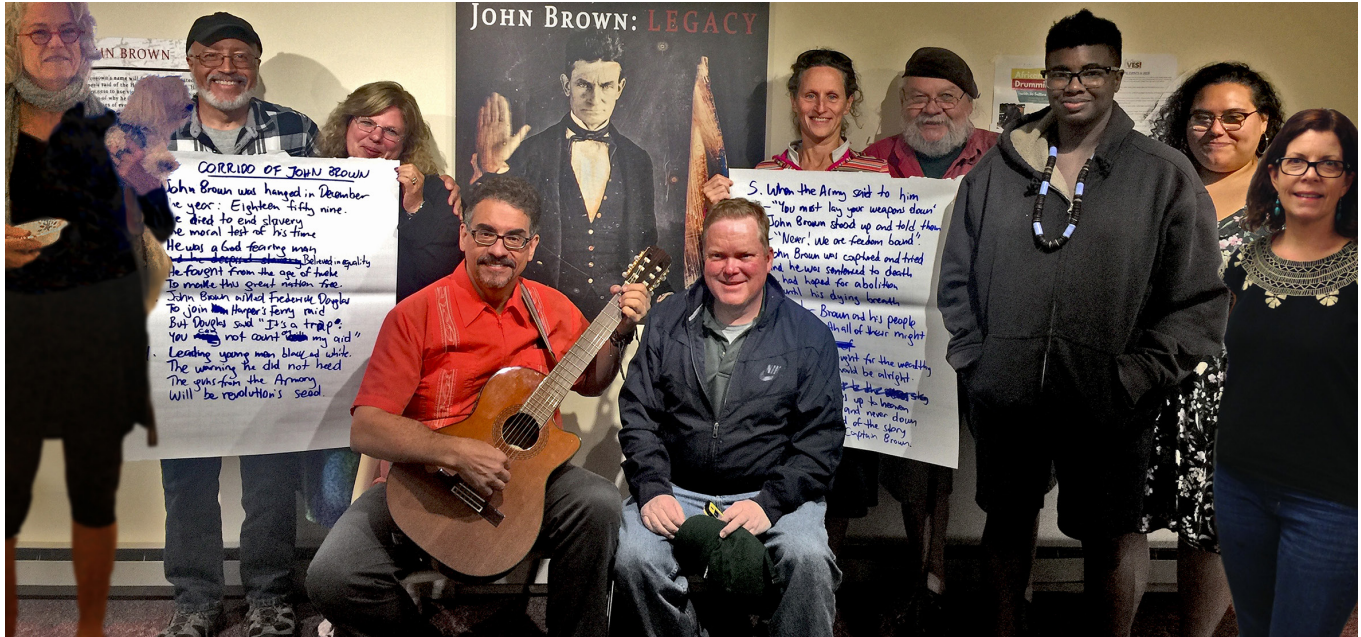


Corrido of John Brown

sung to the tune of "Corrido de Juan Reyna"

This tragic ballad was written in the Mexican corrido style by the Corrido Songwriting Workshop class hosted by John Brown Lives! and the John Brown Farm State Historic Site in Lake Placid, New York on July 6, 2018. The workshop instructor was Juan Días of Sones de México Ensemble. This program was sponsored in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



1. John Brown was hanged in December,
The year: eighteen fifty-nine.
He died to end slavery,
The moral test of his time.
2. He was a God fearing man,
Believed in equality.
He fought from the age of twelve
To make this great nation free.
3. John Brown asked Frederick Douglas
To join Harper Ferry's raid,
But Douglas said "It's a trap!
You cannot count on my aid."
4. Leading young men Black and White
The warning he did not heed.
—"The guns from the Armory
Shall be revolution's seed."
5. When the Army said to him
—"You must lay your weapons down!"
John Brown just stood up and told them
—"Never! We are freedom bound!"
6. John Brown was captured and tried
And he was sentenced to death.
He had hoped for abolition
Up until his dying breath.
7. Remember Brown and his people.
(At) the gallows he said with might.
—"If we had fought for the wealthy,
You'd say that it was alright."
8. As a dove flies up to heaven
It looks up and never down.
This is the end of the story
Of our hero Captain Brown.

