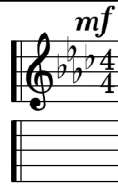




ROCK N SOUL SOUND EDUCATION



Tonight's Top Story

Celebrating Black History Month

Audience: Junior or senior high aged students or individuals

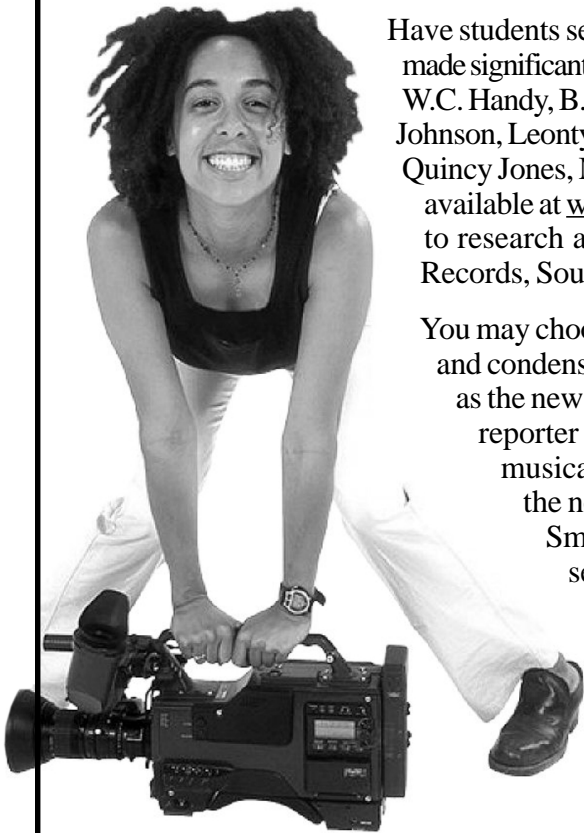
Achievements: Exploring educational standards for English, Creative Writing, History, Civics, Public Speaking skills; Researching significant people and events in American and world history; Compiling details of a historical figure or event into a written paper or oral presentation.

Activity: Lights, camera, action! Turn your classroom into the set of a network news station, and turn students into news reporters.

Spend part of a class period discussing the developments of American music history and the significance of African Americans in the origins of rock 'n' roll and soul music. This activity would be best executed following a field trip to the Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum, which offers an extensive and comprehensive historical outline of the development of America's musical genres from early rural music and field hollers through the creation of rock 'n' roll and soul music and to the present. Assign this activity before your museum visit, but executing it afterwards.

Have students select an African American musician, producer or disc jockey who has made significant contributions to their field. Some possibilities would include Otis Redding, W.C. Handy, B.B. King, Al Green, Isaac Hayes, Barry Gordy, Russell Simmons, Robert Johnson, Leontyne Price, Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis, Tina Turner, Rufus Thomas, Quincy Jones, Mahalia Jackson. An extensive list and accompanying biographies are available at www.infoplease.com/spot/bhmpeople6.html. Students may also choose to research an event or entity like Wattstax, WDIA Radio, STAX Records, Hi Records, Soul Train or Motown Records.

You may choose to have students research and write a paper, or have them compile and condense their research into a two or three minute news report. Use your desk as the news desk, and allow each student takes a turn being a news anchor, news reporter or entertainment reporter who provides viewers with an update on a musical event or on a musician's career. "This is the news for August 20, 1972. I'm Jennifer Smith reporting. Today at the 100,000 seat Coliseum in Los Angeles, California, Stax Records held its Wattstax Concert to benefit the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation and Martin Luther King hospital in Watts."



Continue your study and exploration of Memphis' rich musical history and heritage with an organized field trip to the Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum. Contact our Group Tour Coordinator today at (901) 205-2526 for tour details and available "Museum & A Meal" plans.

191 Beale Street at FedExForum
Memphis, TN 38103
(901) 205-2526