



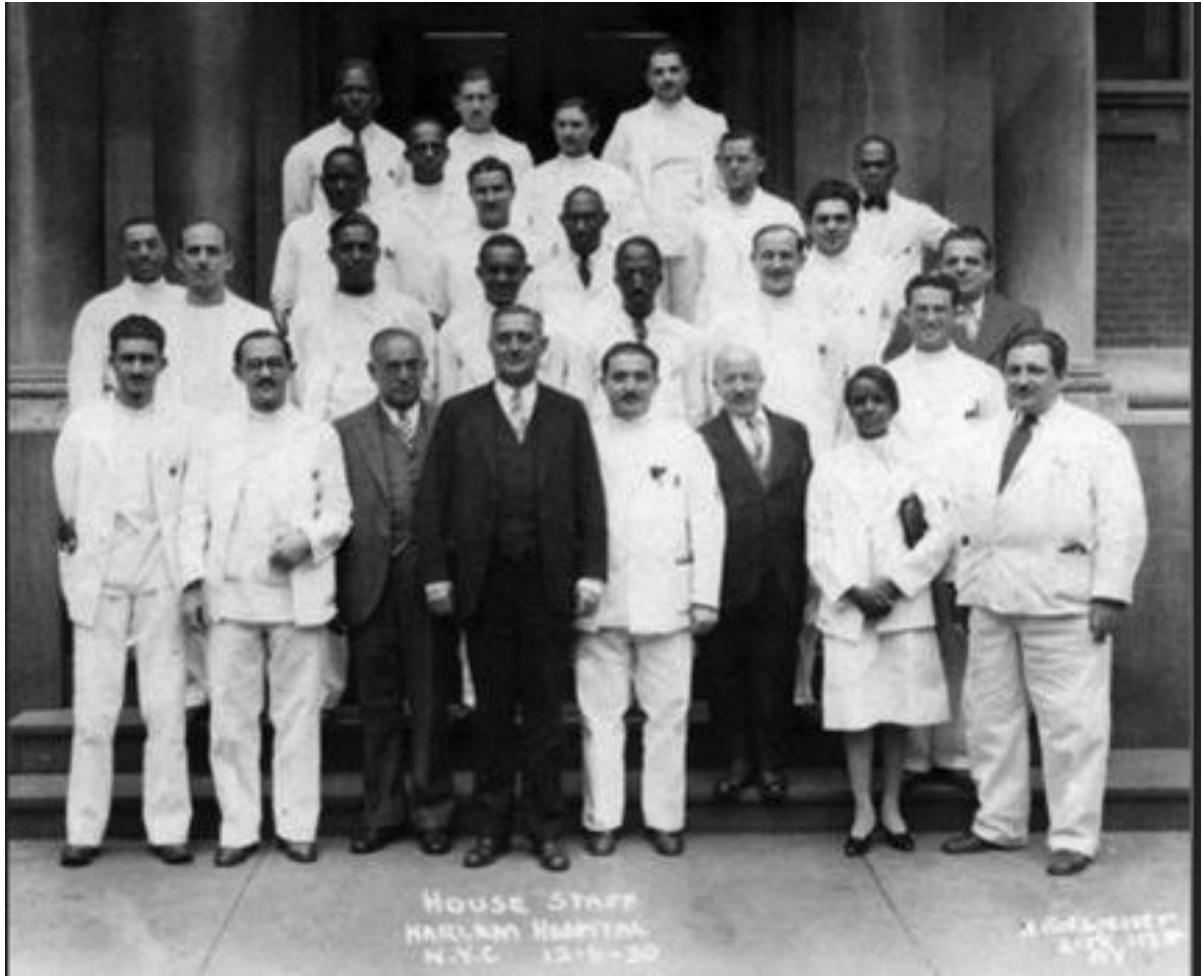
**“A Bar at the Folies-Bergere”:** Edward Manet

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A\\_Bar\\_at\\_the\\_Folies-Berg%C3%A8re#/media/File:Un\\_bar\\_aux\\_Folies-Berg%C3%A8re\\_d'E.\\_Manet\\_\(Fondation\\_Vuitton,\\_Paris\)\\_33539037428.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Bar_at_the_Folies-Berg%C3%A8re#/media/File:Un_bar_aux_Folies-Berg%C3%A8re_d'E._Manet_(Fondation_Vuitton,_Paris)_33539037428.jpg)



**Abyssinian Baptist Church**

<https://abyssinian.org/ministry/music-fine-arts/liturgical-dance-ministry/>



## Harlem Hospital

<http://www.fredsmith.com/housestaff.htm>

“In 1919, Dr. Louis T. Wright was appointed clinical assistant in the Out-patient Department, the lowest job possible at Harlem Hospital.”

