

Workshop Historical Context Sheet:

Article Title

Harlem Renaissance

Author

[History.com Editors](#)

Website Name

HISTORY

URL

<https://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties/harlem-renaissance>

The Harlem Renaissance was the development of the Harlem neighborhood in New York City as a Black cultural mecca in the early 20th Century and the subsequent social and artistic explosion that resulted. Lasting roughly from the 1910s through the mid-1930s, the period is considered a golden age in African American culture, manifesting in literature, music, stage performance and art.

This golden age for African American artists, writers and musicians, gave them pride and control over how the Black experience was represented in American culture and eventually would set the stage for the [civil rights movement](#).

One of the many prominent writers and poets of this era was Langston Hughes. Langston Hughes began writing in high school and was a regular contributor to his high school's literary magazine.

His poem, "I, too (sing America)", beautifully paints a picture of the complexities in what it was to be black in America during the early nineteenth century.