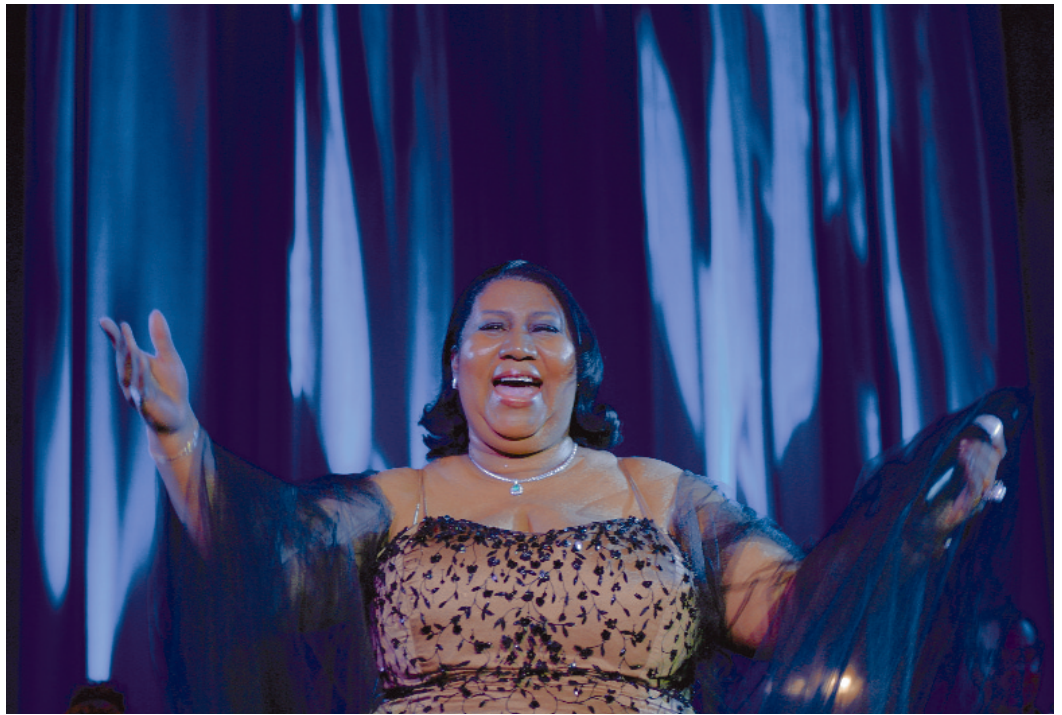


America's Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, rocks the house at the Banquet of the Golden Plate ceremony.



At the end of the evening, Academy members, guests and student delegates rose to their feet again as rock and roll pioneer Chuck Berry entered from the back of the auditorium, firing stinging guitar riffs as he strode the length of the dance floor and mounted the stage. Fierce workouts of his classic songs had the crowd back on the dance floor. The evening held one more surprise, as a final Guest of Honor arrived. America's master songwriter, Bob Dylan, took the stage to be presented with the Golden Plate by one of his own youthful heroes, Chuck Berry.

On that extraordinary tableau, and with the sounds of classic American rhythm and blues ringing in their ears, Academy members, guests, and International Honor Students departed, carrying unforgettable memories of their visit to Washington. Many will return before long as leaders in public service and representatives of their respective countries, but all will proceed with renewed inspiration, having seen and heard firsthand that in every walk of life, one individual can make a difference.



Rock and Roll pioneer Chuck Berry helps honor legendary musician Bob Dylan at the 2003 International Achievement Summit.