

**The Music Center
Performing Artists
in Schools and
Neighborhoods**

**Exciting
Dance
Music
Theatre
Storytelling
Performances
Come To You**

ROCHEL GARNER COLEMAN

I, Nat Love

Let's Get Started!

Enclosed is a packet of information about the scheduled program. Please review all of the documents carefully, as they are the materials you will need to host a successful program.

THE DAILY SCHEDULE

It is important that the daily schedule be maintained as specified on the confirmation document. If special circumstances occur, notify The Music Center staff as soon as possible. Changes may be accommodated pending artist availability (which can be limited). We request that all participants be seated in the performance area and ready to begin at the scheduled times.

YOUR FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

About a week after the performance, you'll receive an invoice in the mail. You have 30 days to pay upon receipt of the invoice. We do ask that you wait until you receive the invoice before sending payment.

ARTIST INTRODUCTION & STAGING REQUIREMENTS

Please introduce the artist with the enclosed introduction. There is also specific information you will need to prepare for the arrival of each artist. Please give the tech sheet to the personnel in charge of setting up the performance area well in advance of the scheduled dates. Be sure to have ready any equipment which may be required.

PRESS RELEASE AND POSTER

A template press release is included should you wish to publicize the event. If you wish to use it, simply copy the text into a word document and fill in the blanks with the appropriate information. A premade poster is also included to let your community know about the upcoming event.

CURRICULUM CONNECTION FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

These pre- and post-event classroom activities are designed to deepen the understanding and engagement of the program. Please duplicate this preparation material and distribute to all teachers whose students will be attending the event to allow them to fully prepare the students.

STUDENT SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL SITES

In accordance with California law, The Music Center requires that a classroom teacher be present with students at all times. It is expected that teachers will attend events with their class and actively participate in the learning experience.

We applaud your commitment to arts education and look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 213-972-4310.

Performance Introduction

"I would like to introduce today's performance which is presented by the Music Center of Los Angeles County. Rochel Coleman is an actor and storyteller who is going to bring to life the story of Nat Love, also known as "Deadwood Dick." Nat Love was a slave born in Tennessee who went out West at the age of 15 to seek freedom and opportunity. He became one of the most famous Black cowboys of his time. Please welcome Rochel Coleman in I, Nat Love: The Story of Deadwood Dick!



Feel free to encourage the adult members of your audience to share the experience on social media!

Tag us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram at @MusicCenterLA and we might repost your photos!

SPACE

- 10' wide x 10' deep minimum
- Portable stages must be sturdy and securely lashed

SURFACE

- Irregularities covered with tape
- Freshly mopped (not waxed)
- Extraneous clutter removed

EQUIPMENT

- Sound system
- Electrical outlet
- Small table or child's desk (about 3' across) or a backless stool (to hold a saddle)
 - Glass or bottle of water
 - One piano bench

AUDIENCE SEATING

- Center or side aisles through the audience to the stage

ARRIVAL

- 35-40 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to prepare and set up

PARKING

- One space close to the venue for loading and unloading

ASSISTANCE

- Please have a representative ready to welcome the performers and to stay and help as needed

START TIME

- Please prepare to start the program on time
- Audiences should be in the venue, seated and ready to begin at the listed times

ROCHEL GARNER COLEMAN—I, Nat Love: The Story of Deadwood Dick

ART FORM: Theatre

STYLE: Contemporary

CULTURE: African American

MEET THE ARTIST:

Rochel Garner Coleman is an actor, singer and storyteller whose career began at the age of nine. Singing professionally with the Berkshire Boys' Choir, he distinguished himself as a soloist performing with Pablo Casals and the Boston Symphony at Tanglewood, Massachusetts. His first theatre experience was as a cast member in Leonard Bernstein's "Mass," a production which opened the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and later traveled to Lincoln Center in New York City. At Indiana University and Colorado College, Rochel studied music and theatre, continuing professional studies at Trinity Repertory Conservatory in Providence, R.I. A talented and charismatic performer, Rochel created the historical portrait of black cowboy Nat Love, as well as other theatre pieces portraying the African American cadets known as the Tuskegee Airmen and the slain civil rights champion, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:

I, Nat Love: The Story of Deadwood Dick is a one-man show which brings to life the story of a slave born in Tennessee who went West at the age of 15 to seek freedom and opportunity. Dressed in cowboy attire of the period, Rochel Coleman recreates this historical character in a series of stories based on Love's autobiography. Nat Love was one of the most prominent and trusted cowboys of his era. His stories of roping, riding, bronco-busting and cattle driving illuminate the history of the western United States from a unique perspective.

Throughout the performance, the audience has the opportunity to ask questions and converse with a man who became one of the legends of the old West.



