

Aretha Franklin was an American singer, songwriter, actress and pianist. She also spent most of her life campaigning for equal rights for women and Black people, writing songs which became important parts of social change.



Use the QR code to listen to RESPECT.

Musician

Aretha Franklin

Making Connections ...



Use this QR code to listen to Aretha sing 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee' at President Barak Obama's Inauguration in 2009.



Aretha Franklin was a U.S. singer and songwriter. She defined the golden age of soul music in the 1960s and was crowned the "Queen of Soul." Aretha's music career continued for nearly 60 years during which time she released 112 songs which hit the charts and sold more than 75 million records worldwide. Aretha also received many awards for her music, including 18 Grammy Awards.

Aretha Franklin was born on March 25, 1942, in Memphis, Tennessee. Her mother was a **gospel** singer, and her father was a nationally known minister at the New Bethel Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan. Franklin sang in the church's choir and was recognized as a vocal prodigy (an unusually talented child).



Use the QR code to listen to 'I say a little prayer'.

of the Month

Use the QR code to listen to 'Think'.



In 1981, she was given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and even had an asteroid in space named after her by NASA. In 1987, she became the first woman to be added to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In 2005, Aretha was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest civilian award of the United States, for helping to shape America's artistic and cultural heritage.

