



Harry T. Burleigh Alliance

Harry T. Burleigh Concert Band Unit Lesson 1

By: Aaron A. Taylor, M. Ed.

Grades: 6th - 12th Grade	Class: Concert Band	Duration of Lesson: 60 - 80 minutes
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NAfME Music Standards:

MU: Re8.1.7a: Describe a personal interpretation of contrasting works and explain how creators' and performers' application of the elements of music and expressive qualities, within genres, cultures, and historical periods, convey expressive intent.

MU: Cn11.0.7a: Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and the other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life

MU: Pr4.2.7b: When analyzing selected music, read and identify by name or function standard symbols for rhythm, pitch, articulation, dynamics, tempo, and form.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Students will learn about the History and Legacy of Harry T. Burleigh.
- Students will understand the definition and the importance of spirituals.
- Students will learn about the stylistic approach of the Harry T. Burleigh arrangement "Three Spirituals" adapted by Steve Danyew.

Materials:

- ✓ Harry T. Burleigh *Musical Influence* - Slideshow
- ✓ "Three Spirituals" by Harry T. Burleigh, adapted by Steve Danyew
- ✓ "Harry T. Burleigh From the Spiritual to the Harlem Renaissance" by Dr. Jean E. Snyder

Performance Assessment/Learning Target:

- Students build awareness of the history and legacy of Harry T. Burleigh.
- Students recognize articulation styles in the context of Harry T. Burleigh.



Learning Expectations/Activities/Procedure:

1. Teacher shares the Burleigh life and career slides from the PowerPoint entitled “Harry T. Burleigh’s Life” with students. Teacher presents the information on Burleigh’s arrangements.
2. Teacher leads a discussion comparing and contrasting early (20th century) and modern era (21st century) ensemble styles. Teacher prompts students with, “Did the lack of music education in schools result in a lack of Burleigh instrument ensembles?”
3. After the discussion, the teacher presents the stylistic approaches outlined in the PowerPoint (See notes section of the PowerPoint).
4. Teacher introduces the piece “Three Spirituals” by Harry T. Burleigh, adapted by Steve Danyew and shares the choral arrangement of the following three spirituals, “Down by the Riverside”, “Deep River”, and “I Want to Be Ready” via YouTube videos.
5. Teacher shares the information on the legacy that Harry T. Burleigh has left the music industry.
6. Teacher reviews slides and notes discussing the importance of African American composers and arrangers.

Success Criteria

- Students engage in informed conversations about the impact of Harry T. Burleigh.
- Students recognize the stylistic approaches of Harry T. Burleigh’s music.