



STATUS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC IN US COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

A NASPAAM Think Tank

Morehouse College
Ray Charles Performing Arts Center
Atlanta, GA
March 31-April 1, 2017
March 31 from 7pm-9pm: Performances
April 1 from 9am-5pm: Presentations and Discussions

The Executive Board of the **National Association for the Study and Performance of African American Music** (NASPAAM) requests your participation in an initiative that we hope will be of interest to you as an important stakeholder in the African American music tradition. This Think Tank will focus on African American music in the college curriculum. Friday night will feature music performances, and Saturday will feature lectures, roundtables, and audience discussion of the topics. Morehouse College has agreed to host this event.

Purpose and Description of the Think Tank

NASPAAM recognizes the significance and influence of African American Music on our cultural lives. In an effort to advance and elevate the presence of this music tradition inside of the academy, NASPAAM will lead a One day-plus discussion (Think Tank) with the theme of the **Status of African American Music in US Colleges and Universities**. The focus of the Think Tank will be on the offerings and teaching of African American Music, primarily at the undergraduate college level and experience. The goals of the Think Tank follow:

- 1) To identify and examine existing courses in the broad field of African American music; To consider how to advance and elevate the tradition of African American music in curricula by increasing the quantity and quality of courses;
- 2) To identify and propose solutions to the challenges and issues that will likely occur with the promotion of ideas to increase the presence of African American music in the curriculum; and
- 3) To consider what a new degree program with a major or minor in music---African American music---would look like in music departments.

While the Think Tank is designed to examine and critique the existing models, procedures, methodologies, aesthetics and philosophies, curriculums, political and economic realities of the teaching of African American music today, our hope is that we can generate new ideas about the expansion of African American music in music curricula. Indeed an important goal of this think tank is to explore the creation of a new degree program for music departments---the African American Music major---and this new major will generate many questions: What barriers stand in its way? What courses constitute this new major? Can it coexist alongside the “traditional” European art music history-culture-theory paradigm that has defined the music major, even at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)? Should or could it serve as an addition to the present curriculum or would it be better as a replacement at some schools or serving some populations? Do faculty currently exist or must additional/special training be required? What about scheduling? What about costs?

Historical Background

NASPAAM began as NBMC (The National Black Music Caucus) and was founded in Atlanta on the campus of Morehouse College in 1972. Two-hundred black musicians attending the biennial meeting of the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) gathered at Morehouse to protest their exclusion from MENC divisional and national planning sessions and programs. This initial meeting led to the creation of an organization, with composer T. J Anderson as its first president, whose primary mission was to promote, preserve, and advance the rich tradition and legacy of African American music throughout the world. Since its inception in 1972, NASPAAM, formerly NBMC, has continued its primary mission and has sponsored professional conferences on various aspects of African American music in Atlanta, Nashville, Charlotte, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Houston, and Birmingham. Additionally, workshops, recitals, music achievement award luncheons/banquets, and other sessions have been given at venues throughout the United States. With education as a bedrock for its activities, the organization continues today as a strong advocate for the black music tradition in elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, and in the nation’s cultural and performing arts programs. NASPAAM continues to exist as a voice to enrich and advance the arts, culture, and society.

NOTE: The following performers and presenters have been invited, but the participants may change slightly.

Friday, March 31, 2017
7-9pm

The Status of African American Music in US Colleges and Universities
A NASPAAM Think Tank
African American Music - A Concert Celebration

Featuring

Morehouse College Glee Club, Morehouse Jazz Orchestra
Spelman College Glee Club, Laura English Robinson, soprano
Mark Boozer, Clark Atlanta University, pianist

Saturday, April 1, 2017
9am-5pm

SCHEDULE

The Status of African American Music in US Colleges and Universities
A NASPAAM Think Tank

Welcome.....Marsha Kindall-Smith, NASPAAM President

Occasion.....Ted McDaniel, A NASPAAM Founder

Keynote Address.....Dwight Andrews, Emory University

African American Music in the Curriculum: Philosophical Foundations and Courses

Ted McDaniel, Ohio State University (retired)

Rosita Sands, Columbia College Chicago

African American Music's Place in the Music Major Core Curriculum: Music Theory, Music Composition, and Music History Components

Dwight Andrews, Emory University

Tammy Kernodle, Miami University

Horace Maxile, Baylor University

Henry Panion, U of Alabama at Birmingham

Music Education and African American Music's Place in the Music Major Core Curriculum: Performance and Ensemble Components

Kathy Bullock, Berea College

Paula Grissom-Broughton, Spelman College
T. Marshall Jones, Albany State University (retired)

Coexistence of the Concert Choir and the Gospel Choir Traditions: Challenges, Compromises, and Resolutions in the Music Department

Uzee Brown, Morehouse College
Marcia Hood, Albany State University
David Morrow, Morehouse College
Raymond Wise, Indiana University Bloomington

Coexistence of African American Music Styles and European Art Music: Repertoire, Challenges, and Methodologies in Applied Voice Instruction

Uzee Brown, Morehouse College
Oral Moses, Kennesaw State University (retired)
Laura English Robinson, Spelman College
James Abbingtion, Emory University

The African American Music Degree: Purpose, Rationale, Career Paths, and Course of Study

Dwight Andrews, Emory University
Ted McDaniel, Ohio State University (retired)
Henry Panion, U of Alabama-Birmingham
Rosita Sands, Columbia College Chicago
Edward Sarath, University of Michigan

Next Steps and Followup to this Think Tank in the Future

Rosita Sands, Columbia College Chicago

Closing Remarks

Marsha Kindall-Smith, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (retired) and Ted McDaniel

//////////

For further information about the Think Tank, you may contact Dr. Ted McDaniel at mcdaniel.2@osu.edu or at (614) 562-1159.

NASPAAM Think Tank Fees:

Friday, March 31, 2017 concert — free for all attendees
Saturday, April 1, 2017 presentations — free for all attendees

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express & Suites Atlanta Downtown (404) 524-7000

Come and help us increase the importance of African American Music!!!!