



10 year old Jabari loves to draw. And through his art and in his dreams, he escapes the reality of the turbulent world around him, including a friend hurt by police violence. In his dream, he meets young people from the Civil Rights Era, including Ruby Bridges and Claudette Colvin, who teach him to be fearless. He meets his hero, Barack Obama, as a 7 year old boy on the eve of the assassination of MLK, Jr... Will Jabari learn to take these lessons back into his own life and heal his community? Using rap, freedom songs, history, and humor, this play explores what it means to have courage in a world where Black children, Black boys, are not safe.

The performance is approximately 48 minutes long. You can watch it all at once or in 4 episodes with the accompanying discussion questions. Be sure to watch the "Before the show" and "After the show" videos to learn more about the creative team, inspiration for *Jabari Dreams of Freedom*, and for some guided activities in art making and acting.

Before the Show - Approx 15:36 minutes

Who are some of the artists that created *Jabari Dreams Of Freedom*? What are their roles?

What does your protest sign say? What is a message you want to share with the world?

Episode One - Approx. 13:13 minutes

Jabari Dreams of Freedom uses lots of illustration and visuals to create Jabari's home, his drawings, and the world of the Live Stream. What did you notice about the design? How does the design change in different moments of the story?

After Jabari and his friend Emmett's experience with the cops, Jabari doesn't want to go to school anymore. Why do you think that is? What do you think happened?

We see Jabari express himself through sketching and draw what his perfect, peaceful ideal place would be, where he would want to live forever (with a live stream camera of course!) How would you describe your ideal world? Can you draw it?

We follow Jabari into a dream-like world, ending up inside the internet and then meeting a guide in the form of Jabari's forever President Barack Obama. Who would you like to guide you on a dream journey and why?

Episode 2 - Approx. 12:31 minutes.

Jabari Dreams of Freedom uses music throughout the performance. How does the music make each scene feel? What would the story have been like without the music?

Traditional Negro spiritual songs are also called "Freedom Songs" - why do you think that they are called that?

Have you ever been afraid of something? If so, what? How did you conquer your fear?

In his scene with Arnetta Streeter and James Stewart from the Children's March, there's a moment where they are about to give up. Jabari asks "how can I make them see that what they are doing is important? What would you tell them if you were me?" How would you respond? How do you encourage friends and family to take positive action?

Episode 3 - Approx 13:24 minutes

What does Jabari learn from Claudette, Ruby, and the other young people of the Civil Rights Movement? What does Jabari and kids today have in common with their struggles? What has changed?

At first, Jabari doesn't want to learn about civil rights - why do you think this was? How does his understanding change after meeting some of the young people involved in the movement?

How do you think learning history changes the way someone sees the present? What are parts of history that you want to learn more about?

Episode 4 - Approx. 13 minutes

In his dream, Jabari gets to meet his hero, his forever president Barack Obama as a young boy. Who is your personal hero? Imagine a scene between you and them as a kid. What would you say to them?

Who was your favorite character in this story and why?

Have you ever stood up for a friend? Or fought for something in which you believed? If so, how?

This production highlighted some of the young people in the Civil Rights Movement - who else do you know that fought for someone else's rights or who are fighting for movements today (like Greta Thunberg for climate change and Malala Yousefzai for female education)? If you were to lead or join a movement, what would you fight for?

What is your definition of bravery? Of freedom?

After the show - Interviews with the Creative Team - Approximately 13:32 minutes

How did Nambi E. Kelley's family inspire her to write *Jabari Dreams of Freedom*?

What inspires Lori Sinclair Minor in her performance?

What inspires Joe Plummer as he created the music and movement?

What inspires you? Who inspires you?

Daniel Carlton shares some of his favorite moments of the play and why. What were some of your favorites?

Check out the hands on art activities for a guided acting exercise, painting lesson, and origami lesson. Share your creations with Jabari by emailing jabaridreamsoffreedom@gmail.com

