

Mr. Henry's 1968 Roberta to NOW

Presented by



1968

Music & Global Consciousness

1. Global consciousness is the ability to understand the global, international, and/or cross-cultural sources, interconnections, and/or implications of systems, institutions, events, and/or actions; value and acknowledge other cultures as legitimate; demonstrate open-mindedness, and act effectively in settings where language and culture are not native. Global consciousness includes the expectation that people understand domestic diversity issues (privilege, power, societal “isms,” social justice) and exhibit behaviors that reveal an inclination toward equity; and that they understand the ways that diversity/social justice issues play out globally.

Social responsibility is the ability to understand one's connection to broader communities (local, national, global); reveal the disposition to act in an informed way to serve the wider good and not simply one's own interests; and exhibit behavior that aligns with this disposition.

January 1, 1968

“Hello Goodbye” was the #1 song on the charts in 1968, the way 1968 is described in terms of Politics, Activism, Music. Residents in the District of Columbia can say they had to say hello to a new normal for the city and goodbye to many stores, homes, and the way residents had to live their lives in the District.



billboard



← All Charts



THE HOT 100

 The week of January 6, 1968 ▼



1

★ 2
WEEKS AT NO. 1

🕒 6
WEEKS ON CHART

Hello Goodbye

The Beatles



vevo

Mr. Henry's

To protect the Restaurant the staff placed this sign



APR • 68





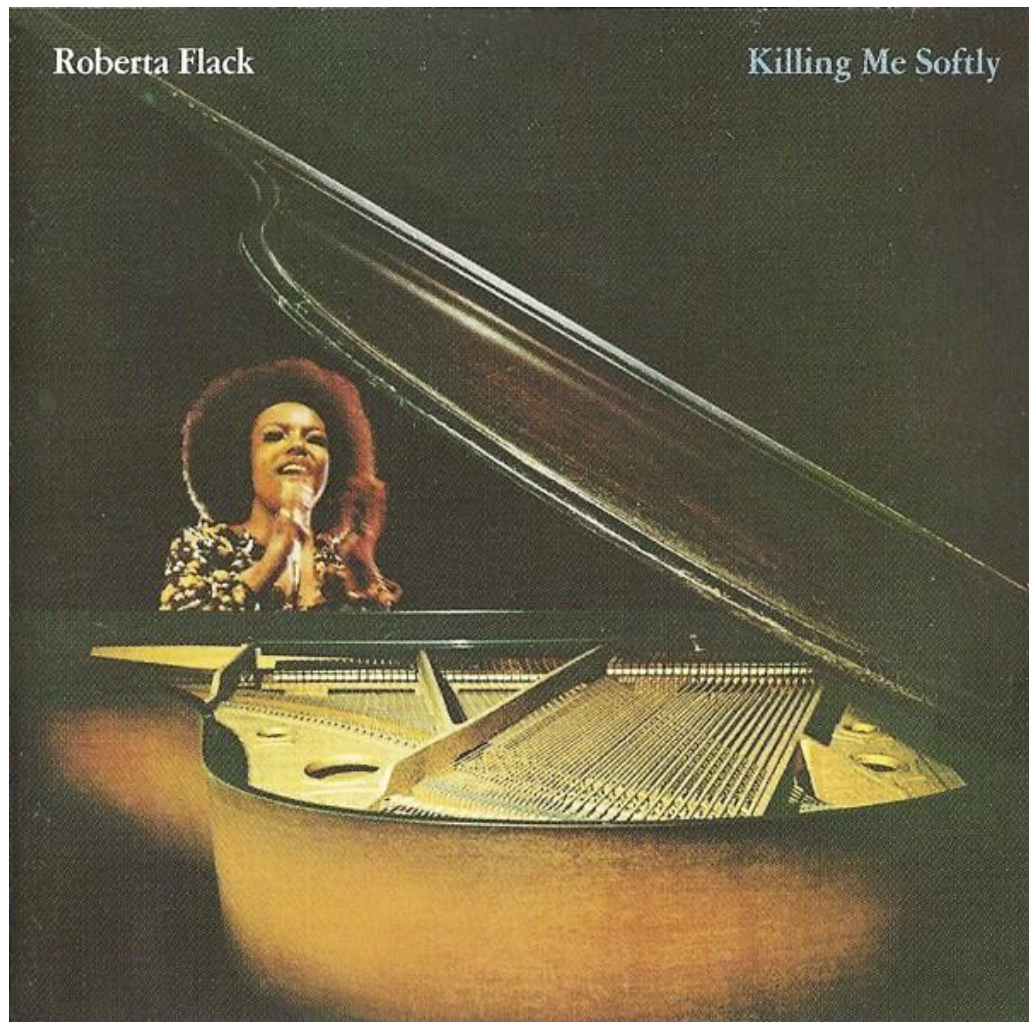
Roberta Flack

Before becoming a professional singer-songwriter, Flack returned to Washington, D.C. and taught at Browne Junior High and Rabaut Junior High. She also taught private piano lessons out of her home on Euclid St. NW. During this period, her music career began to take shape on evenings and weekends in Washington, D.C. area night spots. At the Tivoli Club, she