

States Day Playlist



The Star Spangled Banner

https://youtu.be/xh20Xsn_p9k

[full]

https://youtu.be/z8Rf7beku_4

[karaoke]

The Road To Freedom

<https://youtu.be/W9Q8qXBzpdI>

My Country 'Tis Of Thee

<https://youtu.be/sN2I6vdzqts> [full]

<https://youtu.be/JE1QnZMi0jo>

[karaoke]

This Is My Country

<https://youtu.be/oDbzJyXr9pE>

[full]

<https://youtu.be/91tZb4Kf6PA>

[karaoke]

This Land Is Your Land

<https://youtu.be/z1Bo6xFg9x0>

[full]

<https://youtu.be/9XG5anqFRHc>

[karaoke]

Army Theme: Over Hill, Over Dale

<https://youtu.be/-4sV5uWrptk>

[full]

<https://youtu.be/H7oYoQiY6zo>

[karaoke]

You're A Grand Old Flag

<https://youtu.be/vsv8LF8y9Uk>

[full]

<https://youtu.be/-VOA9JD-FF4>

[karaoke]

God Bless America

<https://youtu.be/7AOAH2lv3H0>

[full]

<https://youtu.be/yL3ZMkdUTN8>

[karaoke]

Fifty Nifty United States

<https://youtu.be/WhDrGnjacvA>

[full]

<https://youtu.be/9rSHNFVUtUE>

[karaoke]

States Day Speeches and Lyrics



[Speaker #1] Good morning and welcome. Let us say the Pledge of Allegiance. Please stand. Put your right hand over your heart. Ready, begin.

[All] "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Now, _____ will sing the Star Spangled Banner.

[Singer #1] 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 rocket's 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?

[Speaker #2] We will now share some of America's most favorite patriotic songs. Our first song was written by Teresa Jennings as an homage to the spirituals inspired by the struggle against slavery by protesters, activists and civil rights leaders during the 1950s and 1960s. It is called "The Road To Freedom." This song will be sung by _____. Please enjoy!

The Road To Freedom

[Singer #2] The road to freedom is at my feet,
down where the crossroads meet.
The road to freedom is by my side,
up where the angels glide.
Oh, freedom calls to me.
Come on, people, can't you see?
Oh, freedom calls to me.
Freedom calls to me
The road to freedom is at my door,

Down by that rocky shore.
The road to freedom is right by me,
Up where the birds are free.
Oh, freedom calls to me.
Come on, people, can't you see?
Oh, freedom calls to me.
Freedom calls to me.

[Speaker #3] "My Country 'Tis of Thee" is one of America's most famous patriotic songs. The melody used is the same as that of the national anthem of the United Kingdom, "God Save The Queen." The song served as one of the national anthems of the United States before the adoption of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the official anthem in 1931. The story goes that exactly one hundred years earlier, Samuel Francis Smith, while he was a student at the Andover Theological Seminary in Massachusetts, completed the lyrics in only thirty minutes, and it was first performed in Boston on July 4 of that year. It will be sung by_____. Please enjoy!

My Country 'Tis Of Thee

[Singer #3] My country 'tis of thee
Sweet land of liberty
Of thee I sing!
Land where my fathers died
Land of the pilgrim's pride
From every mountainside
Let freedom ring!

[Speaker #4] The lyrics for "**America The Beautiful**" were written by an English professor, Katharine Lee Bates, In 1893, she had taken a train trip to Colorado to teach college summer school. She was inspired by Chicago with its alabaster buildings; the wheat fields of Kansas, and the majestic view of the Great Plains from Pikes Peak. She began to write her poem on that mountaintop.

[Speaker #5] The music was composed by church organist and choirmaster Samuel A. Ward. The tune came to him while he was on a ferryboat trip from Coney Island back to his home in New York City. He was so anxious to capture the music in his head, he asked his friend for his shirt cuff to write the tune on. The music and lyrics combined were published together in 1910 and titled "America the Beautiful." Please enjoy!

America The Beautiful

[Singer #4] O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain
America, America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

[Speaker#6] "This Is My Country" was composed in 1940 by the popular songwriters Don Raye and Al Jacobs.

Jacobs was born on January 22, 1903, in San Francisco, California and Raye was born March 16, 1909, in Washington, D.C. They both passed away in early 1985, within a month of each other.

"This is My Country" was played nightly during the finale of the Disneyland and Disney World fireworks spectacular. Please enjoy!

This Is My Country

[Singer #5] This is my country, land of my birth.
This is my country, grandest on earth.
I pledge thee my allegiance, America the bold.
For this is my country, to have and to hold!

