

• 2026-27 • HOPE OF AMERICA •

• **TIMELINE FOR TEACHERS** •



AUGUST

- Hope of America performance dates announced
 - Tuesday, May 4th with a **Monday** morning dress rehearsal at 10:30
 - Wednesday, May 5th with same-day dress rehearsal at 10:30 – note: Alpine SD schools from Orem only; no issues for other districts
 - Thursday, May 6th with same-day dress rehearsal at 10:30

SEPTEMBER

- Tuesday, September 8th at 10 AM – school registration opens at hopeofamerica.org
 - Schools or groups register their intent to participate
 - Groups submit their preference for performance date and provide contact info and other notes
 - Optional: a meeting with our HOA team at their school may be requested
- Friday, September 18th – interest in being a floor school may be indicated by email
- Note: September 17th-23rd Constitution Week is celebrated every year
- The Freedom Festival's Constitution Month Contest entries are due October 1st with prizes up to \$1,000.
<https://freedomfestival.org/constitution-month-teacher-contest/>
- Visit our website to teach your first Hope of America song at <https://utcounty.hopeofamerica.org/resources>

OCTOBER

- First week in October – schools are notified of performance date
- Save the date fliers will be made available to teachers
- Lead teachers may get an early start to order buses for May's rehearsal at BYU Marriott Center. - Request a 10:15 arrival. BYU museums and on-campus excursions fill early on these dates.
- Accept our challenge to teach one Hope of America song each month this fall!

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

- Teachers with a head start on Hope of America songs are happy when spring comes. Keep up the good work!
- Get your students excited about the show by sharing clips like this one. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrxpPEHCDXg> or by sharing parts of the production from our website at utcounty.hopeofamerica.org/memories

JANUARY

- January 11th – Our student online registration window opens through March 15th
 - Your team chooses when, during our 9-week window, to send parent notes. We suggest you set your own shorter window and get this wrapped up well before the March 15th date.
 - We'll send updates twice weekly for you to track your class's progress.
 - \$10/child online registration
 - Make note of students requiring financial assistance
 - Resources for financial support will become available after March 1st
 - Permission slips will be tracked digitally on our website.
 - Paper permission slips will ONLY be needed for sponsored or bulk registrations (paid by PTA/school/sponsor)
- Weekly practices need to begin this month if you haven't already.
- Check on your American flag supply. Order additional 8 x 12" flags, if needed. 1 for each student, in bulk online

FEBRUARY

- Groups should have a good start with songs and actions. There are 15 songs this year – 6 with actions.
- Encourage student registrations well before the March 15th deadline.
- Be sure to order a tee shirts for each member of your team

MARCH

- March 15th, deadline for student online registration.
- Teachers and students will continue their work in preparation for HOA show
- HOA team begins preparing arena assignments, tee shirt order, and training floor schools,
- Order and production work begins on 7,000 tee shirts

APRIL

- MANDATORY PRE-PRODUCTION MEETING
 - 4:30 – 5:15 PM, Week of April 12th Date and location TBA
 - One lead teacher or designee to attend from each school or group
 - Packet with final instructions, placement in flag, exit plan, and each group's tee shirts will be distributed

MAY 3, 5, & 6 - M, W and Th

- 1 ½ hour dress rehearsal at the Marriott Center will begin at 10:30 AM
 - Students and teachers wear HOA shirt, bring flashlights and sunglasses
 - Teachers will bring flags (one per performer) and collect them at the end of rehearsal for the evening performance. Also bring school sign, seating and exit documents.
 - Exit rehearsal by your assigned route. Proceed to assigned meeting place/patio outside. Have students take note. Explain that they will exit this same way the night of their performance.

MAY 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH. Hope of America will also be livestreamed for those unable to attend

- Marriott Center doors open at 5:30, security will be active (bag check) with concessions available
- **Students are to arrive to the Marriott by 6:15 PM** transported by their parent
 - Teachers, arrive by 6:15! Students panic when they don't see you
 - Ushers, volunteers, and digital monitors on the concourse are available to help confused students/parents
 - Performers including teachers should wear their Hope of America t-shirt, dark pants, and bring flashlight and sunglasses
 - Teachers, remember students' American flags and school signs
 - Note that students who arrive after 7:00 might not be able to sit with their class in the flag.
 - Follow the exit instructions and be patient. Exit through your assigned portal as you practiced in the morning.
- We'll post photos and video of the performance on our website for you to see after the show - typically within a week of the production.

THIS TIMELINE IS A GENERAL OVERVIEW FOR YOUR PLANNING.

Detailed information will be sent as each important date nears

Questions? Contact our Hope of America team at hopeofamerica@freedomfestival.org

We're excited to be working with you again this year!

• Shannon Moedl • Deborah Reed • Talia Strong •