## NOTES

### **Abyssinian Baptist Church**

1. Founded in 1808
2. One of the oldest African-American churches in the United States. Located in Harlem in the Manhattan borough of New York City.
3. The Abyssinian Baptist Church also has a lot of public engagement programs in place.
4. “These affiliates seek to address social and economic concerns by providing affordable housing, programs for the homeless, and quality education; by promoting youth character and leadership development; and by working to eradicate poverty in Ethiopia (the country viewed as Abyssinian’s ancestral homeland)”- From <https://abyssinian.org/about-us/>
5. Abyssinian was and still serves a haven for the African American community and has never failed to infuse black pop culture into its everyday practices, from jazz music to rap music.
6. Gothic style Architecture

### **Harlem Hospital**

1. Created in 1887 in Harlem Hospital and was originally placed in a Victorian mansion. It has since been expanded over the 120 years of existence. Its facilities now have up to 290 beds. (<https://www.cumc.columbia.edu/harlem-hospital/about/history> )
2. Harlem Hospital is known for employing black doctors and nurses and for caring for black patients as well.
3. It was originally a facility that was meant for outpatient care patients who were in need of a transfer to Ward’s Island Hospital but overtime became a place that cared for the poor and underserved of the North Central Park Area. Naturally the small space overflowed and the hospital made plans to expand especially with the rise in African-American immigrants moving into the area.
4. Harlem Hospital is also responsible for employing the first African American surgeon.
5. “In 1919, Dr. Louis T. Wright was appointed clinical assistant in the Out-patient Department, the lowest job possible at Harlem Hospital.”  
(<https://www.cumc.columbia.edu/harlem-hospital/surgery-residency/generalsurgerydept/History%20of%20Harlem%20Hospital%20Center> )

### **The Amsterdam News**

1. The Amsterdam News is one of the longest running African American Newspapers. Since the beginning it has served as a haven for black news, culture, and pop culture It has been published online since 2009.
2. It was founded by James Anderson who released the first publication on December 4, 1909.

3. The Amsterdam News also created commentary from a black perspective on major events in American history such as the Great Depression, presidential elections, and the Civil Rights Movement.
4. Main Source: (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Amsterdam-News>)

### **The Tuskegee Institute**

1. Founded on July 4, 1881 as a Historically Black University
2. It was founded 44 years after the first HCBU. It is located in the state of Alabama
3. Notable students include George Washington Carver and the Tuskegee Airmen. Notable faculty members include Booker T. Washington.
4. The University was created by former slaves and was built on abandoned plantation land.
5. This place pioneered black education and created space for black professionals to find work, credits, and research.
6. Tuskegee started with one classroom of 30 students.
7. The Booker T. The Washington statue in the center of campus states, "'He lifted the veil of ignorance from his people and pointed the way to progress through education and industry."
8. Main source: <https://www.tuskegee.edu/about-us/history-and-mission>

### **The Savoy**

1. Is one of the first luxury hotels in London, England. From its opening in August of 1889 it has been a spectacle among the public for its charming views of the cityscapes of London and the Waterloo bridge.
2. It has also always been known for advancing its technology with time. For example, in the earlier years of the hotel's operation it was one of the only hotels to have electricity.
3. It is known for its famous visitors
4. <https://blog.bridgemanimages.com/blog/7-things-you-didnt-know-about-londons-iconic-savoy-hotel>

The london savoy and the

### **The Folies Bergere**

1. Opened in May of 1869 and originally served as an opera and political venue but became a more popular spot after premiering vaudeville shows.
2. During the 1890s it became a hot spot for nightlife. Performers from all over the world frequented the club. People came to party and drink openly.
3. The Folies Bergere became popular for its female performers who often performed very close to nude
4. <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/folies-bergere-stage-first-revue>
5. See "A Bar at the Folies-Bergere" by Edward Manet

## STATEMENT

Pearl Cleage's *Blues for an Alabama Sky* uses the city of Harlem in the 1930s as its backdrop. This show has been a dramaturg's dream to work on as Cleage uses the many people and institutions that colored Harlem Renaissance to tell the story of five complex and dynamic characters. Even though, almost all of the conversations that Angel, Guy, Delia, Sam, and Leland have happen within the walls of an apartment talk of the institutions- that I had the pleasure of studying- give richness to their voices and to their conversations. From talk of the Folies Bergere, a hot spot for nightlife where performers from all over the world frequented in order to party and drink openly to talk of the Amsterdam News, one of the longest running African American newspapers that served as a haven for black news, culture, and pop culture, *Blues for an Alabama Sky* covers everything.

There are a few locations and institutions that I found a keen interest in research because of my close connection to them. The first one being the Tuskegee Institute, given that I am from the state of Alabama. The Tuskegee Institute was founded on July 4, 1881 as a historically black university, 44 years after the first historically black university. The University was created by former slaves and was built on abandoned plantation land; it's first class only comprised of 30 adult students who for higher education. This place pioneered black education and created space for black professionals to find work, credits, and research. The Booker T. The Washington statue in the center of campus states, "**He lifted the veil of ignorance from his people and pointed the way to progress through education and industry.**"

Another institution that I found a particular liking to was Harlem Hospital, not only for its connection to Sam's character but because my very own Father studied there during his doctoral training. Created in 1887 in Harlem Hospital and was originally placed in a Victorian mansion. It has since been expanded over the 120 years of existence. Its facilities now have up to 290 beds. It was originally a facility that was meant for outpatient care patients who were in need of a transfer to Ward's Island Hospital but overtime became a place that cared for the poor and underserved of the North Central Park Area. Naturally the small space overflowed and the hospital made plans to expand especially with the rise in African-American immigrants moving into the area.