

## To Whom it May Concern:

I am Associate Director of Campus Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Redlands. We brought "The Movement: 50 Years of Love and Struggle" to our campus in the Fall of 2015. The performance was a whirlwind tour of African-American history, but done it a genius way, with videos, pop culture references, and a healthy dose of humor, to not only keep millennial students' interest, but have them internalize and understand the importance of this time period. It took a dramatic look at Black History and voting rights in America. The students enjoyed the show very much and I know they got a great deal out of it. It sparked so much conversation on campus, especially in a year where student protests on our campus for racial equity were in full swing.

We were so impressed with the show and working with Dialogues on Diversity, that we are bringing the show back again in 2016. I say, it is rare to find such a "mensch" who not only educates through his performances, but cares so deeply about social change and equity, that he stays long after the play is done, answering student questions and discussing the tough issues.

I still have students asking me if we are bringing back that wild show, where that one actor plays all the parts, including the KKK member, the 1960s Black Power follower, the janitor who is speaking to his new born baby, and the man who is being priced out of his home because of gentrification. My answer, again, this year, is yes!

Finally, I teach my social justice history through music and movies course at the University of Redlands, I find "The Movement: 50 Years of Love and Struggle," an essential portion of all students' college education. While I teach African-American history in my course, I find that many students have a paper-thin knowledge of the black civil rights movements, let alone other black histories. Thus, it is imperative to bring phenomenal talent such as Ron Jones and Dialogues on Diversity to campus.

I would highly recommend this program to any institution or community group that wants a compelling and informative performance for Black History Month, Voting Rights, Civil Rights, or Social Justice, that will surely spark conversation on your campus. Our country and our students are in dire need of a healthy history lesson in these complex times in which we live.

Cheers,
Zachary S. Ritter, PhD
Associate Director of Campus Diversity and Inclusion
University of Redlands