Mainstream music, the media, and pop culture have historically influenced the tide of popular opinion in many countries. The United States was no exception in the early 1900s as it entered World War I. While the mediums of expression and audience reach has changed, nearly 100 years later America has just emerged from another international conflict where images from the media including TV, newspapers and songs/lyrics on the radio and the internet have a profound impact on the idea of what it means to be a contemporary patriot.

**Project Directions:** Working alone, with a partner, or in small groups of 3 to 5 students, create a piece of propaganda that demonstrates what being a patriot in modern America means to you. Students may write a song (of any genre), create a music video, podcast, TV commercial, blog post, or social media campaign with the intent of inspiring others to join or support your cause.