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Margaret Murray Washington: The life and Times of a Career Clubwoman

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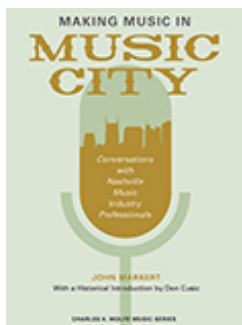
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Making Music in Music City: Conversations with Nashville Music Industry Professionals



John Markert
Knoxville: University of
Tennessee Press, 2021
ISBN: 9781621906445
218 p. \$34.95 (Hbk)

Cumberland University Sociology professor John Markert authored *Making Music in Music City* by conducting more than 100 interviews with music industry professionals in Nashville, Tennessee. Reaching out to producers, publishers, song writers and management, Markert collected and provided insights through his research for those of us who find the business of music elusive.

At the beginning of his narrative Markert invited Don Cusic of Belmont University to set the historical stage for the birth and growth of Nashville's title as "music city." "It is not really a Nashville sound but rather Nashville sounds that make it known all over the world as Music City U.S.A." Nashville is the "Capital of Country Music" but it is much more than that. In Nashville there are musicians, songwriters, producers, executives and others involved in pop, rock, jazz, rap, classical, gospel and contemporary Christian music" (p.1).

Additional information in the appendix will appeal to individuals who see themselves needing names and places to research in music publishing, producing, recording, distributing and promoting music. Additionally, the Notes and Index provide topical guides to helpful research. Recommended to public and music libraries.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

Margaret Murray Washington: The life and Times of a Career Clubwoman

Sheena Harris
Knoxville: University of
Tennessee Press, 2021
ISBN: 9781621906193
210 p. \$55.00 (Hbk)

Why did Sheena Harris choose to research and compile a biography of Margaret Murray Washington? In the Introduction, Harris states: "This is the first biography of Margaret Murray Washington. Outside of the occasional mentions when discussing club work or (her husband) Booker T. Washing-



ton, there is not a single monograph on her life...to be sure, the life of Washington is an American saga that broadens our understanding of race in America, higher education, black organizations and the larger Civil Rights Movement" (p.3).

Why is Margaret Murray Washington held up as a leader who opened doors to many of her fellow women of color? Consider her leadership roles as a college principal, founder and president of the Tuskegee Woman's Club, the National Federation of Afro-American Women, the National Association of Colored Women, the Alabama Federation of Colored Women, the Southern Federation of Colored Women and the International Council of Women of the Darker Races of the World" (p.147).

Throughout the author's research findings, Sheena Harris found important leadership skills utilized by Margaret Murray Washington to educate, motivate, and integrate her beliefs in the strengths and abilities of women of color. Born into a time when her mother was a slave and her father was absent from the home, there arose a deep understanding of Margaret's social and political boundaries constraining women's rise to leadership in the Jim Crow era. Yet, through persistence and a belief in the power of uplift (her leadership concept) and a desire for personal fulfillment, Margaret Murray Washington rose to become a beloved national figure.

A Conclusion on p. 147, Notes on p. 155, and a bibliography on p. 191. Shenna Harris provides excellent notation for research. Recommended for women's studies resource materials, for academic libraries, and archival collections.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS