

## Stroll through the Harlem Renaissance Era

The 1920s and 30s was a time of creativity and awareness for Black artists and writers in Harlem, New York. It was also a time that the artists were faced with criticism for their expressions of cultural pride and reflection.

*(Read and find the underlined words in **bold-print**)*

\* The Harlem Renaissance captured national attention when the work of Black writers and artists reflected racial pride and cultural struggles.

\* Artists such as Zora Neale Hurston, Paul Robeson, Charles McKay, and Langston Hughes created powerful messages through various art forms that still have great impact around the world.

\* Alain Locke, a literary critic and editor of the anthology *The New Negro*, exposed Harlem's artists to a national audience.

\* The NAACP's *Crises*, edited by W.E.B. DuBois, illuminated the work of Harlem's Black writers.

\* Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Sr. and his son Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. served as pastor of The Abyssinian Baptist Church which is located in Harlem, NY. The church served as the center of civil rights activism.

\* The original Cotton Club opened in 1927 and featured great artists such as Duke Ellington, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, Ethel Waters, Cab Calloway, and Louis Armstrong.

\* The Savoy Ballroom was one of Harlem's top clubs that featured top bands and dancers. Dances such as the "jitterbug," and the "Lindy hop" were quite popular during the Harlem Renaissance era.

\* The Lafayette Theatre was the leading theater for dramas and major musical performances.

\* Countee Cullen was a leading poet during the renaissance era. He was born in New York City and became a distinguished writer at a very young age. Two of his famous published works includes "The Black Christ" (1929), and "Copper Sun" (1927).