

## Video: Keith David

### *Performer*

*This worksheet was created as a part of Center Theatre Group's Theatre Artist Classroom Connections video series, accessible via [CTGLA.org/ClassroomConnections](http://CTGLA.org/ClassroomConnections).*

### Reflection Questions

- What is the one statement or piece of advice from this conversation that spoke to you the most, and why?
- David talks about a "youth cult" that puts a lot of pressure on young people to succeed. He says, "You can be made to feel bad if you're not a success at 21." Have you ever felt this pressure? What would you say to someone who is experiencing this feeling?
- David mentions that editors have "big ears and big eyes" to catch things most of us would not. What do you think artists in your field have that are more developed than an average person?
- Ruby Dee's performance of Claude McKay's poem "If We Must Die" had a lasting impact on David as a performer. Talk about a performance that has impacted you. What specifically made it memorable?
- How would you describe yourself in three words?

### Learning Activity

**Quote Response:** Learner will select one of the quotes from David and create a response to it. The response can be in the form of writing, music, spoken word, visual art, or movement.

- "I don't have bad days. I have bad moments, but those don't bleed into my day."
- "The greatest lesson I've learned in this life and in this business is acceptance."
- "Emotions are thoughts that have a physical response."
- "I'm an artist because I think I have something to say about life that I've discovered."

**"I DON'T WANT TO LIVE MY LIFE WITHOUT. EVERYBODY I KNOW LIVE WITHOUT. I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT. I WANT TO LIVE WITH. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ALL THINK OF YOURSELF, BUT I THINK I'M SUPPOSED TO HAVE. WHATEVER IT IS." – AUGUST WILSON, SEVEN GUITARS**