

DEEP DIVE #1 WITH CASTLE OF OUR SKINS

THE POWER OF HER VOICE

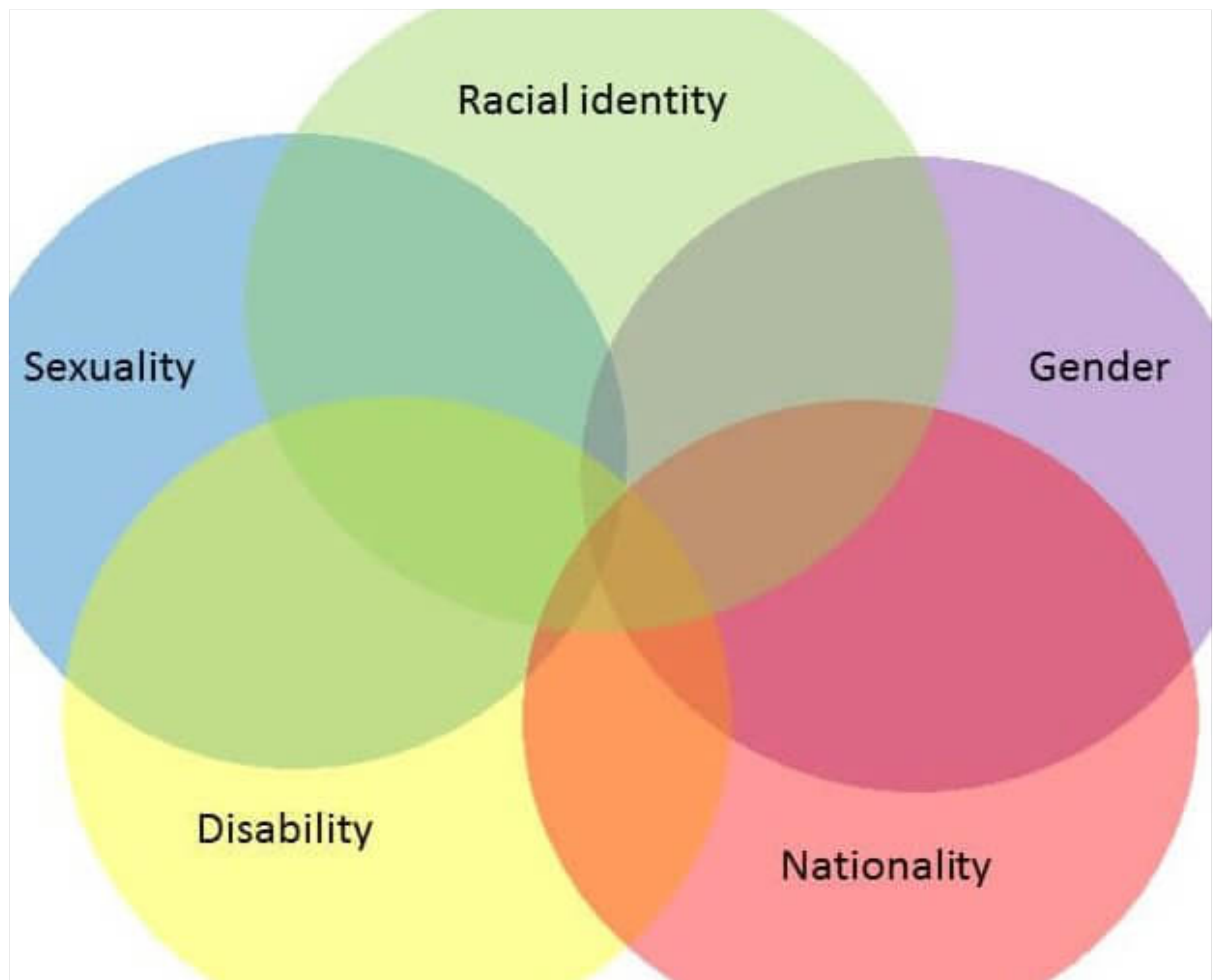
INTERSECTIONALITY



*“With Black women as the starting point, it becomes more apparent how dominant conceptions of discrimination condition us to think about subordination as disadvantage occurring along a single categorical axis. I want to suggest further that **this single-axis framework erases Black women** in the conceptualization, identification and remediation of race and sex discrimination by limiting inquiry to the experiences of otherwise-privileged members of the group.”*