accompanied opera singers at the piano. During intermissions, she would sing blues, folk, and pop standards in a back room, accompanying herself on the piano. Later, she performed several nights a week at the 1520 Club, again providing her own piano accompaniment. Around this time, her voice teacher, Frederick "Wilkie" Wilkerson, told her that he saw a brighter future for her in pop music than in the classics. She modified her repertoire accordingly and her reputation spread. Flack began singing professionally after being hired to perform regularly at Mr. Henry's Restaurant, on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC in 1968.

Cited from Wikipedia

Roberta Flack

Killing Me Softly







Interviews

We talked to 7 individuals who worked, were in school, engaged in nightlife and lived in Washington DC during 1968. Their stories discuss new relationships, new children, the closing out of school, and even seeing Dr. King the last Sunday he preached at the National Cathedral the Sunday before his assassination. The conversation centered around the questions below, as will our conversation mirror similar events to the current year.

What was your outlook for 1968 on January 1st of that year?

What were your thoughts of the Beatles?

What comes to mind when you hear "Sitting on the Dock of the Bay"?

What do you remember about the day Dr. King was assassinated?

The day after the assassination how did Washington DC look/change?

When I say the name Roberta Flack, what comes to mind?

When I say "The Temptations" what comes to mind?

On December 31, 1968, what were your thoughts?

Maxine Mitchell



Eva J. Knight





On April 4th, 1968, "Sitting on the Dock of the Bay" was the #1 song on Billboard. Released by Otis Redding posthumously, after Redding was killed in a plane crash at the age of 26. This song broke two records: a) For Redding, it was his only single to be #1 on the Billboard Charts b) it was the first posthumous single to reach #1 on the Billboard Charts.



