Music Oral History Interview



Student Name _____

_Date___

Choose a parent, family member, or neighbor and conduct the following interview.

Questions:

- 1. When were you born? Where did you live in the 1960s?
- 2. What do you remember the most about the Civil Rights Movement? Was there any particular aspect you found impactful? Did you know anyone directly involved in the movement?
- 3. What do you remember about the Freedom Riders campaign? How do you feel this affected the greater Civil Rights movement?
- 4. Did music have a significant role in your life throughout the 1960s? If so, how did this role change?
- 5. What songs do you remember hearing often in the 1960s?
- 6. Who were your favorite artists of the 1960s? Who do you remember seeing the most on television, radio, etc.?

The Freedom Rides and the Role of Popular Music in the Civil Rights Movement

7. How do you think music played a role in Civil Rights?

8. Do you remember hearing music used as a tool in public protests? If so, how, where, and by whom?

9. Were there any events that you felt directly inspired music or art? If so, how?

10. What other cultural or artistic expressions do you think influenced the Civil Rights Movement?

Based on the findings from your interview, choose the most relevant songs and present them to the class. What about this music made it memorable? Why did these particular songs reflect the mission of the Civil Rights movement?