



You will need to do some research, which may include the use of Web sites, books, encyclopedias, periodicals (magazines, newspapers, journals, etc.), and other sources. This sheet provides prompts to help as you gather information about your assigned Harlem musician or dancer.

Biographical Information

Many performers used aliases or stage names; capture the person's full name and any nickname they used. Often, there are stories behind a nickname that tell you about the person's history, so include those details as well.

Find out as much personal information as possible on the life of your assigned musician or dancer. For example, list information about his or her family (mother, father, brother and/or sisters); places he or she lived; schools he or she attended; and whether he or she was married and had children. Be sure to include:

- Place of birth
- Date of birth
- Place of death
- Date of death

Style

What types of music and/or dancing was this artist known for? Was this person a leader or innovator in the style for which they were known, and if so, what innovations are credited to them? Use these questions to help guide your research:

- What type of music/dance did he/she perform or create?
- What instruments did he/she use (if any)?
- Who or what influenced him/her?
- What was his/her first musical work or dance piece (if applicable)?
- List other notable work(s)
- What "state of mind" (themes such as liberation, joy, triumph, sadness, frustration, oppression) does this musician/dancer show in his/her work?
- List any honors and/or awards he/she received
- Unique Qualities and/or Experiences of this Musician/Dancer

Sources Used for Research

List the sources where you found the information about your assigned musician or dancer. Make sure to include all information (when applicable), such as: title, author or editor, page numbers, publisher, date of publication, and URL.