billboard



THE HOT 100

 The week of March 30, 1968 ▼



1

★ 3
WEEKS AT NO. 1

🕒 10
WEEKS ON CHART

**(Sittin' On) The Dock Of
The Bay**

Otis Redding



Phil Portlock

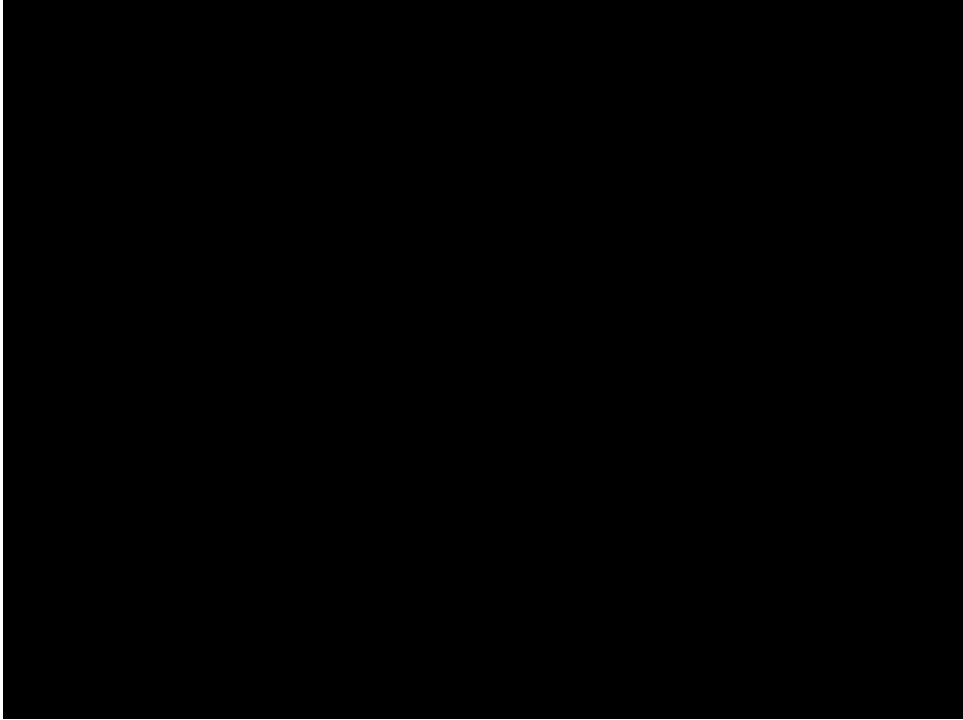


Dr. Dennis W. Wiley





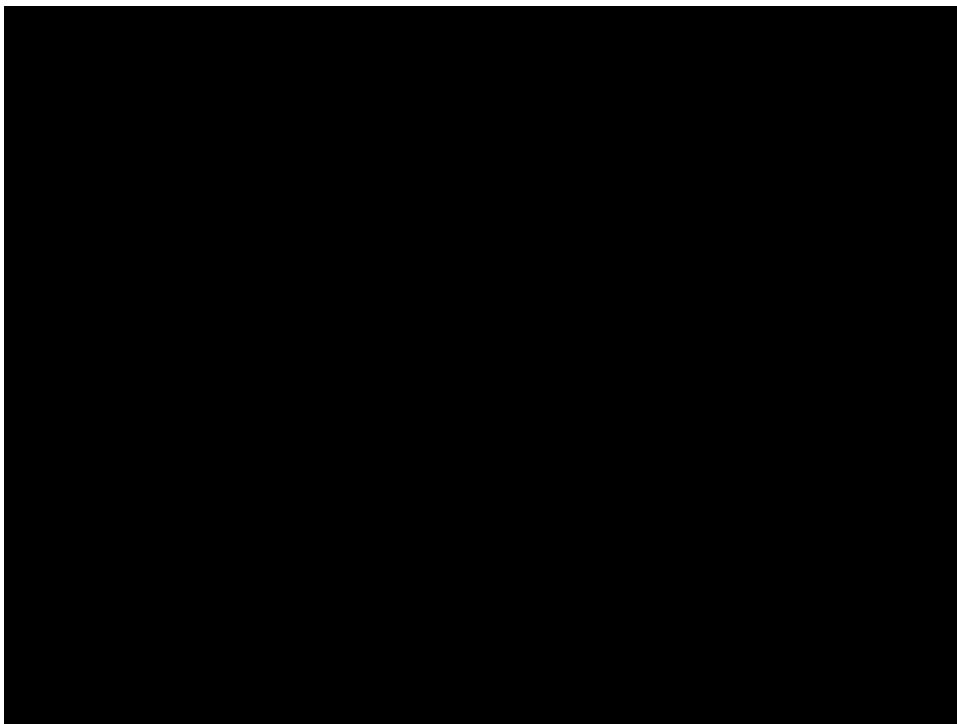
Debra Camphor



Rev. Dr. Sandra Butler Truesdale



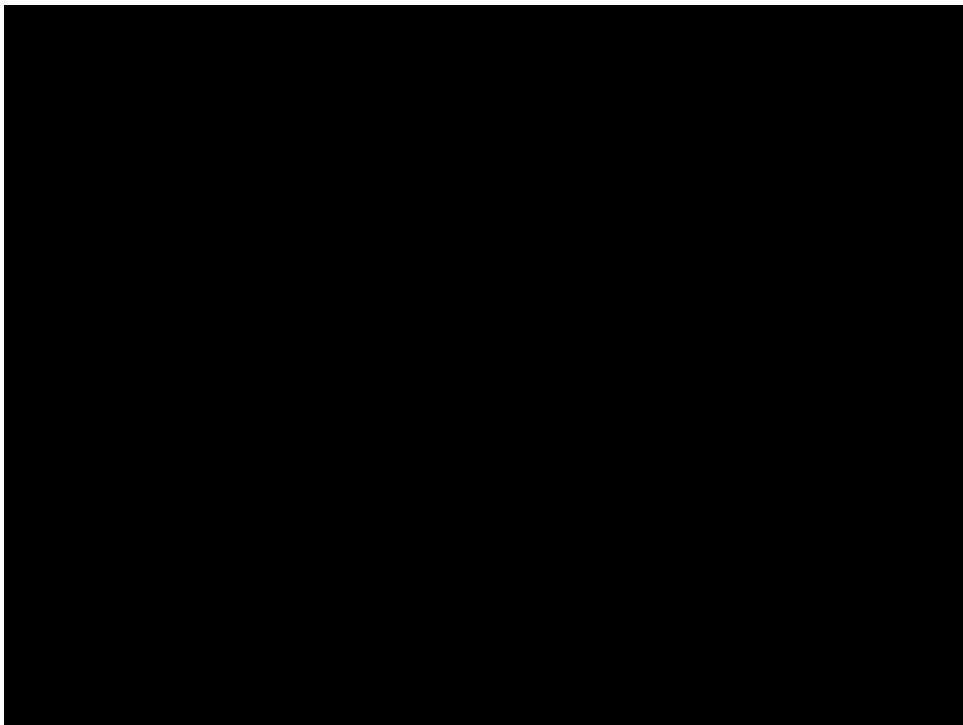




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Jackie Seay

“There was a lot that had happened that gave you a feeling of uncertainty about everything, and ‘68 proved to be an uncertain year”





billboard



THE HOT 100

 The week of December 28, 1968 ▼



1

★ 3
WEEKS AT NO. 1

🕒 6
WEEKS ON CHART

**I Heard It Through The
Grapevine**

Marvin Gaye

On the last day of 1968, "I heard it Through the Grapevine" was on the top of the Billboard charts. This was not the first time this song was in the top 10 in 1968. It charted in the top 10 the very first week of 1968 with Gladys Knight and the Pips. It topped the charts the last week of 1968 under a different artist...Marvin Gaye. A true testament of the metaphorical "Grapevine" we see that 1968 closed out the year with our stories told with different voices. The #10 song was "Cloud Nine" by the new Temptations as the year proved that artistic expression caused many groups to revamp and consider different voices, styles and even truths to completely tell the stories of those who walked the earth and experience 1968.



Linda Harris





Interviewees (not in order of appearance)

Maxine Mitchell

Jackie Seay

Phil Portlock

Sandra Butler Truesdale

Debra Camphor

Dennis W. Wiley

Eva Knight

Film/Camera

Aaron Myers

Britt Waters

Support

Steph Jones

Michael Dressner

Research

Herb Scott

Aaron Myers

Gabrielle Brown

Dennis W. Wiley

Logistics

Aaron Myers

Steph Jones

Special Thanks

DC Humanities Council

Yards at Eastern Market

Mr. Henry's

Covenant Baptist UCC



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Humanities



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