentist turned power broker, has been credited as helping Carlos Lezama father the West Indian Day Carnival Parade. Born April 22, 1921 on the island of Grenada, he came to the United States in 1945 where he attend Howard University in Washington, DC receiving a Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Dental Surgery.

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Continued from Page 10



In 1956, he moved to Brooklyn and set up a dental practice first in Bedford Stuyvesant and later in Downtown Brooklyn. Over the years he served as a diplomat and received numerous awards and accolades, but it was his idea to invite local elected officials to march in the parade that elevated the stature of the Labor Day celebration.

DR. ROY A. HASTICK SR.

Dr. Roy A. Hastick, Sr., president, Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI), was born on May 10, 1950, in St. David's, Grenada. He migrated to the United States in 1972 where he worked for several years as a social worker, community advocate, entrepreneur, and newspaper publisher before founding CACCI in 1985. Under his leadership, CACCI has become a well-recognized business entity providing services to over 1,800 Micro and Small Business in the tri-state area and in the Caribbean.



**HASTICK
1950-2020**

WILLIAM (BILL) R. HOWARD

William (Bill) R. Howard, president of the West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA) from 2016 to 2018 was born January 1, 1943 in Fredericksburg, VA. A longtime community leader, Howard held several business and government positions throughout his lifetime. However, it was his early years as campaign finance manager for the late Shirley Chisholm that had a profound impact. Howard once said of his time working with Chisholm, "That changed my life entirely."



**HOWARD
1943-2018**



BE FREE



J.COLE - 2014

AMERICA CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE MORE BLACK MALE DOCTORS

BY DR. TORIAN EASTERLING



All my life I have wanted to be two things—a doctor and a dad. I accomplished my first goal more than a decade ago, but it was only a little over three months ago that my other dream came true when my wife, Diane, gave birth to our beautiful daughter Nzuri.

I had been looking forward to experiencing all our Pan-Africanist traditions to celebrate the birth of a child, but the COVID-19 pandemic was ravaging the United States, especially the Black and Latino neighborhoods of New York City, where I lead health-equity initiatives for the nation's largest health department. Now, as the nation grapples with the murders of Black Americans at the hands of police and white vigilantes, I feel even less safe about bringing a child into the world.

This is not the first Father's Day I envisioned.

Even before I became a father, I was keenly aware that no matter how many degrees or accolades I possess, my life would be always up for grabs. It's a lesson I learned from Rodney King and Emmitt Till and many more whose names I may never know. It's one that was reinforced by the killing of George Floyd. It's a burden that every Black family carries—the possibility of sudden, untimely death.

While dealing with the weight of oppression, Black male doctors' lives are also jeopardized just by showing up to work. The current pandemic has given many of us a horrible sense of déjà vu; I remember working with Dr. Samuel Brisbane in Monrovia, Liberia, right before he became West Africa's first casualty to the 2014 Ebola epidemic. Now I mourn every Black male doctor we have lost in New York City to COVID-19, including trauma surgeon Dr. Ronald Verrier and ICU physician Dr. James A. Mahoney.

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BLACK MALE DOCTORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

For months, we have all been consumed by discussions of life and death, and trying to maintain some normalcy in our day-to-day life. And during this time I've been thinking about what it means to lose Black male doctors. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, in 1978, there were 1,410 Black male applicants to medical school, and in 2014, there were just 1,337. In 1978, only 542 Black men across the nation graduated from medical school. In 2014 it was even less—515. That means each Black male doctor that the field of medicine loses is unlikely to be replaced.

Black healers, including nurses, therapists and holistic practitioners, have a unique role in addressing health inequities. We're more likely to practice in communities of color, provide access for diverse groups of patients and meet public health demands due to an authentic dedication to community engagement. And yet creating a larger pipeline for Black male doctors is never considered in the proposed solutions to mitigating the causes that overwhelmingly take Black men's lives, whether it be infectious disease or exposure to community violence.

The erasure of Black men from several parts of American society, including



Dr. Charles Drew (standing) was a teacher, physician and medical researcher. He died from injuries sustained in a car crash while driving his interns, who could not afford to fly, to the conference in Atlanta. After a full shift, he planned to drive overnight because there was no where to stop and he fell asleep at the wheel.

health care, is by design. Medicine was never set up to value Black lives, which is reflected not only in health outcomes that often pathologize Black people but also in who has access to medical school, who graduates, who gets elite fellowships—all the building blocks for a successful medical career.

America cannot value Black lives without investing in Black doctors and healers.

