

Research Topics

People – Bri Stewart

Reverend Adam Clayton Powell

Isabel Washington

Langston Hughes

Bruce Nugent

Josephine Baker

Booker T. Washington

Marcus Garvey

Margaret Sanger

Institutions – Tobi Akisanya

Abyssinian Baptist Church

Harlem Hospital

The Amsterdam News

Tuskegee Institute

The Savoy

The Cotton Club

The Folies Bergère

The Champs Élysée

The Lafayette

Kit Kat Klub

The Hamilton Lodge Ball

Events – Dr. Tift

The Great Depression (1929-1939)

Stock Market Crash of 1929

Topics

Sexuality

Homophobia

Religion (Christianity)

Black Nationalism

Birth Control / Women's Reproductive Rights / Abortion

Physical Violence / Murder

Terms & Ideas

Negro — a term commonly used to mean “black” / a positive word; a pride-filled term that black people called themselves.

“The Literati” — the educated class, the intelligentsia, learned people of a community

Prohibition — (1920-1933) Period in American History when alcohol was banned from being manufactured, sold, or served.

Bootlegger— a maker and seller of alcohol during prohibition.
Bathtub Gin — gin made by a bootlegger, literally in a bathtub.
dive (ex. The Hole in the Wall) – low class bar, pub or dancehall
cable - a text-based wire (paper) that one had to purchase and send using the American Express office; it's like going to the post office to mail a letter today.
suffragettes — women's voting rights activists
tawdry – low-class, impure
“rubbing a black woman's head for luck” — racist notion that rubbing the head of a black woman (or having her around) will bring one luck
“discriminating gentlemen” — (transwomen)
High Tea — upscale event where tea is served, often in porcelain china
Ike Hines — A restaurant in Harlem that served Chinese cuisine
The Pentecostal Church — fundamentalist Christian sect out of the Protestant Church that emphasizes one's personal experience of the Holy Ghost (i.e. speaking in tongues, being physically moved/taken over)

Songs

“Wild About Harry”

“St. Louis Blues”

French

Negro demimonde – “the black half-world” — a class of people on the fringes of black respectability

Comment ça va? — How are you?

Mademoiselle — Miss

Monsieur Guy de Paris — Mr. Guy of Paris

très élégant — very elegant

La Bakaire — The (Josephine) Baker

Merci, ma chéri. Bon nuit. — Thank you, my sweet. Good night.

Bonjour — Hello.

L'amour, l'amour — “Love, love”

Au revoir, ma chéri! — Bye, my sweet.

Je t'aime, Je t'aime, Je t'aime! — I love you, I love you, I love you.