## Songs for Human Rights

The following are examples of contemporary songs that support or raise awareness of human rights. Listen to some of these songs, and carefully note their lyrics. Try to add to the list by finding some current examples of songs related to human rights.

- John Lennon: "Give Peace a Chance," "Imagine"
- Sarah McLachlan: "Shelter"
- John Kongos (South Africa) "He's Gonna Step on You Again"
- Willie Dunn: "Charlie Wenjack" (Willie Dunn is a Canadian Aboriginal singer. The song is about 12 year old victim of residential schools who died running away from school in 1966.)
- Bob Marley (Wailers) "Get Up, Stand Up", "War"
- Billie Holiday, "Strange Fruit," composed by Lewis Allen (real name Abel Meerepol)
- Gordon Lightfoot: "Black Day in July"
- Buffy Ste-Marie: "Universal Soldier," "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee"
- U2: "One," "Sunday Bloody Sunday," "The Refugee"
- Buffalo Springfield: "For What It's Worth"
- Joan Baez: "We Shall Overcome"
- Bob Dylan: "The Times They Are a' Changing"
- Sting: "They Dance Alone"
- Bruce Cockburn: "It's Going Down Slow," "Call It Democracy"
- Bryan Adams, David Foster: "Tears Are Not Enough"
- The Hollies, Cher, Rufus Wainwright: "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother"

Note that there are also many examples of performing artists, both Canadian and international, who have performed in benefit concerts in support of human rights or who have publicly championed human rights causes. You may wish to gather news clippings about these types of events to create a portfolio of Arts and Human Rights.

Other ideas for songs in support of the human rights movement:

Amnesty International, Music for Human Rights:
<www.amnestyusa.org/musicforhumanrights/artists/artist\_orton\_beth.html>

Peace Songs: A Benefit Album to Help Children Affected by War: <a href="https://www.sonymusic.ca/PeaceSongs/">www.sonymusic.ca/PeaceSongs/</a>>

