The Chicago Academy for the Arts



The Black History Month Assembly: Harlem Renaissance

MC Chris Arnold

"The Harlem Renaissance: Black Excellence" Amber Payne (Media Arts '22)

The Harlem Renaissance: a time of celebration yet conflict. This piece pays a tribute to the accomplishments of many Black artists during a time of violence and terrorism.

Dream A Little Dream of Me Shaya Scales (Musical Theatre '23)

Ella Fitzgerald was a jazz singer and musician. Her version of "Dream a Little Dream of Me", which she co-performed with Louis Armstrong, is about love and togetherness.

"The Wife-Woman" Natalee Hapaniewski (Theatre '21)

Anne Spencer was a poet and activist. Her poem "The Wife-Woman" studies the themes of life, death, love, femininity, and faith.

In A Sentimental Mood

Sarah Stevenson (Music '21) & Sammy Fodor (Music '23)

Duke Ellington was a composer and pianist. His popular song "In a Sentimental Mood" is about serenity and peace, something we all need in our current state.

"Tinted Sands"

Arayah Lyte (Dance '22)

Though Black people move through life like sand grains on a shore, we have different experiences and appearances; we are tinted sands within the larger mass.

Mood Indigo

Izzie Claudio (Musical Theatre '22)

Duke Ellington's song "Mood Indigo" is about melancholy and heartbreak. It has been covered and restylized by many artists, however Ellington's original is timeless.

A Word About the Black Student Union:

Founded in 2019, the Black Student Union was created as a way to form safe spaces for the Black student population at the Chicago Academy for the Arts. The B.S.U. is also dedicated to educating and encouraging Black students, and teaching the relevance of Black pride. The organization is best known for planning and organizing the annual Black History Month Assembly, which celebrates Black culture and history.

Advisor/Sponsor:

Chris Arnold

Members:

Amber Payne Asim Baraka Arayah Lyte Arielle Wood Gabbie Cannon

SPECIAL THANKS

Production Team

Intersitials/Stills - Jessi Meliza Tech - Buck Blue Planning - Amber Payne, Asim Baraka Poster - Elijah Pines

Special Thanks

The Chicago Academy for the Arts
Chris Arnold
Jessi Meliza
Jason Patera
Buck Blue
Tim Butler
Kaytlin Bush



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