PREPARING FOR THE EXPERIENCE:

Thousands of black men and women explored and settled the West as cowboys, hunters, trappers, mountain men, pony express riders, horse wranglers, cooks and trailblazers. Most were ex-slaves who had been freed after the Civil War and joined wagon trains, herded cattle, or just headed west for adventure. Nat Love was one such cowboy. He earned the name "Deadwood Dick" on July 4, 1876 by being the best cowboy in a competition which included roping, riding and shooting. The contest took place in Deadwood, South Dakota and the crowd there gave him his nickname. Nat was a bronco buster, sharpshooter and chief brand reader, a distinguished position for a cowboy. In his day, Nat was friends with the likes of Billy the Kid, Bat Masterson and the James Brothers. He was also adopted by more than one Indian tribe. When the railroad expanded across the western ranges, long cattle drives became unnecessary. Nat Love left the range for the railroad and became a Pullman porter, a good job for black men at the time. In 1907 he wrote his autobiography, "The Life and Times of Nat Love, Better Known in Cattle Country as "Deadwood Dick." Due to the hardships endured under slavery, men like Nat Love were ready for the rough life taming the West. His accomplishments helped pave the way for cowboys like himself to rise to distinction. Another famous black cowboy of the time was Bill Pickett. Pickett was born in Texas and rode the ranges in South America, as well as in the United States. He became known as "The Dusky Demon." He could catch a steer by its horns and make it fall to the ground by twisting its neck and biting into its upper lip. This is called bulldogging. Pickett is credited with inventing the technique which is still used in rodeo events today, but without the biting. In 1907, he signed a contract with the famous "101 Ranch Wild West Show" of Oklahoma and became internationally renowned for his rodeo performances. He appeared across the United States, Canada, Mexico and Argentina. In 1914, he performed for King George and Queen Mary of England. Retiring from the rodeo in 1916, he bought a ranch in Oklahoma where he lived until his death in 1932. In 1971 Bill Pickett became the first black cowboy admitted to the "Cowboy Hall of Fame."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Prior to the performance, did you know that black cowboys played an important part in the old West?
- Discuss some of the challenges Nat Love faced during his lifetime. What hardships did he endure? What dangers did he encounter?
- Do you think working as a cowboy was a good job for Nat Love? Why? Were black cowboys treated the same as white cowboys?
- If you had lived in the same time period as Nat Love, would you have wanted to be a cowboy or cowgirl? What aspects of a cowboy/cowgirl's life appeal to you? Describe them.
- How did the building of the railroads change life in the West? Are there still real cowboys working today?

FRAMEWORK FOCUS—MATHMATICS:

Cowboy Nat drove a herd of cattle from near Phoenix, Arizona to Deadwood, South Dakota on a journey totaling 1,400 miles. The cattle drive took 60 days. How many miles per day did the cattle average? (Answer: between 23 - 24 miles per day)

On a drive, the cowboys rode their horses from the front of the line to the back, herding the cows along for a total of 80 miles per day. How many miles did the cowboys' horses travel on the drive from near Phoenix, Arizona, to Deadwood, South Dakota? (Answer: 4,800 miles)

Nat Love began his travels on foot. When he left the plantation, Nat walked 12 miles to Nashville. From Nashville, he walked to Dodge City, Kansas. Use a map to calculate how many miles Nat walked between those two cities. (Answer: 1,300 miles) How many miles total did he cover on foot? (Answer: 1,312 miles)

California Arts Standards: Artistic Processes

- Cr** Creating
- Pr** Performing/Producing/Presenting
- Re** Responding
- Cn** Connecting

Learn more at:

<https://tinyurl.com/ArtsStandardsCA>

ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:

Cn Review vocabulary terms related to cowboys, cattle drives and life in the old West: *brand, cowpoke, rustler, bushwhacking, horn ,spurs, chaps, lariat ,tenderfoot, chuck wagon, prairie schooner, wrangler*

Cn Study the role that buffalo soldiers played in the shaping of the American frontier. Buffalo soldiers belonged to black army units that served in the West and were commanded by white officers. They got their nickname from the Indians they fought who thought the soldiers' bravery and curly hair reminded them of the mighty buffalo.

Pr Music was an important part of a cowboy's life on the trail. Singing helped pass the time in the saddle during the day and helped calm the cattle in the herd at night. Cowboy songs are a special genre of American folk music. Listen to and learn some classic songs:

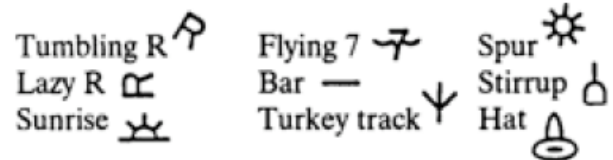
"Whoopi Ti Yi Yo, Git Along Little Doggies"

"The Strawberry Roan"

"Red River Valley"

"Cielito Lindo"

"The Old Chisolm Trail"



Cr The Cowboy's Cryptic Alphabet was made up of letters, numbers and symbols used as brands for cattle. A brand identified cattle ownership, sometimes using a rancher's name or alluding to an aspect of life on the range. Have students develop their own brands, using authentic brands as inspiration.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

Love, Nat. *The Life and Adventures of Nat Love.*; *Better Known in Cattle Country as "Deadwood Dick."* University of Nebraska Press, 1995.

