

Lifting Every Voice

Nichiren Daishonin, presidents Makiguchi, Toda and Ikeda, Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Caesar Chavez, Marva Collins — these and others have all lifted their voices in the face of adversity. In celebration of Black History Month in February, Golden Century Territory in El Cerrito, Calif., chose “Lift Every Voice,” known as the Black National Anthem, as it’s theme for a special world peace gongyo meeting. Though marking Black History Month, the meeting turned out to be a celebration of life, as it brought together people from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds for the sake of peace. “Lift Every Voice” is a song of hope and victory in overcoming life’s adversities.

— *By Safiyyah Scoggins*

Lift Every Voice

*Lift every voice and sing
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies
Of liberty.*

*Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound
Loud as the rolling sea.*

Chorus:
*Sing a song
Full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song
Full of the hope that the present has brought us.*

*Facing the rising sun
Of a new day begun,
Let us march on
'Til victory is won.*

Lyrics by James Weldon Johnson