

Ella Louise

JENKINS

International Children's Ambassador

Folk Singer

Composer

Musician

Growing up on Chicago's south side, Ella Jenkins loved music. Her passions for music and education have resulted in a stellar career as a peace activist and folk musician, which has spanned over fifty years. Jenkins builds bridges connecting children across the world through songs imbued with messages of peace and understanding. Through her songs, poems, and language lessons, Jenkins celebrates the beauty and value of diverse cultures.

Jenkins is hailed as, "The First Lady of Children's Music." She is a first-rate composer and musician who plays the ukulele, pipe organ, harmonica, and a wide variety of percussion instruments in addition to singing. Smithsonian Folkways Records has released over thirty of her albums since 1957.

Jenkins has served as a U.S. delegate to Hong Kong, China and the former Soviet Union with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to traveling around the world, Jenkins' performances have been showcased for millions to see on children's television programs, including *Sesame Street*, *Mr. Roger's Neighborhood*, and *Barney and Friends*. Generations of children have a deeper understanding of the world through Ella Jenkins' participatory music. In 2004, the Recording Academy honored her with a Grammy Award for Lifetime Achievement.

"I've gotten
to know **children**
all over the world.

Wherever I've
gone I always feel
that children have
a **basic honesty**
and **sincerity.**"



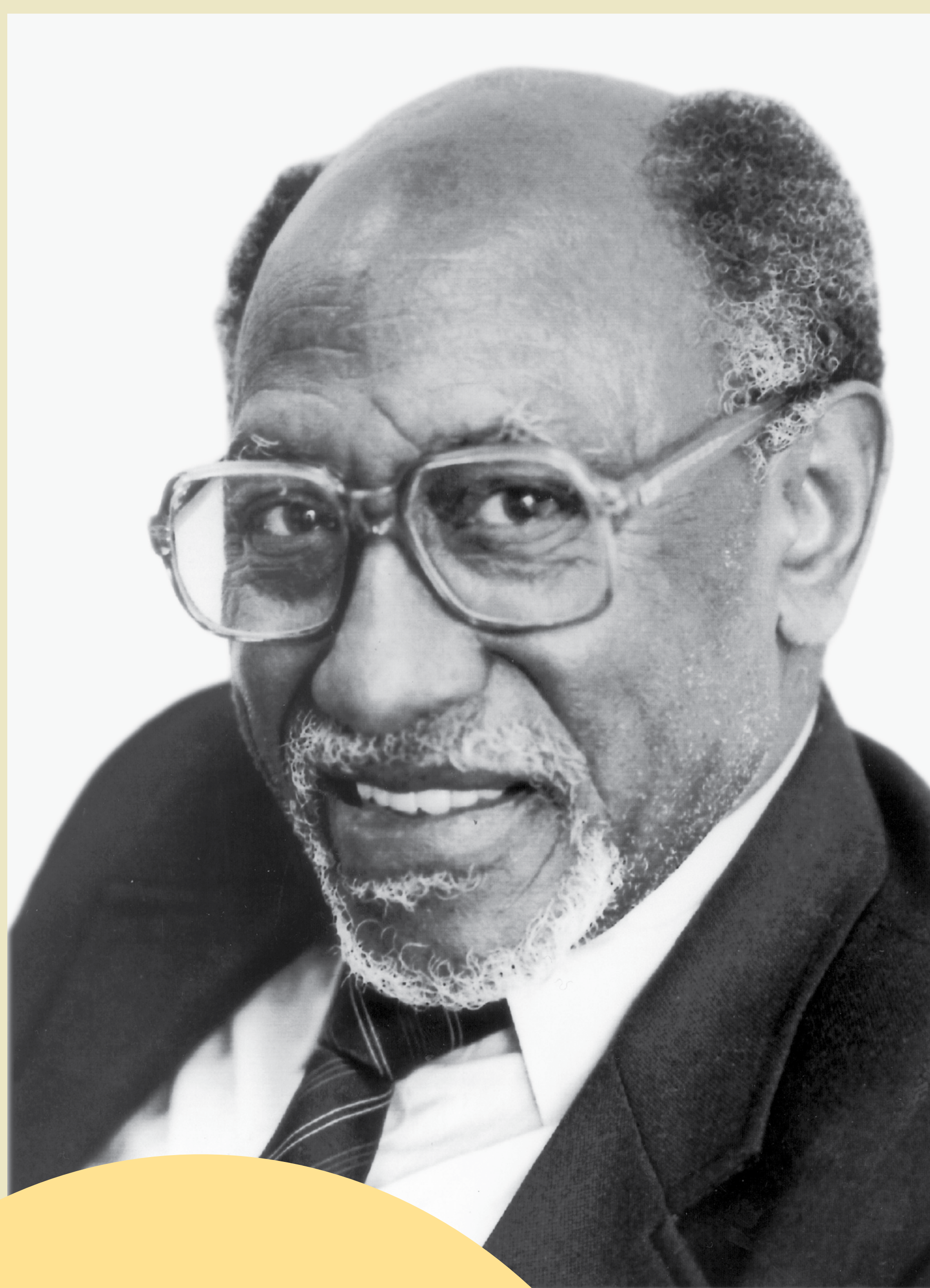
Ella Louise Jenkins

Timuel D. **BLACK, Jr.**

Educator

Community Leader

Oral Historian



Timuel Black was born in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1917. His family migrated to Chicago in 1918. In a distinguished career spanning over five decades, Black has worked as an educator, community activist, and author. As a soldier in World War II, he participated in the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany, a life-altering experience. After witnessing the atrocities of fascism and war first hand, Black made a resolution to spend the rest of his life peacefully advocating for social justice.

As a teacher in the 1960s, Black reached out to youth in Chicago gangs, preaching reconciliation and peace. He also worked with the Congress On Racial Equality (CORE) and numerous civil rights, peace, and labor groups. Tim Black also worked to raise awareness about AIDS in the Black community in the 1990s.

After years of research, Black published *Bridges of Memory* in 2005, a book that documents through oral history testimony the experiences of Black Chicagoans during the Great Migration. A great storyteller and public historian, Tim Black has been featured in the PBS documentaries "Going to Chicago" and the award-winning "Soldiers without Swords" on the Black press.

Black is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including Chicago Man of the Year in 1994. He is a legendary figure in Chicago's south side Bronzeville community.

"We are—regardless
of whether we are
White or Black—the results
of those of our
ancestors who had
a **dream** in their
hearts; a spirituality
that told them
somehow, **one day**,
it was going
to get **better**."

Timuel D. Black, Jr.