



Supporting the Children of Resistance Since 1990

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Meet the Activist Artists



[Actress and artist Gina Belafonte](#) co-directs Sankofa.org, the organization her father Harry founded to encourage artists to use their platforms to bring attention to social justice issues. Born and raised in New York City, Gina Belafonte has spent her life in the arenas of entertainment and activism where her professional work thrives today. As the youngest child of Julie and Harry Belafonte, whose impact in these fields is among the most influential and progressive in the world, Gina's passions come as no surprise. Gina was the lead producer on the internationally acclaimed documentary film, *Sing Your Song*, exploring the extraordinary life and legacy of Harry Belafonte that was selected as the opening film for the Sundance Film Festival in 2011.



[Erin McKeown](#) is an internationally known musician, writer, and producer. With nine full length albums, two EPs, and numerous soundtracks to her credit, she has spent the last 15 years crafting a reputation as an original musical voice and compelling live performer. An active voice on social justice issues and culture, Erin was a 2011-12 fellow at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet and Society. Recently, she's also added radio to her resume, blogging and hosting for WNYC New York Public Radio. A former board member of the Future of Music Coalition, McKeown also works closely with Revolutions Per Minute (RPM) on immigration issues. She is currently writing an original musical with Tony & Pulitzer Award winner Quiara Alegria Hudes for the world renowned La Jolla Playhouse.



[Author Ellen Meeropol](#) has been the artistic heart of the RFC since its inception, serving on first the Board of Directors and now its Advisory Board. She wrote all of the RFC's *Celebrate the Children of Resistance* scripts, and is the author of two novels, *On Hurricane Island* (released in 2015) and *House Arrest*, both published by Red Hen Press. A former nurse practitioner, a part-time bookseller, and literary late bloomer, Ellen is fascinated by characters balanced on the fault lines between political turmoil and human connection.



[A Besere Velt \(A Better World\)](#), who performed in the RFC's 2007 *Celebrate the Children of Resistance*, is proud to be a "voice" for justice. This 92-member community chorus weaves the heartache and irrepressible idealism of Yiddish folk music into a vision of justice and humanity for the 21st century. From haunting melodies to workers' anthems, the songs come alive with multi-layered harmonies.