



MLWAN Discussion Questions

1. If you were in Marian Anderson's position after the concert at Nassau Hall, what would you have done?
2. In what ways might the Nassau Inn experience have affected Marian Anderson's choice to do the Lincoln Memorial concert?
3. Albert Einstein and Marian Anderson both spoke out against racism, though Marian Anderson was more reluctant than Albert Einstein. What do you think shaped their different approaches to activism?
4. Albert Einstein is quoted as having seen the similarities between treatment of Jews in Nazi Germany and Black people in the United States. What similarities do you see and what differences?
5. In the play Abraham Flexner encouraged Albert Einstein to be less outspoken about issues of racial discrimination. Why did he say he did that, and why do you think Albert Einstein did not listen?
6. In the play, Mary Church Terrell wanted Marian Anderson to speak up more because of her platform. Do you think celebrities have a mandate to speak out against injustice?
7. Who is a person that you admire for their boldness to face injustice?
8. Do you have a friend that challenges you to face injustice? How do they do that?
9. *My Lord, What a Night* shares a familiar story of victory through perseverance. Both Albert Einstein and Marian Anderson found ways to stand up for their humanity. How does this relate to other stories about experiences in America?
10. Was Marian Anderson's Concert at the Lincoln Memorial a protest? Why or why not?
11. Each character in the play demonstrates a different approach to social justice change-making. What differentiates each character's approach, and how might it relate to their personal experiences, as you learn in the play and also in the student program?