Kimberlé Crenshaw

“Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics



INTERSECTIONALITY & POLITICS

- ▶ 1790: Naturalization Law passed. It explicitly states that only “free white” immigrants can become naturalized citizens.
- ▶ 1807: New Jersey, where some women and African Americans had been permitted to vote since 1776, changed its laws to allow only tax-paying, white male citizens the right to vote.
- ▶ 1856: All states allows all white men to vote - North Carolina is the last state to remove property ownership as a requirement to vote.
- ▶ 1868: 14th Amendment to the US Constitution passed. Citizenship is defined and granted to former slaves.
- ▶ 1870: 15th amendment prohibited the denial to vote based on “race, color, or previous condition of servitude,” it did not include “sex” as a protected category.
- ▶ 1876: Supreme Court rules that Native Americans are not citizens as defined by the 14th Amendment and, thus, cannot vote.
- ▶ 1882: The Chinese Exclusion Act bars people of Chinese ancestry from naturalizing to become US citizens.
- ▶ 1920: 19th amendment prohibited the denial to vote based “on account of sex” giving (white) women the right to vote. Race was not included.
- ▶ 1922: Supreme Court rules that people of Japanese heritage are ineligible to become naturalized citizens. In the next year, the court finds that "Asian Indians" are also not eligible to naturalize.
- ▶ 1952: McCarran-Walter Act grants all people of Asian ancestry the right to become citizens.
- ▶ 1965: Voting Rights Act passed, forbidding states from imposing discriminatory restrictions on who can vote. It, and subsequent laws passed in 1970, 1975 and 1982 built stronger voting protections to allow Native Americans to vote without intimidation, literacy tests, poll taxes and fraud.
- ▶ 2013: Part of Voting Rights Act of 1965 struck down, weakening the law that had ensured federal government oversight of changes to voting systems in states with a history of discriminating against minority voters.

FLORENCE PRICE (1887–1953)

- 1st: First African American woman to have a symphony performed by a major orchestra.
- Music: Price's melodies were blues-inspired and mixed with more traditional, European Romantic techniques, music of the African-American church, emphasizing the rhythm and syncopation of the spirituals rather than just using the text.



UNDINE SMITH MOORE (1904–1989)

- Dean of African American women composers
- Pianist, organist, educator of 45 years
- Wrote over 100 compositions: 71 for voice/choir, 26 of which were published during her lifetime
- Notable works: Before I'd Be a Slave; Afro-American Suite; Scenes from the Life of a Martyr



LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfumbSjmE24>

Soulscapes

PIANO MUSIC BY AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN



L. Viola Kinney

Valerie Capers

Undine Smith Moore

Florence Price

Zenobia Powell Perry

Margaret Bonds

Maria Corley, *piano*

Albany

JULIA PERRY (1924-1979)

LINK: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhlsJ_RKoXg

- Musical style embraced contemporary complexities
- Had a markedly different approach to embracing Black heritage/roots pre-1950's and post
- Recipient of two Guggenheim Fellowships to study with Luigi Dallapiccola (Italy) and Nadia Boulanger (France)
- 54 surviving scores ranging from incomplete, illegible, hand written to engraved