Black colleges, always facing budget cuts, have been nurturing Black doctors for generations. And Black men continue to mentor young brothers (I co-founded Young Doctors DC in 2012) to undo the conditioning of racist school systems that infer they aren't smart enough. But these amazing efforts aren't enough to completely remedy the underlying problem. Structural racism, even in academic medicine, should never be the responsibility of Black people to solve.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

THE REVOLUTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3



SHEILA COX

1. Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around - *Freedom Singers based on a Gospel Hymn 1960's*
2. Blowing In The Wind - *Bob Dylan 1963*
3. Exodus - *Bob Marley 1977*
4. Fight The Power - *Public Enemy 1988*
5. Glory - *John Legend & Common 2014*
6. Don't Want Nobody To Give Me Nothing - *James Brown 1970*
7. I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free - *Nina Simone 1967*
8. Message From A Blackman - *The Temptations 1969*
9. This Is My Country - *The Impressions 1968*
10. Winter In America - *Gil Scott-Heron 1974*



LORRAINE GAMBLE-LOFTON

1. Ball of Confusion - *The Temptations 1970*
2. Black, Brown and Beige - *Duke Ellington 1943*
3. Black Rage - *Lauryn Hill 2012 2014*
4. Hell You Talmhout - *Janelle Monáe 2015*
5. Inner City Blues - *Marvin Gaye 1971*
6. Livin for The City - *Stevie Wonder 1973*
7. Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud - *James Brown 1968*
8. Strange Fruit - *Billie Holiday 1939*
9. The Revolution Will Not Be Televised - *Gil Scott-Heron 1970*
10. This Bitter Earth - *Dinah Washington 1960*
11. War - *Edwin Starr 1970*
12. We Gotta Pray - *Alicia Keys 2014*
13. White Privilege II - *Macklemore & Ryan Lewis 2016*



SELMA JACKSON

1. A Change is Gonna Come - *Sam Cooke 1964*
2. Keep on Keeping On - *Curtis Mayfield 1971*
3. Mississippi Goddam - *Nina Simone 1964*
4. Move On Up - *Curtis Mayfield 1971*
5. People Get Ready - *The Impressions 1965*
6. RESPECT - *Aretha Franklin 1967*
7. Say it Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud - *James Brown 1968*
8. Some Day We'll All Be Free - *Donny Hathaway 1973*
9. Wake Up Everybody - *Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes 1975*
10. What's Going On - *Marvin Gaye 1971*

GLENDA PATTERSON

1. Black Rage - *Lauryn Hill 2014*
2. Fight The Power - *Public Enemy 1989*
3. Hands Up - *Daye Jack 2015*
4. Say it Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud - *James Brown 1968*
5. The Revolution Will Not Be Televised - *Gil Scott-Heron 1971*

DONNA WILLIAMS

1. A Change Is Gonna Come - *Otis Redding 1965*
2. Ball of Confusion - *The Temptations 1970*
3. Fight The Power - *Public Enemy 1988*
4. My People...Hold On - *Eddie Kendricks 1972*
5. O-o-h Child - *Five Star Steps 1970*
6. The Revolution Will Not Be Televised - *Gil Scott-Heron 1970*
7. The World Is A Ghetto - *War 1972*
8. This Is My Country - *The Impressions 1968*
9. What's Going On - *Marvin Gaye 1971*
10. Winter in America - *Gil Scott-Heron 1971*

CHANGE GONNA COME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



DON'T GIVE UP

Continued By Selma Jackson

I am praying and listening to music. I can hear Louis Armstrong singing "What Did I Do to Be so Black and Blue?" I share with family and friends: complete the census, vote in all elections and hold elected officials accountable. I'm clear, I can't give up.

EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ALRIGHT

By Donna Williams

I always try to see the silver lining, to think of the glass as half full. But, remaining positive, optimistic, and upbeat in the midst of a global pandemic is tough. And when you add the recent killings of unarmed Black people and the resulting eruptions of mass protests in the United States and throughout the world, well let's just say staying centered is proving to be a challenge. But then I remember that I've been rocked before and my unwavering faith and steadfast belief that life will get better kicks in. I hear my mother's words, "Behind every dark cloud the sun still shines." And I know we will prevail.

CHANGE IS NOW

By Stefani L. Zinerman

I was 10 years old when someone called me a nigger for the first time. I remember going upstairs to my apartment and looking into the bathroom mirror. I looked at my image and ran my fingers over the contours of my face. Seeing nothing wrong, I went back outside to play no longer troubled or phased by the insult.

My South Brooklyn neighborhood was bordered by ethnic whites some of which were indoctrinated into the American tradition of hating Black-skinned progress while exploiting and benefiting from our labor and ingenuity. I've lived through the terror of seeing my best friend's head being laid open from a wooden bat wielded by a white boy because we dared to attend a concert in Red Hook.

