

# HOPE OF AMERICA 2025

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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

America! America! America! My own!

**UTAH – THIS IS THE PLACE!** - *Sing while video is shown*

Utah! People working together.  
Utah! What a great place to be.  
Blessed from heaven above;  
it's the land that we love!  
This is the place!

Utah! With its mountains and valleys.  
Utah! With its canyons and streams.

You can go anywhere, but there's none that compare.  
This is the place!

It was Brigham Young who led the pioneers across the plains.  
They suffered with the trials they had to face.  
With faith they kept on going 'till they reached the Great Salt Lake.  
Here they heard the words, "This is the place!"

Utah! With its focus on family.  
Utah! Helps each child to succeed.  
People care how they live. Each has so much to give.  
This is the place!

Utah! Getting bigger and better.  
Utah! Always leading the way.  
New technology's here. Growing faster each year.  
This is the place!

There is beauty in the snow-capped mountains,  
in the lakes and streams.  
There are valleys filled with farms and orchards too.  
The spirit of its people shows in everything they do.  
Utah is the place where dreams come true.

Utah! With its pioneer spirit.  
Utah! What a great legacy!  
Blessed from heaven above.  
It's the land that we love.  
This is the place!  
Utah! Utah! Utah! This is the place!

**I HAVE A DREAM** - *Sing while video is shown*

"I have a dream" that one day we will see  
A world that's filled with hope, peace, and harmony.  
A place where all are free and have equality.  
That is the way it ought to be!

**CHORUS:** I have a dream, I have a dream  
For all of God's children, let freedom ring!  
Martin Luther King said, "I have a dream."  
Now's the time for brotherhood. Let's all join hands and sing.

"I have a dream" that one day there will be  
Fair laws and civil rights for all humanity.  
And justice is for all, men walk with dignity.  
That is the way it ought to be!

## REPEAT CHORUS

It doesn't really matter the color of our skin  
But the content of our character is where we should begin!

"I have a dream" that one day we'll be free  
From hate and racial strife and senseless cruelty  
A brotherhood of man where all of us are free.  
That is the way it ought to be.

#### REPEAT CHORUS

Now's the time for brotherhood. Let's all join hands and sing.  
I have a dream!

#### **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

**ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE** - *The chorus sings verse three times with dance sequences between. On the training video, students sing at 0:16, at 2:35, and at 5:00. (Dances are being revamped this year.)*

All kinds of people came to America to let their freedom ring.  
All kinds of people came to America. It's about them we sing.  
All kinds of people came to America and did it on their own.  
All kinds of people came to America to make this land their home.

(Dance segment)

**REPEAT VERSE @2:35**

(Dance segment)

**REPEAT VERSE @5:00** America!

**THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE** – *With actions. RED and BLUE signs will be held by leaders on the floor. Divide your class girls and boys, or odds and evens – 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)* "They are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights.

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

CHORUS: *(Everyone stands and claps)*

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.

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.)*

**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. Store flag in cup holder.*

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 @ “and with...”*)

Thank you, military. We honor you today.

**THIS IS AMERICA** – *With actions*

This is America. Let Freedom ring.  
This is America Everyone sing.  
This is America. Land of the Brave  
This is America.

Protecting liberty. Day by day.  
Do it with dignity. All of the way.  
We'll give our loyalty. It's here to stay  
To the land we love - our own USA

**Chorus:** This is America (America!) Let freedom ring.

This is America. (America!) Everyone sing.

This is America. (America!) Land of the brave.

This is America.

Protecting liberty. (Liberty!) Day by day.

Do it with dignity (Dignity!) All the way.

We'll give our loyalty (Loyalty!) It's here to stay.

To the land we love - our own USA.

(Musical and Spoken Bridge)

**Repeat Chorus** This is America!

**AMERICAN HEROES** – *Sing while video is shown*

Someone cries out for help, and you answer the call.  
Courageous hero, you've given your all.  
To save someone's life you put yourself in harm's way.  
And that is the task that you do every day!

**CHORUS:** American heroes, you will always be  
Forever remembered in our history.

American heroes, you'll never die in vain.

You live in our hearts and we honor your name!

Your task is not easy and the risk is so high.

With courage you rescue, and are willing to die.

To save someone else, you will search high and low

Risk your own life for those you don't know!

**REPEAT CHORUS**

American heroes, we honor your name!

**OUR FLAG – THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE** *Using flags and standing on cue. Yellow shirts will wave flags through the entire song. Others will stand and wave their flag as the song lyrics cue them (and only then): for red, white, blue, stars (from blue schools), and stripes (red and white 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:** **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 (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**

All our hearts are filled with pride when the flag goes  
marching by.

This country will always be a land of liberty!

**REPEAT CHORUS****IN AMERICA'S HISTORY** – *Sing while video is shown*

In America's History, I see the light of liberty;  
Patriots who sacrificed to keep 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 vict'ry  
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 well serve with all our might our God and country!

**REPEAT CHORUS**

In America's history, there is a place for you and me  
We're a light of liberty.

**AMERICA ROCKS** – *With actions and sun glasses*

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**

Rocks! Rocks! Rocks! America Rocks! *(store sunglasses in  
cupholder in front of seat)*

**WE CAN BE A LIGHT** – *with flashlights. Emphasis on flashlights  
COMPLETELY flat on student's knee 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 light's 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 light's 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**

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

**AT THE MARRIOTT CENTER:**

- *Students will leave any tee shirt that they've been given for the 'setting of the flag' on back of their chair.*
- *As they leave, students should pick up any flag, glasses, or flashlight that has been left behind by their group and give it to their teacher at the exit point.*
- *Students need to exit quickly, never running, using all aisles, being careful to not lose sight of the students in front of them. Line leaders must be aware of others behind them.*
- *Once the class arrives at their patio gathering place, Students are instructed to STAY there until parent pick-up.*