

## The Harlem Renaissance Expands cont...

*Bud, Not Buddy* by Paul Christopher Curtis (J Curt) Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

*Charlie Parker Played Be-Bop* by Chris Raschka (E Ras) Introduces the famous saxophonist and his style of jazz known as bebop

*John Coltrane's Giant Steps* by Chris Raschka (E Ras) John Coltrane's musical composition is performed by a box, a snowflake, some raindrops, and a kitten.

*Maggie's Amerikay* by Barbara Russell. (E Rus) In New Orleans in 1898 young Irish immigrant Maggie McCrary is determined to find her own way in the new place they call home. Along the way she meets a budding jazz musician and helps an ex-slave write his memoir.

*The Jazz of Our Street* by Fatima Shaik (E Sha) Two siblings dash from their porch one morning to join the second-line parade stamping, swaying, and dancing behind the jazz band marching through their New Orleans neighborhood.

*Sweet Music in Harlem* by Debbie Taylor (E Tay) C.J., who aspires to be as great a jazz musician as his uncle, searches for Uncle Click's hat in preparation for an important photograph and inadvertently gathers some of the greatest musicians of 1950s Harlem to join in on the picture.

*Dizzy* by Jonah Winter (E Win) The story of Dizzy Gillespie, a trumpet player, who created a whole new kind of music: Bebop.

*Little Stevie Wonder* by Quincy Troupe (E Tro) A poem tribute to musician and composer Stevie Wonder.

For more information please contact your local branch  
or the Children's Services Coordinator at 985-893-6280 ext. 112.  
[www.sttammany.lib.la.us](http://www.sttammany.lib.la.us)

## The Harlem Renaissance



### Resources for Young People at the

The Harlem Renaissance was a cultural movement during the time between the two World Wars. The movement spanned the cultural spectrum including literature, drama, music, visual art, dance and included the realm of social thought such as sociology, historiography, and philosophy. Centered in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City, artists and intellectuals found new ways to explore the historical experiences of black America and the contemporary experiences of black life.

“Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly”

-Langston Hughes

### Fiction

*Bronx Masquerade* by Nikki Grimes (YA Grim) While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates.

*Dave at Night* by Gail Carson Levine (J Levi) When orphaned Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys where he is treated cruelly, he sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music- and culture-filled world of the Harlem Renaissance.

*A Song for Harlem* by Patricia C. McKissack (J McKi) In the summer of 1928, Lilly Belle Turner of Smyrna, Tennessee, participates in a young author's writing program, taught by Zora Neale Hurston and hosted by A'Lelia Walker in her Harlem teahouse at the height of the Harlem Renaissance.



*Harlem Summer* by Walter Dean Myers (YA Myer) In 1920s Harlem, sixteen-year-old Mark Purvis, an aspiring jazz saxophonist, gets a summer job as an errand boy for the publishers of the groundbreaking African American magazine, "The Crisis," but soon finds himself on the enemy list of mobster Dutch Shultz.

## Poetry

*Langston Hughes. Poetry for Young People Series (J811 Hug)*

*My people* by Langston Hughes (J811 Hug)

*Ellington Was Not a Street* by Ntozake Shange (J811 Sha) A poem from the point of view of a little girl whose family is visited by some of the great African-American men of the mid-twentieth century: Ellington, Du Bois, Robeson.

## Nonfiction

*The Harlem Renaissance a celebration of creativity* by Lucia Raatma (J700.9239 Raa)

*The Harlem Renaissance* by Dana Meachen Rau (J700.9239 Rau)

## Biographies

*Extraordinary people of the Harlem Renaissance* by P. Stephen Hardy and Sheila Jackson Hardy (J920 Har)

*Women of the Harlem Renaissance* by Lisa Beringer McKissack J 920 Mck

Biographies and Autobiographies can be found in the JB section arranged by the last name of the person whom the book is about:

JB Anderson, Marian (especially *When Marian Sang: the True Recital of Marian Anderson* by Pam Muñoz Ryan)

JB Ellington, Duke. (especially *Duke Ellington: the Piano Prince and his Orchestra* by Andrea Davis Pinkney)

JB Hurston, Nora Zeale

JB Hughes, Langston

JB Robeson, Paul

## Websites

*Drop Me Off in Harlem.* The Kennedy Center ARTSEdge.  
<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/exploring/harlem/>

*Harlem Renaissance.* Time for Kids.  
<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/specials/bhm/0,8805,97672,00.html>

*Duke Ellington.* America's Story from America's Library, The Library of Congress.  
<http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/ellington>

“Mama exhorted her children at every opportunity to "jump at de sun." We might not land on the sun, but at least we would get off the ground.”- Zora Neale Hurston

## The Harlem Renaissance Expands: The Arts and Literature of African Americans

*Come Look With Me: Discovering African American Art for Children* by James Haywood Rolling, Jr. (J759.13 Rol) Introduces children to twelve important works of art.

*Aïda* as told by Leontyne Pricea (J782.1 Pri) Retells the story of Verdi's opera in which the love of the enslaved Ethiopian princess for an Egyptian general brings tragedy to all involved.

*Mysterious Thelonious* by Chris Raschka (J 787.5192 Ras) Presenting a portrait of the work of the jazz musician and composer of "Mysterioso."

*Reaching for dreams rehearsing a ballet* by Susan Kuklin (J792.8 Kuk) About the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

*Gordon Parks: No Excuses* by Ann Parr (JB Parks, Gordon) The first black photographer for Life magazine, Gordon Parks spent over two decades as a professional photographer, and his resume has grown to include novelist, musician, artist, and poet.

*More on the back...*