

Africa

Music and Instruments

Bing Videos



African American Musicians



Scott Joplin
November 24, 1868 – April 1, 1917



Sammy Davis Jr.
December 8, 1925 – May 16, 1990



The Jackson Five
Founded in 1964

Scott Joplin - The King of Ragtime

- Born November 24, 1868
- African American Composer and Pianist
- Composed more than 40 ragtime pieces, a ragtime ballet
 - and 2 operas
- Died April 1, 1917



Joplin grew up in a musical family of railway laborers in [Texarkana, Arkansas](#). He developed his own musical knowledge with the help of local teachers. While in Texarkana, he formed a singing quartet and taught mandolin and guitar lessons. During the late 1880s, he left his job as a railroad laborer and traveled the [American South](#) as an itinerant musician. He went to Chicago for the [World's Fair of 1893](#), which helped make ragtime music a national craze by 1897.

Joplin moved to [Missouri](#), in 1894 and earned a living as a piano teacher. There he taught future ragtime composers [Arthur Marshall](#), [Scott Hayden](#), and [Brun Campbell](#). He began publishing music in 1895, and publication of his "Maple Leaf Rag" in 1899 brought him fame. This piece had a profound influence on writers of ragtime. It also brought Joplin a steady income for life.

Sammy Davis Jr.

- Born December 8, 1925
- American singer, actor, comedian and dancer.
- At age three, Davis began his career in [Vaudeville](#) with his father [Sammy Davis Sr.](#) and the [Will Mastin Trio](#), which toured nationally, and his film career began in 1933.
- the son of African-American entertainer and stage performer [Sammy Davis Sr.](#)
- Cuban-American [tap dancer](#) and stage performer [Elvera Sanchez](#)
- Died May 16, 1990



The Jackson Five

- The group was started in 1964 in [Gary, Indiana](#), with the five brothers [Jackie](#), [Tito](#), [Jermaine](#), [Marlon](#) and [Michael](#).
- The five Jackson brothers' interest in music was encouraged by their father [Joe Jackson](#).
- They performed in talent shows and restaurants.
- They were the first group to debut with four consecutive number-one hits on the [Billboard Hot 100](#) chart with the songs "[I Want You Back](#)", "[ABC](#)", "[The Love You Save](#)", and "[I'll Be There](#)".^[7]



The Jackson Five

Jackie



Tito



Jermaine



Marlon



Michael



Michael and his brothers in the early years.

