



Laura Taylor has been teaching at KIPP: SHARP for ten years and is the general music teacher for Kinder – fourth grades and the founding director of the **KIPP: SHARP Singers**.

Combining high expectations and cross-cultural opportunities, steady discipline and demanding teamwork the students master difficult music while expanding their minds and social skills through public performances and interactions with community leaders.

In May of 2015, Ms. Taylor led the KIPP SHARP Singers on a historic tour of **Washington, D.C** where the choir performed on the steps of our nation's **Capitol** for members of **Congress** as well as the **Secretary of Housing**. In addition the choir sang on the steps of both the **Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials** and at **Georgetown University**. While on tour the singers performed a joint concert with the highly regarded Strathmore Childrens Chorus at **The Music Center at Strathmore**.

In the fall of 2014 the KIPP SHARP Singers sang an outstanding performance of the **National Anthem** for a **Houston Texans** game in **NRG Stadium**. And, in May, 2013, the choir achieved a musical milestone with its debut performance at prestigious **Carnegie Hall**. The singers were well received by New York concert goers and the event was a life-shaping experience for these hard-working students.

One of the most exciting moments for the children came from singing a **World Premiere** of a Purple Songs Can Fly song written especially for the KIPP SHARP Singers. “Celebration of Hope” encapsulated the spirit that embodies these students studying to get to and through college and beyond.

The choir has sung with the Texas Medical Center Orchestra and the Texas Master Chorale in two performances of Carl Orff’s Carmina Burana at **Wortham Theater** and **The Centrum**. The KIPP SHARP Singers enjoyed singing with the Houston Childrens’ Chorus at **Rice University** and have participated in the annual Zion’s Children’s Choir Workshop.

Other season highlights include singing at **Round Top Festival Hill** with the Bayou City Arts Chorus, as well as singing twice for the **City of Houston’s Annual Mayor’s Tree Lighting ceremony at City Hall**.

The young singers have performed in **Jones Hall** as well as for conventions and galas throughout the greater Houston metropolitan area.

The choir has performed with the United Nations Association International choir and at the Hobby Center, in addition to performing numerous times at **Chase Bank’s annual holiday concert** in their historic downtown Houston lobby.

In addition to performing for many corporate events throughout Houston, the KIPP SHARP Singers has performed the National Anthem three times at the Houston Dynamo games in BBVA Compass Stadium.

