



# Shining Light Ambassador

## Aretha Franklin





## ... at Polehampton

At Polehampton, we aim to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians. This will increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. Music teaching allows children to compose, and to listen with appreciation to a variety of different genres.



# Aretha Franklin

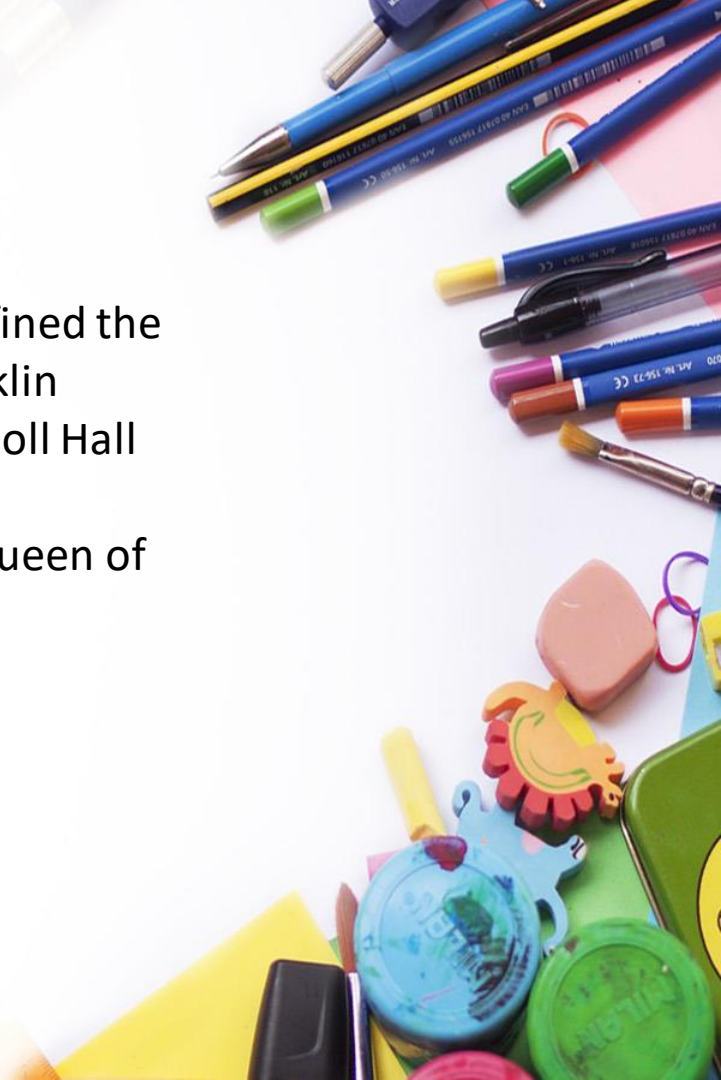
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"Music does a lot of things for a lot of people. It can take you right back to the very moment certain things happened in your life. It's uplifting, it's encouraging, it's strengthening."



