

HOPE OF AMERICA 2025

Set list in performance order *with instructions*

STAR SPANGLED BANNER *Stand and raise flag as color guard enters arena - right hand over heart, flag held still in the left. Keep flag raised through the pledge, the national anthem and the color guard exit from arena. (flag is stored in the cup holder in front of student's seat after singing)*

Oh say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed, at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming.
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave?
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

HOPE OF AMERICA – *With actions*

CHORUS

We're the hope of America
Where there's hope there's America
She's a land that we love blessed by heaven above
Please protect our rights and liberty.
We're the hope of America
Stand and shout for America.
Where the brave, where the strong, where the dreams belong.
The hope of America.

Keep the spirit alive with a heart united
Working with each other every day
Be courageous and strong with a voice that's singing
Hail to the USA!
We will fight for our honor, defend our freedom
Just like Abe Lincoln we will say
United we stand, divided we fall.
This is our country she needs us all.

REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) America! America! America! My own!

THE BILL OF RIGHTS – *With actions*

In our Constitution, there's a written guarantee,
That defends our rights, and protects our liberty.
It's called The Bill of Rights, forever it will be
The document of freedom that will keep this country free.

CHORUS

Free to peaceably assemble
Free without punishment or fear
Free to petition any grievance
We want our government to hear.
We are free to speak and print our thoughts.
Free to disagree with what they say.
Free to have a trial by jury.
Free to worship how we may.

We just cannot be deprived of life or liberty.
Due process of law is there protecting you and me.
We have the Bill of Rights, it's there to keep us free.
We have the right to choose and reach our destiny.

REPEAT CHORUS

THANK YOU, MILITARY - *Stand with hand over heart, flags held still throughout verse in left hand. Do horizontal figure 8s with the flags at the phrase "And with our flags a wavin' we'll proudly stand and say" Flags freeze at the word "say." Flags held still for duration..*

It takes a lot of courage to have to say goodbye
Not knowing as you go to war if you will live or die.
Many make this sacrifice, and they fight to keep us free.
They're doing it for each of us. They're doing it for me.

CHORUS

Thank you, military, our country's proud of you.
We are all so grateful for everything you do!
(figure 8 here) And with our flags a wavin', we'll proudly stand
and say (flag freezes and is held still for the duration)
Thank you, military. We honor you today.

It takes a lot of courage for families left behind.
They worry for your safe return. You're always on their mind.
We pray your strength will change this earth –
That one day we will see
A world that's filled with hope and love with peace and
harmony!

REPEAT CHORUS (horizontal figure 8 again)

The Army and the Navy, the Air Force and Marines,
To our Allied Forces and those behind the scenes,
Let's not forget our Coast Guard. They protect our homeland too.
America is grateful. We give our thanks to you!

REPEAT CHORUS (horizontal figure 8 again)

(tag) Thank you, military. We honor you today.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE – With actions. **RED** and **BLUE** signs will be held up by leaders on the floor. Watch! Divide your students odds and evens, girls and boys, or simply reds or blues – in half, however you'd like. In class, practice standing for **RED** or **BLUE** with ALL students singing both parts. Remind students to keep hands behind their backs for this song.

(Red stands) The Declaration of Independence
Says "we hold these truths to be"

(Blue stands) "All men are created equal" to live in harmony

(Red stands) "They are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights"

(Blue stands) "That among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

CHORUS *(Everyone stands to lean side to side while clapping)*

The Declaration of Independence

"In the name, and by authority"

Declare that these United Colonies

Are "free and independent states"

A land of liberty!

(Red) It was written by Thomas Jefferson, signed on the 4th of July.

(Blue) It declared our independence and told the reasons why.

(Red) in support of this Declaration, valiant men, strong and true

(Blue) They bravely "pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor" too.

REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) it declared our independence and fought to keep men free!

(This is not on the training video, but watch the directors for a salute on the last beat of the song.)

IN AMERICA'S HISTORY – Sing while video is shown

In America's history, I see the light of liberty;

Patriots who sacrificed to make this country free.

Men like George Washington, Patrick Henry, Jefferson,

Paul Revere, and Hamilton each wrote their story.

CHORUS

Our founding fathers gave their all.

They left their homes to heed the call.

They fought and died so we can be

In a land where all are free.

