

Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens

SS5H5: SS5H5 The student will explain how the Great Depression and New Deal affected the lives of millions of Americans.

c. Discuss important cultural elements of the 1930s; include Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens.

Duke Ellington

- Duke Ellington was born in **Washington**.
- He was nicknamed Duke by a **classmate**.
- Duke's parents enrolled him in **piano** lessons at the age of **8**.
- In the summer of **1914**, Duke wrote his first composition, "Soda Fountain Rag."



Duke Ellington

- While attending **Dunbar** High School in Washington, D.C., Duke learned to **read** and write music to develop a **professional** style and improve his **technique**.
- By 1923 Ellington has formed his own band, the **Washingtonians**.



Duke Ellington

- In 1927, Ellington accepted an engagement at the Cotton Club where he wrote some of his most well-known compositions during the time.
- He later formed the Duke Ellington Orchestra.
- In 1969, President Nixon honored Ellington by giving him the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- He died of lung cancer and pneumonia on May 24, 1974.



Margaret Mitchell

- Margaret Mitchell was born in **Atlanta**.
- Her mother, Maybelle Mitchell, was a **suffragist** and father, Eugene Mitchell, a prominent **lawyer** and **president** of the Atlanta Historical Society.
- Mitchell graduate for the local **Washington** Seminary and started to study medicine at Smith College in **1918**.



Margaret Mitchell

- When Mitchell's mother died in 1919, she returned home to keep house for her father.
- Mitchell launched her career as a journalist under the name Peggy Mitchell, writing articles, interviews, sketches, and book reviews for the Atlanta Journal.
- From 1926 to 1929, she wrote Gone with the Wind.



Margaret Mitchell

- Gone with the Wind was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1937.
- Mitchell sold the film rights for \$50,000, and later received another \$50,000.
- The film premiered on December 15.
- During World War II, Mitchell was a volunteer selling war bonds and volunteer for the American Red Cross.
- Mitchell died in Atlanta on August 16, 1949- she was accidentally struck by a speeding car while crossing Peachtree Street.

Jesse Owens

- Jesse Owens was born in **Alabama** in **1913**.
- His family was poor so he worked **part** time jobs to help out.
- He first started track when he was in **high** school.
- He began to set **world** records.



Jesse Owens

- He attended college at **Ohio State** where he set more world records and was name **All American**.
- However, because he was black, Jesse faced **discrimination** every day.
- In **1936** he was chosen to attend the Olympics.
- The U.S. was thinking of **boycotting** because Germany was ruled by **Hitler** who thought white people were the **master** race.



Jesse Owens

- During the Olympics, Jesse won 4 gold medals.
- This was the most medals an American had won in track and field.
- He was honored by a tickertape parade and a reception at the Waldorf Astoria.
- Jesse became a professional runner to earn money.
- He died in 1980 at the age of 66.