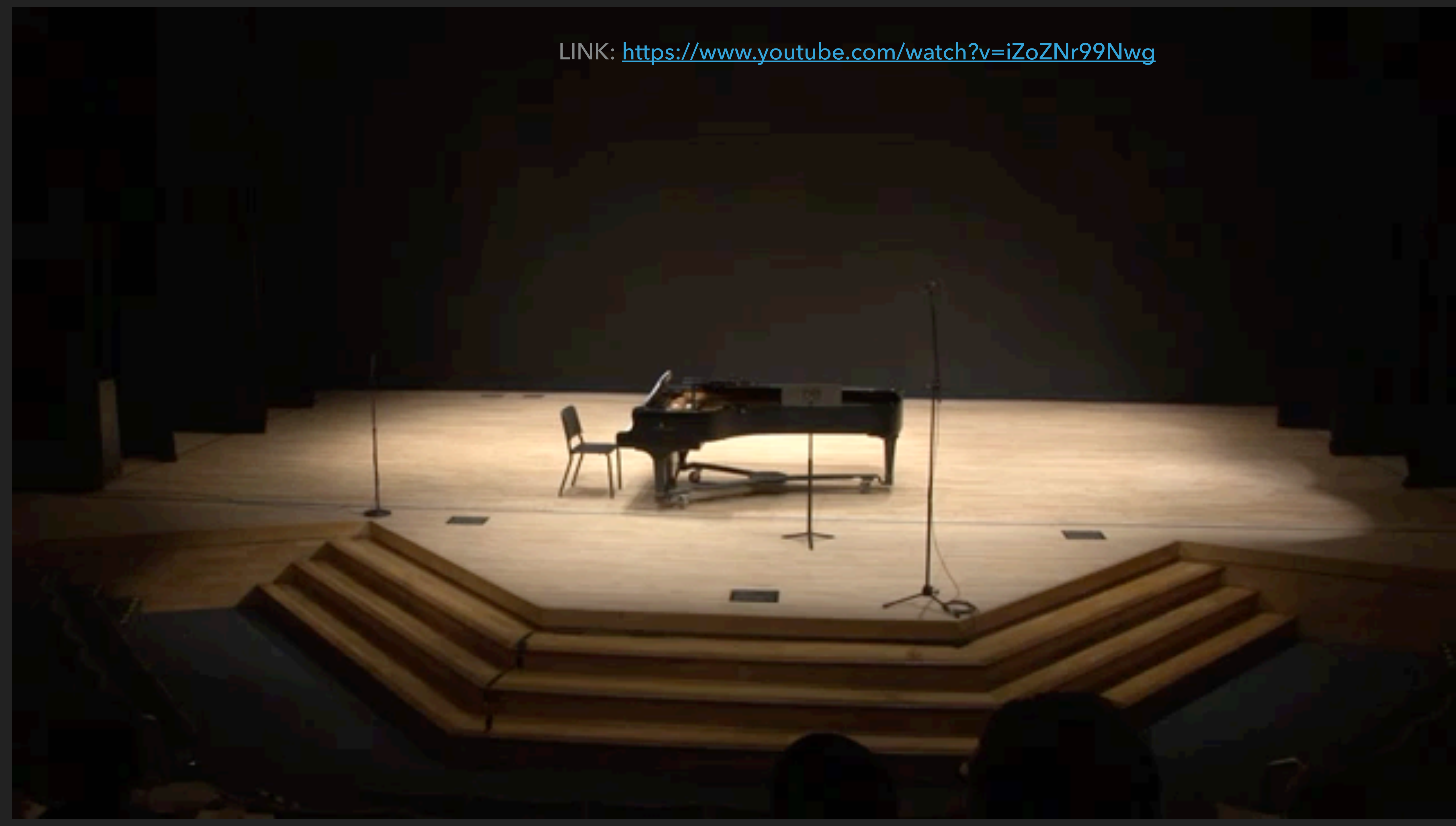


DOROTHY RUDD MOORE (B. 1940)

- Composer and poet
- Strong attachment to the Civil Rights movement and Black Panther
- Wrote less than 35 compositions that range from solo, chamber, orchestra, band, vocal and opera
- Notable works: Weary Blues; From the Dark Tower; Flowers of Darkness; Frederick Douglass opera



LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZoZNr99Nwg>



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MEET THE BLACK COMPOSERS, *a Deep Dive Series with Castle of our Skins*

Monday November 9th @ 7PM: Giving Thanks: meet the early pioneers and trailblazers who paved the way for generations to come

Monday December 14th @ 7PM: Singing for Freedom: the power of African American spirituals