

**Workshop 4: When Music Offends****Reading 3: Rockers, Rappers, and Freedom of Speech**  
**Song of Freedom**

*When you think of freedom, what do you think of?*

**Project:** Write a song about what freedom means to you.

**Procedure**

- 1. Brainstorm.** What does freedom mean to you? Many artists have written about the power of freedom in their lives. How can you communicate what it means to you? To help you get started, write short responses to these questions.
  - What is most important to you about being free?
  - What does freedom allow you to do? What would it be like to live without it?
  - How do you think your life compares to someone in another country who has little or no freedom?
- 3. Work on your song lyrics.** Freedom is one of the most valued ideas in America! Express your true feelings about it through the power of words.
  - Will your song use rhyming words?
  - Will it be a poem set to music? A rap?
  - Will it tell a story about someone who fought for freedom?
  - Will it be happy and lift up people? Or will it be serious and powerful?
- 4. Present.** Practice how you will present your song. If you sing it, will it be accompanied by music? Will you pass out lyrics so people can follow along? Write, recite, or sing your song to your classmates.