In America's history, I see a flag of liberty;

O'er the battlefield she waved praying for victory

With the fighting all but done, it was clear which side had won

Shining brightly in the sun there stood Old Glory

REPEAT CHORUS

In America's history, there is a place for you and me

For we have the right to choose - be what we want to be.

As we follow freedom's light, we will stand for what is right

And we'll serve with all our might our God and country!

REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) In America's history, there is a place for you and me

We're a light of liberty.

OUR FLAG – THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE – Using flags and standing on cue. Students will stand and wave their flag as the song lyrics cue them (and only then): for red, white, blue, and the stars (assigned from blue shirted schools), and stripes (red and white shirted schools) See bolded lyrics below.

A promise for our future, a reminder of our past

The flag of the United States, a symbol meant to last.

And when we see it waving, let's pledge allegiance to

This symbol of our country – the red, white, and blue.

CHORUS *(by the final weeks before the show you'll know your tee shirt color and can practice standing on cue)*

Red in our flag it stands for courage

Blue symbolizes loyalty.

White is the color – unlike all others – it stands for purity.

One **star** for each state in our union.

Stripes for the thirteen colonies (then stripes sit down)

Liberty under law, it is a symbol of a country that is free.

We're proud to see these colors wave over land and sea.

This banner of America says that we are free!

With hearts and hands together, we show our reverence to

This emblem of our country – the red, white and blue.

REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) All our hearts are filled with pride

when the flag goes marching by.

This country will always be a land of liberty!

REPEAT CHORUS

I LOVE AMERICA – *(sing while video is shown)*

I love to see a baby – a mother's tender care.
The future of America she is holding there.
I love to see small children with hands upon their heart.
They pledge allegiance to our flag before their lessons start
I love to see "Old Glory" in the breeze
Stars and stripes shining bright – it tells the world we're free.

CHORUS I love America! Long live this land of liberty.
I love America! This is the place I want to be.
I love this land from sea to shining sea.
I love America the homeland of the free.

I love to see the farmlands and smell the new mown hay,
A farmer on a tractor working hard each day.
I love to see a church house where people go to pray
They are seeking guidance to live from day to day.
Many different cultures I can see,
They all came to this land. They wanted to be free!

REPEAT CHORUS

We stand united all as one, defending our liberty.
And honor those who fight to keep us safe from harm
Protecting our right to be free.

REPEAT CHORUS *(first three lines only, then add tag)*
(tag) I love America. I love America.
I love America, the homeland of the free.

AMERICA ROCKS – *(with actions and sunglasses)*

If you see a great big smile lighting up my face,
It's because I know I live in a downright wonderful place.
When I see red, white, and blue, my heart turns inside out,
From a feeling deep inside that makes me want to shout!

CHORUS

America Rocks! America Rocks!
From its busy bustling cities to its quiet country walks,
America Rocks.
It's totally cool, It's totally hot! I mean it's like right there at the top!
America Rocks! America Rocks! America Rocks!
When you hear my happy voice singing clear and strong,
Maybe you could join right in and we'll all be singing along.
When we sing allegiance to this country that we love,
We can let the whole world know we're feeling great because

REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) Rocks! Rocks! Rocks! America Rocks!

AMERICA ROCKS – *(with actions and sunglasses)*

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REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) Rocks! Rocks! Rocks! America Rocks!

WE CAN BE A LIGHT – *(with flashlights. Emphasis on flashlights remaining flat on student's knee until the designated time - to create our desired effect)*

Wherever there is darkness, together we'll bring light.
Let it shine on all God's children - shine with all your might.
For those who feel forgotten, who are lost along their way,
This lights a new beginning - shining bright,
it's there to light the way.

CHORUS

We can be a light, shining everywhere,
All across America, showing people that we care.
Oh, let your light so shine, helping others find their way.
We can turn the darkest night into the brightest day.
We can make this light shine brighter by reaching out our hand
To the poor and to the needy all throughout this land.
Let's combine our lights together into one enormous ray.
This lights a new beginning, shining bright,
it's there to light the way.

REPEAT CHORUS

All across America, people reaching out their hand.
Bring your light and join our chorus.
Everyone, shine bright throughout this land.

REPEAT CHORUS

(tag) We can be a light shining everywhere. All across America!