

Diane L. White-Clayton, Ph.D.

Composer ~ Vocalist ~ Pianist ~ Conductor ~ Speaker ~ Author ~ Clinician

A native of Washington, DC, Diane holds a Ph.D. and MA in Music Composition from the University of California at Santa Barbara and BA in music from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri with emphases in Composition, Voice, and Piano. As a Rotary Scholar, she studied classical piano at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris performing solo Gospel concerts throughout Europe as an Ambassador of Goodwill.

Affectionately known as "Dr. Dee", Diane travels extensively as a vocalist, pianist, composer, conductor, workshop clinician, and speaker. She has held numerous positions at universities, colleges and churches across the country including Artistic Director with the Washington Performing Arts Society; Artist-in-Residence and Assistant Director of African-American Student Development at Appalachian State University; Artist-in-Residence at Westmont College; Composer-in-Residence at Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Scholar-in-Residence at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa; and Choral Conductor at the New Christ Memorial Church under legendary Gospel great, Pastor Andraé Crouch. She is on the faculty of Loyola Marymount University as well as Choral Conductor at the 6,000-member Faithful Central Bible Church in Inglewood, California under the headship of internationally esteemed, Bishop Kenneth C. Ulmer, where she founded the acclaimed Sacred Praise Chorale. She also works as a Vocal Workshop Clinician with the Disney Performing Arts Conservatory in Anaheim and is the Artistic Director of the famed Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers.

Possessing a three-and-a-half octave range, Diane weaves her high operatic soprano voice with her soulful gospel roots in her self-produced recordings. As a composer, her works have been performed across the globe at such venues as the John F. Kennedy Center, Air Canada Centre and the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Whether arrangements of African or Korean folk song, atonal classical works, inspiration sacred pieces or her much-celebrated arrangement of the Hatikvah, Dr. Dee's compositions and performances demonstrate a mélange of the power of gospel music, the technique of classical music and the colors of jazz.

An inspirational speaker and author, Dr. Dee combines an inviting genuineness with humor, eloquence and faith. She is founder and CEO of BYTHAX, a company committed to providing published works and live performances with excellence as well as supporting Christian artists both in the church and in secular arenas. She is the author of "Journey to the Altar," an encouragement for single women who have waited for love, inspired by her own story. Diane is happily married to her best friend and business partner, Joe Louis Clayton, former recording and touring R&B percussionist.