

Mississippi Musicians Project

Instructions to Students

Mississippi has a unique musical heritage. Musicians native to Mississippi or who have spent a significant part of their lives in the state and who write original music have been included. The music may be blues, country, gospel, classical, rock 'n roll or popular .

Mississippi Musicians

Below is a list of musicians from Mississippi. Choose one of these for your project. If you know of someone or some group not included, please let us know. We will add them to the list. (*Note: List is not available here on web site. Check musician web page for names.)

Instructions for Mississippi Musicians Project

1. Write a **biography** of your Mississippi musician based on the research you do in the library from traditional resources and computer-based sources. Combine all sources into one interesting biography, using proper documentation. You may use direct quotations if you document them properly. **Xerox the materials you use in the library and print out the sources you find on the web.**
 2. Make a **timeline of the important dates in the life of the musician.** See Grisham example.
 3. Include a bibliography of the traditional sources and web sources you used or cited in your biography. Follow the proper form for bibliography. (MLA style).
 4. Search the web for sites that provide information about your musician and his/her work . Print out the pages from the internet . **Make a list of the web site addresses you find and briefly explain** what kind of information is at that web site. Find as many as you can. You will get more points if you find all of them.
- * Remember to click on all the HIGHLIGHTED words for additional sites/addresses. We will hyper link to these sites when we build our web site using your research.
- 5.. Be sure to save all of your work on a computer disk. The disk must be turned in with the project. Write your name, your musician's name and the name of the word processor you used on the label on the disk (Microsoft Works, Word Perfect 6, etc.)
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Suggestions for a web search:

1. Do your research for your **biography** FIRST. Find out when they were born, where they were born, where they grew up, information about the musician's family, how they got interested in

music, where they got their start, how they got their start, best-known works, any other important information about the musician that you can find.

2. Use this information for your searches.

a. Try the **netscape searches** (Web Crawler, Lycos, Excite, Magellan, Yahoo, Alta Vista, etc. using the **genre** (blues, jazz, gospel, rock 'n roll, etc.), the **musician's name** or **major works** to get you started. **Follow ALL links.**

b. See if the musician or group has a homage.

c. Search for the home page of the musician's **HOMETOWN**. They often include famous people who were born or lived in the town.

d. Check the **COLLEGE** web site from which your musician graduated if he/she went to college.

e. Check the **TOWN WHERE HE/SHE NOW LIVES**

f. Check the **COLLEGE** where he/she is **teaching or has taught**

g. Check the **PRIZES OR AWARDS HOME PAGE** that your musician has won.

h. Check the **music company** or **recording companies** that have recorded your musician's music.

3. **PRINT OUT COPIES OF ALL RELATED WEB SITES** that you located that are about your musician or that refer to your musician, even if they were not useful for your writing.

4. Remember to **xerox all articles and pages** in books that you found and used in your **bibliography**.

5. **Include with your project the floppy DISK** on which you saved all the pages of your project. Please **save in text (txt.) or ASCII so we can change to HTML** If you have access to Microsoft Works word processor or Word Perfect 6 or 7, please use those to type your paper. If you use Corel Word Perfect 7, go ahead and click on internet publisher and save as an HTML web document. Put a label on the disk that gives your name, and the musician's name. (Also include the **name of the Word Processor**, such as Microsoft Works, Word Perfect, etc.

Ex. Save as a: Hilliard or a: Presley

NOTE: IF YOU NEED HELP USING THE WEB FOR FINDING INFORMATION, BE SURE TO LET ME KNOW. WE HAVE SEVERAL STUDENTS WHO ARE EXPERTS AT USING THE INTERNET, AND THEY OR I WILL BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER, YOU MAY USE THE COMPUTER IN OUR ENGLISH CLASSROOM or the SHS library. (YOU CAN ALSO USE THE COMPUTER LABS AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY or Starkville Public Library.)

Part of the purpose of this project is to help you become familiar with the computer and the internet, so do not hesitate to request aid.

Summary of what you will turn in:

1. **Title page**

2. **Timeline of musician's life.**

3. **Biography of the musician's life and works written by you** after you have completed your research. Properly document all information.

4. **Typed list of related web sites with a one or two sentence explanation** typed in your paper explaining what you found on that site. **Print-outs of the web pages.**

5. A typed **bibliography** which follows the proper MLA form.

*Note: The xerox copies, the web page print-outs as well as your **rough draft** will be at the end of your paper, not in the typed project itself.

6. The **disk** should be in an envelope which is taped to the inside cover of your project so it will not fall out.

You will **present your final project orally** to the class for a separate grade. This grade will be based on your **actual oral presentation**. Use note cards, visuals, audios, etc. **Try to find actual recordings** of your musician's music or **videos** of them playing. Include these in your project and in your presentation to the class.