Over the years, I've channeled all that frustration into a love for my people and the development of a Pan-African consciousness. A foundation that was gifted to me by my family and nurtured in "The East" and my civil rights family from the Algebra Project. It has led me to do intentional work that uplifts my race. As I move from citizen advocate to law maker in the New York State Assembly, these experiences will serve as my guiding principles for real and lasting change. Change is going to come because we're going to make it happen.

BLACK MALE DOCTORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13



I'm proud to serve alongside other Black male doctors in one of the largest public health agency in the U.S. Together, my colleague Dr. Daniel Stephens, a pediatrician who helms the Division of Family and Child Health, and I speak truth to power about the effect racism has on health. It's unacceptably rare that two Black men lead large divisions or departments in hospitals or health departments; we must support each other while clearing a path for others to easily follow behind.



Nzuri is already paying the cost for having a Black doctor dad. She can sense my energy. She's fussy and distressed and fitfully refuses her regular evening nap. She knows that my fears are affecting how I show up.

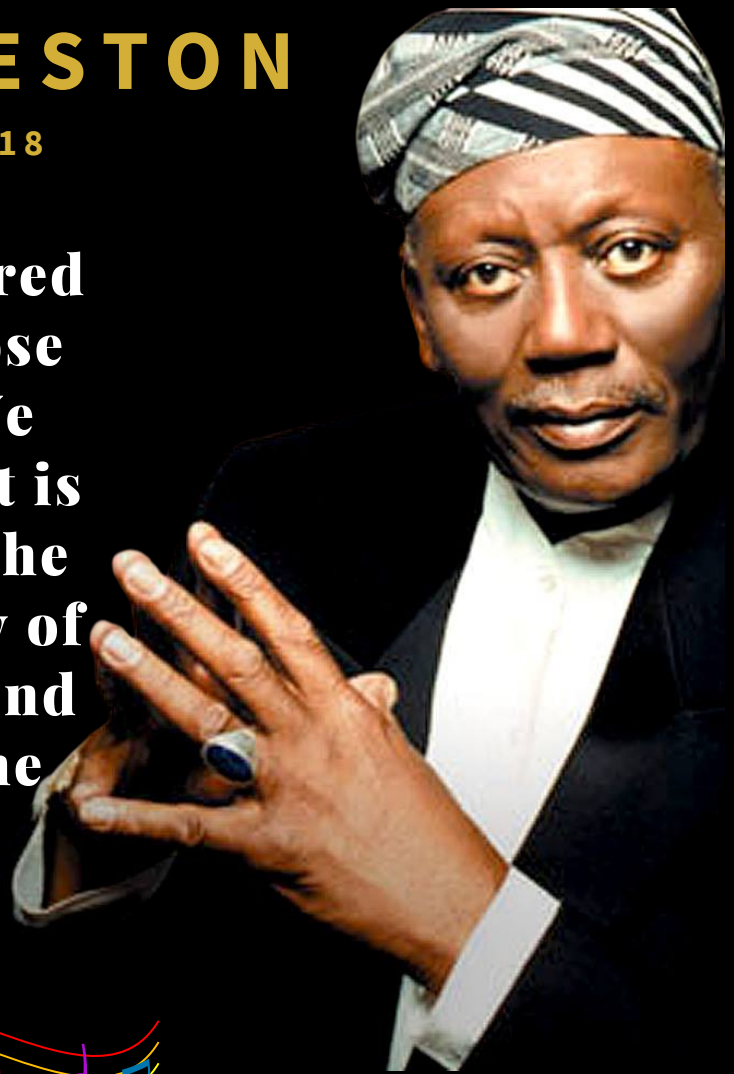
But the qualities that make good doctors also make good dads—empathy, compassion and trust. Even though she's only 3 months old, her mom and I sat down to explain what was happening in the world and how it was making us feel. We told her we loved her and that she was safe. Even if America doesn't keep its promise to us, I will always fight to keep my promise to her.

Dr. Torian Easterling is the deputy commissioner for the New York City Health Department's Center of Health Equity and Community Wellness. Story reprinted from Time Magazine June 18, 2020 edition.

RANDY WESTON

1926 - 2018

“In Africa, I discovered what the true purpose of a musician is. We are historians, and it is our purpose to tell the people the true story of our past, and to extend a better vision of the future.”



“We all have music in us - your heartbeat is your drum, your voice is your sound - and music is supposed to put you in tune with nature.”

“Our past as well as our future. It could have been completely destroyed when we were brought to the New World as slaves. They even took away our drums. And I don't want to talk about all those negative things going on. But its music is more present in our lives than ever. Blues, samba, calypso, reggae, jazz, salsa, Africa is everywhere.”



“Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”

- HON. JOHN LEWIS
1940-2020

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

**age
friendly**
BEDFORD-STUYVESANT
& CROWN HEIGHTS



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