[Speaker #7] **"This Land Is Your Land"** is one of the United States' most famous folk songs. It was composed by folk singer Woody Guthrie in 1940, but found its greatest popularity in the 1960s, when several artists of the new folk movement, including Bob Dylan, The Kingston Trio, and Peter, Paul & Mary all recorded versions, inspired by its political message. Please enjoy!

This Land Is Your Land

[Singer #6] This land is your land, this land is my land
From California, to the New York island
From the redwood forest, to the gulfstream waters
This land was made for you and me.

As I went walking that ribbon of highway
I saw above me that endless skyway
I saw below me that golden valley
This land was made for you and me.

This land is your land, this land is my land
From California, to the New York island
From the redwood forest, to the gulf stream waters
This land was made for you and me.

[Speaker#8] The U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard had already adopted official songs, and the Army was eager to find a song of its own. In 1948, a contest was held, and 800 songs were submitted. The winning song was performed at President Eisenhower's inaugural parade. However, many thought that the tune was too similar to "I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts," so they instead used an adaptation of an earlier work titled the "U.S. Field Artillery March". This song is played most U.S. Army ceremonies, and all soldiers are expected to stand at attention and sing. Please enjoy!

The Song of the U.S. Army

[Singer #7] Over hill, over dale, we have hit the dusty trail
And those caissons go rolling along.
Countermarch, right about
Hear those wagon soldiers shout
While those Caissons go rolling along.
For it's hi, hi, hee in the field artillery.
Call off your numbers loud and strong, 2 3 4
Hut! 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3
And where-e'er we go, you will always know
That those caissons are rolling along.

[Speaker #9] "You're a Grand Old Flag" is an American patriotic march. The song, a spirited march written by George M. Cohan, is a tribute to the American flag. The song was first publicly performed on February 6, the play's opening night, at Herald Square Theater in New York City. "You're a Grand Old Flag" quickly became the first song from a musical to sell over a million copies of sheet music. The lyrics came from an encounter Cohen had with a Civil War veteran who fought at Gettysburg. Cohan noticed the vet held a carefully folded but ragged old flag. The soldier said to Cohen: "She's a grand old rag," and the composer originally named his tune "Grand Old Rag." But people objected to calling the flag a "rag," that he renamed the song "You're a Grand Old Flag". Please enjoy!

You're a Grand Old Flag

[Singer #8] You're a grand old flag, you're a high-flyin' flag
And forever in peace may you wave.
You're the emblem of the land I love
The home of the free and the brave.
Every heart beats true 'neath the Red, White and Blue
Where there's never a boast or brag.
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
Keep your eye on the grand old flag.

[Speaker #10] America's unofficial national anthem, "**God Bless America,**" was composed by an immigrant who left his home in Siberia for the United States when he was only five years old. Irving Berlin wrote it during the summer of 1918 at Camp Upton, Long Island, for his musical revue. However, the song never made the final cut for that show. In the fall of 1938, as war was again threatening Europe, singer Kate Smith introduced "God Bless America" during her radio broadcast on Armistice Day, 1938. This prayer for God's blessing and peace for the nation was an immediate sensation. Berlin soon established the God Bless America Fund, dedicating the royalties to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America. Please enjoy!

God Bless America

[Singer #9] While the storm clouds gather far across the sea
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair
As we raise our voices
In a solemn prayer...)

God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home!

[Speaker #11] Fifth Graders all over the country learn the choral anthem "**Fifty Nifty United States**" in which Charles Raymond Offenbeger set the names of the states to music in alphabetical order. Known also as Ray Charles, the singer/songwriter composed the song for his own vocal group, which was featured on Perry Como's records and television shows for 35 years. Mr. Charles passed away at the age of 96 just over a year ago in Beverly Hills. Please enjoy!

Fifty Nifty United States

[Singer #10] Fifty nifty United States
from thirteen original colonies;
Fifty nifty stars in the flag
that billows so beautifully in the breeze.
Each individual state
contributes a quality that is great.
Each individual state deserves a bow,
we salute them now.
Fifty nifty United States
from thirteen original colonies,
Shout 'em, scout 'em, tell all about 'em,

One by one till we've given a day to every state in the U.S.A.
Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas,
California, Colorado, Connecticut;
Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii,
Idaho, Illinois, Indiana;
Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts,
Michigan;
Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada;
New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico,
New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio;
Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South
Dakota, Tennessee, Texas;
Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington,
West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming!
North, south, east, west,
in our calm, objective opinion,
California is the best of the
Fifty nifty United States
from thirteen original colonies,
Shout 'em, scout 'em, Tell all about 'em,
One by one till we've given a day to every state in the good old U. S. A!