# Who is Aretha Franklin?

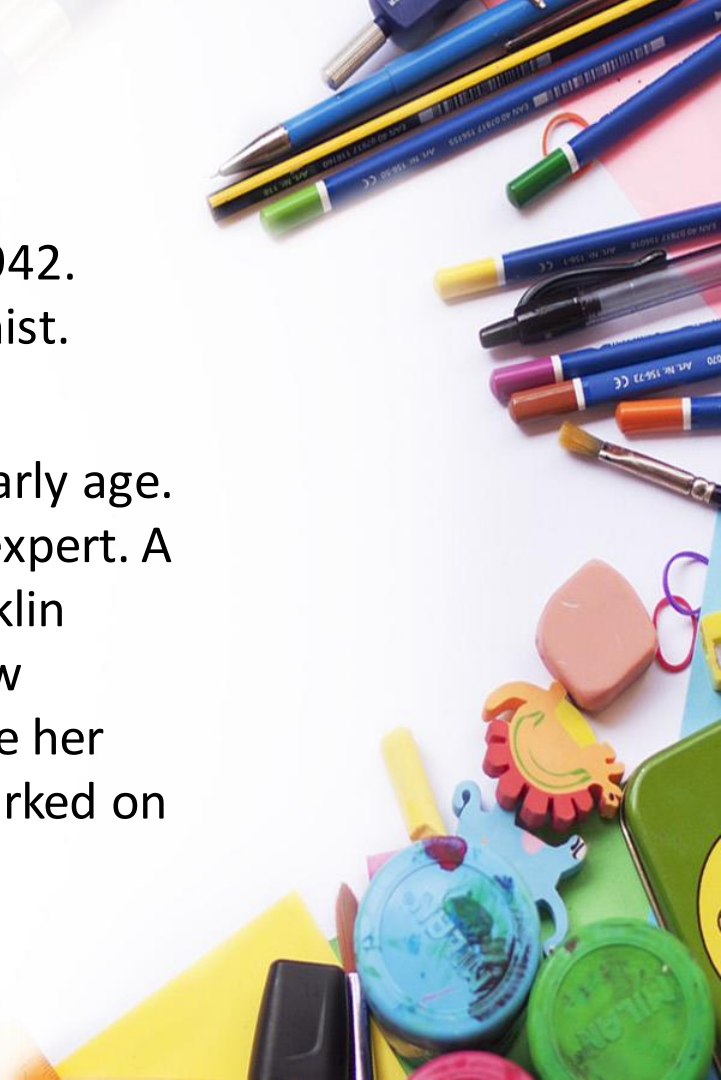
Aretha Franklin was an American soul singer. She defined the golden age of soul music of the 1960s. In 1987, Franklin became the first woman brought into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Aretha Franklin, who is renowned for hits like *Respect* and *Think*, was widely regarded as the Queen of Soul with an unforgettable voice.



## Early life

Aretha Louise Franklin was born on March 25, 1942. She was an American singer, songwriter and pianist.

Franklin's musical gifts became apparent at an early age. Largely self-taught, she was regarded as a child expert. A gifted pianist with a powerful voice, Aretha Franklin began her career as a child, singing gospel at New Bethel Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, where her father was a minister. At the age of 18, she embarked on a music career of her own.





## Education/Qualifications

Aretha Franklin received lots of honorary degrees from different universities including: Harvard, New York, Princeton, Yale, Brown and New England Conservatory of Music.

Aretha Franklin received numerous honours throughout her career. She was awarded the National Medal of Arts and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Aretha Franklin recorded 112 charted singles, including 17 top-ten pop singles.



## Shining Moments (achievements)

Aretha Franklin was a prominent Civil Rights activist (wanted equal opportunities for minority groups) and a feminist icon. Her songs were quickly adopted by movements as anthems of social change, and she eventually sang at the funeral of Martin Luther King. Jr.



## Shining Moments

Additionally, Aretha Franklin never forgot her home. Franklin gave back to the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan throughout her career. She donated free hotel rooms to Flint residents during their water crisis.







An interview/film clip/web link of them in action





## How you can be inspired at Polehampton

- At Polehampton, we want everyone to get involved in music.
- At the junior school, you can join the choir!
- We encourage children to discover a love of music by listening to a wide variety of different musical styles. This could include: Jazz, hip-hop, pop, opera.
- We know that a lot of you also play a musical instrument!

A top-down view of various school supplies scattered on a white surface. Visible items include a pair of pink-handled scissors, a yellow ruler, a red pencil sharpener, a black eraser, a red pencil, a blue pen, a blue pencil, a yellow pencil, a green pencil, and a blue pencil. There are also some blue sticky notes and a blue folder.

## A Spotlight on Aretha Franklin

- How has Arethea Franklin inspired you?
- What can you do to help your Aretha Franklin shine?