Library of Congress: Musically, who do you consider your greatest influences?

Ella Jenkins: Cab Calloway, Danny Kaye and Billie Holiday.

LOC: What do you consider the primary objective of getting children engaged in music?

EJ: To learn from each other.

LOC: How, if at all, has your performing for children changed over the years?

EJ: I try to be in the present but also share the past.

LOC: Do you enjoy being in the studio, recording and making albums?

EJ: It is hard for me to be so confined.

LOC: Even among your vast repertoire, do you have a favorite song?

EJ: “The Wilderness” and my song “You’ll Sing a Song and I’ll Sing a Song.”