

8-3 – American Culture- Pages 270-273

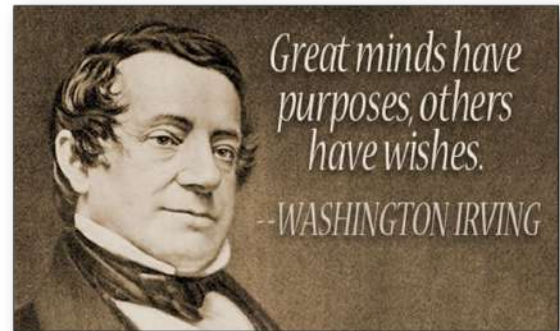
Essential Question: *As the United States grew, how did developments in many cultural areas contribute to the creation of a new American identity?*

Main Idea 1:

American writers created a new style of literature.

Washington Irving

- Wrote about **American history**
- ★ Irving's story "Rip Van Winkle" attempted to **warn** that **Americans** should **learn** from the **past** and be **cautious** about the **future**.
- Combined **European** influences with **American** settings and **characters**



James Fenimore Cooper

- Focused on **American** characters and **society**
- Wrote stories about the western **frontier** and **Native Americans**
- ★ He popularized **historical** fiction, a type of **writing** that places **fictional** characters in actual **historical** settings.



Main Idea 2:

A new style of art showcased the beauty of America and its people.

- Due to the **writings** of Washington Irving and James Fenimore Cooper-
- ★ **Painters** in the United States began to show the **history** and **natural** beauty of **America** in their **work**.
- The **subjects** of American **paintings** changed from the **1830's** to the **1840's**.
- Early American **artists** had **Painted** mainly **portraits**, but the new style of **art** involved painting **landscapes** that **showed** the **history** of America and the **beauty** of the **land**.
- Hudson **River** School
 - Emerged in **1830s**
 - Founded by **landscape** painter **Thomas Cole**
- ★ **Students** created **paintings** that reflected **national** pride and **beauty** of American **landscape**

Art in the 1840s

- The style of **art** began to **change** in the **1840s**.
- ★ Artists tried to **combine** images of the American **landscape** and **scenes** of people's daily **lives**.
- *Fur Traders Descending the Missouri*, by George Caleb Bingham, is an important **example** of this new **style**.
- ★ The inclusion of **scenes** from people's **everyday** lives in **landscape** painting was a **new** development in **American** art.



Main Idea 3:

American ideals influenced other aspects of culture, including religion and music.

- ★ In the early 1800s, American **music** focused on **religion** and **national** pride.
- **Religious** revivalism **swept** the United States in the early and mid-**1800s**.
- Spirituals—songs based on **text** from the **Bible**—became **popular** in both **African American** and **white** folk-music **traditions**.
- Popular folk music **reflected** the unique **views** of the growing **nation** and rising **nationalism**.
- American **architects** modeled **buildings** after the style of ancient **Greece** and **Rome**.
- ★ These **civilizations** were **based** on some of the same **political** ideals as the new **American** nation.
- In the early **1800s**, the new American culture's **views** on **education** were **reflected** by education **reforms**.
- ★ The new American culture was a **democracy** that needed **educated** and **informed** citizens to survive, so public **schools** were **supported**.
- The idea of **state-funded** public **schools** gained support.
 - **Massachusetts** created state board of **education** in 1837, and other states **followed**