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____

_____ **AND THE MUSIC CENTER ANNOUNCE**
ROCHEL GARNER COLEMAN TO PERFORM ON _____

_____ and The Music Center today announced the upcoming performance of Rochel Garner Coleman on campus. The performance is presented by The Music Center's education department, part of TMC Arts, which provides many offerings including live performances, classroom workshops, scholarship and training programs, online arts curriculum, on-campus events and professional development.

Rochel Garner Coleman is an actor, singer and storyteller whose career began at the age of nine. Singing professionally with the Berkshire Boys' Choir, he distinguished himself as a soloist performing with Pablo Casals and the Boston Symphony at Tanglewood, Massachusetts. His first theatre experience was as a cast member in Leonard Bernstein's "Mass," a production which opened the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and later traveled to Lincoln Center in New York City. At Indiana University and Colorado College, Rochel studied music and theatre, continuing professional studies at Trinity Repertory Conservatory in Providence, R.I. A talented and charismatic performer, Rochel created the historical portrait of black cowboy Nat Love, as well as other theatre pieces portraying the African American cadets known as the Tuskegee Airmen and the slain civil rights champion, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For more than 40 years, The Music Center Performing Artists in Schools and Neighborhoods have been the premier resource for high-quality educational performances, offering one of the most compelling and diverse artistic rosters. The Music Center's incredible artists bring the magic of live performance to audiences throughout Los Angeles County, with an emphasis on programs that are an excellent fit for educational and neighborhood settings. All Music Center Performing Artists in Schools and Neighborhoods performances include standards-based curriculum materials that feature background information on the artists and their performance, as well as related classroom activities with connections to multiple curricular disciplines. Schools can choose from more than 60 performances in music, dance, theatre and storytelling from an internationally acclaimed roster of artists seen across the globe in films, theaters, concert halls, television shows and museums.

About The Music Center

The Music Center convenes artists, communities and ideas with the goal of deepening the cultural lives of every resident in Los Angeles County. The \$70 million non-profit performing arts organization has two divisions: TMC Arts and TMC Ops. TMC Arts, The Music Center's programming engine, provides year-round programming inside The Music Center's four theatres, on Jerry Moss Plaza, outside at Grand Park—a 12-acre adjacent green space—in schools and other locations all over Los Angeles County and on a digital platform called The Music Center Offstage. TMC Arts presents world-class dance with Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, free and low-cost public concerts and events, as well as live and digital K-12 arts education programs, workshops, performances, interactive experiences and special events. TMC Ops manages the theatres, the Plaza and Grand Park, which comprise \$2 billion in county assets, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles. The Music Center is also home to four renowned resident companies—Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles Master Chorale, LA Opera and LA Phil. For more information, visit musiccenter.org. Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @MusicCenterLA.

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For more information, please contact The Music Center at 213-972-3332. Members of the media are welcome to cover this performance. Please contact The Music Center prior to sending a reporter or photographer to the school.

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Exciting
Dance
Music
Theatre
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Performances
Come To You

ROCHEL GARNER COLEMAN



DATE: _____

TIME: _____

LOCATION: _____



musiccenter.org/performingartists
@MusicCenterLA

THE
MUSIC
CENTER
A TMC Arts Program

ARTS INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIPS

Music Center teaching artists work in classrooms to empower student creativity and develop their artistic, work-force and life skills. The program deepens learning across the curriculum in collaboration with classroom teachers by combining dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts with content areas including English Language Arts, history, science and social emotional learning for students of all ages and abilities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Music Center's professional development programs bring educators together to participate in an experiential and immersive approach to integrating dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts into their classrooms. The focus is on meeting educators where they are and building their capacity over time and in depth — both at school sites and at The Music Center. As but one example, each year The Music Center's Arts Integration Symposium engages participants in all grade levels, art forms and content areas.

DANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center offers Student Matinee performances during each season featuring world-class dance performances that celebrate the diversity of L.A. communities; invited rehearsals that provide young people with an inside look at the creative process of dance companies in residence; master classes focused on technique, choreography and dialogue with professional dancers; and creative residencies where local youth engage with visiting dance companies for multiple days, including the Ailey school residency program.

STUDENT FESTIVALS

The Very Special Arts Festival engages students of all abilities as artistic creators and contributors. At the Blue Ribbon Children's Festival, fifth graders across the county experience live performances and dance together as a community.

SPOTLIGHT YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM

A nationally acclaimed, free arts training and scholarship program that develops the creative capacity of high school performing artists in Southern California.

ARTS GROWN LA

A new platform for artistic expression already thriving in communities throughout Los Angeles County. From performances at parks, community centers, libraries, senior centers and civic events, to Hip Hop dance parties and youth lessons, Arts Grown L.A. collaborates with community partners and neighborhoods to uplift artists and creativity, complementing existing local programs.

ARTSOURCE®

The Music Center's Artsource® curriculum is designed to bring the expressive world of the arts into classrooms. The materials are available online free of cost.

OTHER ON-CAMPUS MUSIC CENTER OFFERINGS:

Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, Grand Park, Dance DTLA, L.A. County Holiday Celebration, Plaza Concerts, and Symphonian Campus Tours, among other activities

For all our offerings, please visit us at www.musiccenter.org