

Jacob Lawrence

Victor Barris

Early Life

Jacob Lawrence would begin his life in Atlantic City during 1917 to a couple who had moved from the rural South to find a better life in the North. He would then move to Harlem and the beginning of his successful artistic career would begin in 1937 when he was awarded a scholarship to the American Artists School in New York.

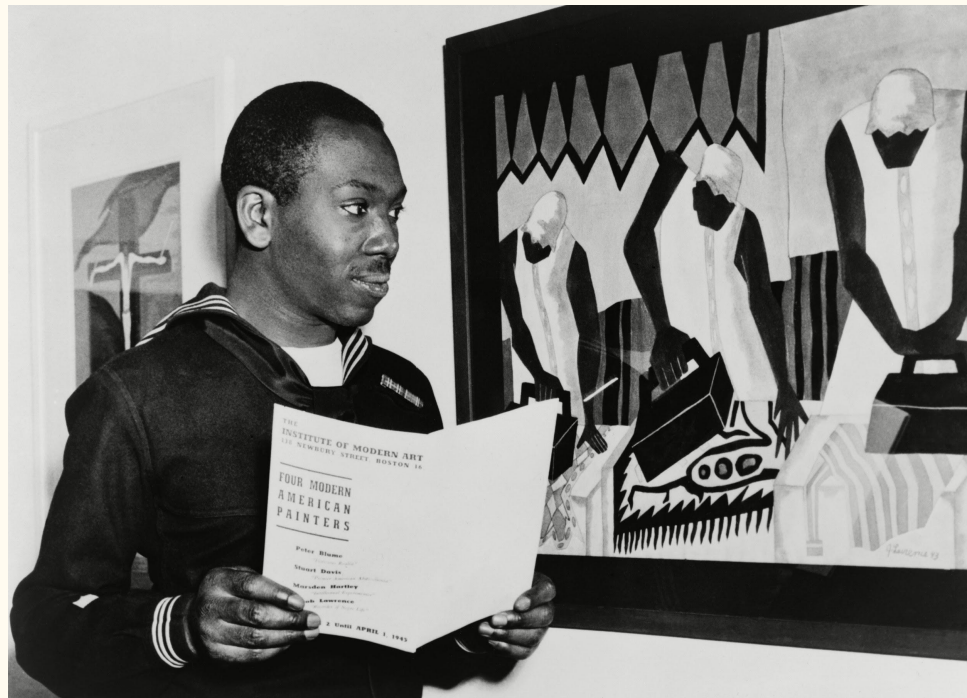
(<https://www.sutori.com/story/jacob-lawrence-harlem-renaissance-artist--yfwQ6pbyJDXwjDfWZRAhuTrt>)



Early life

Jacob Lawrence would go through a life changing decision at a very young age when his mother signed him up for an after school program called the Utopian Children's House.

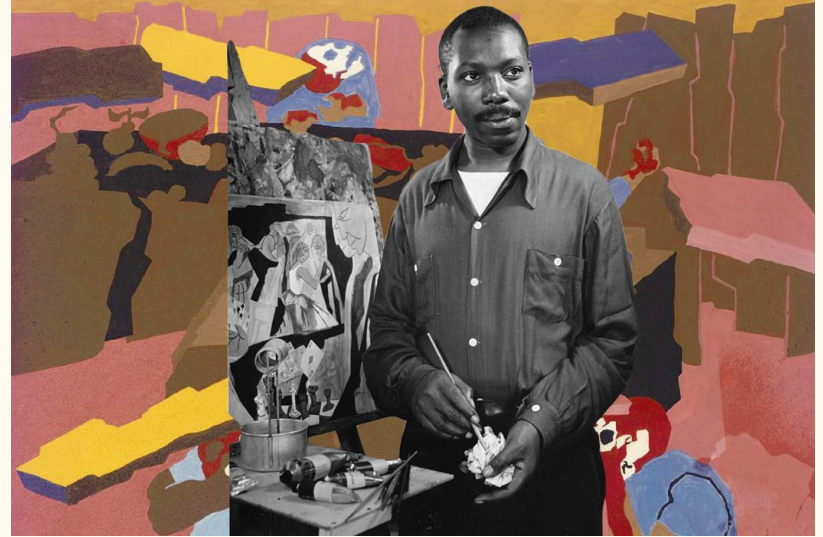
Lawrence's mother started to realize he was getting frustrated only learning about the history of the whites which is why she would end up doing this. This is where he would truly discover his love and raw talent for art.



Early life

Lawrence is mainly known for his outstanding work in *The Migration Series*, in 1941. The young artist would explore the realistic depiction in art of modern life and the Harlem Renaissance. Lawrence's art brings to life the struggles African Americans using vibrant colors and realistic figures. This would lead him to eventually becoming one of, if not the, greatest African-American artists of the 20th century.

(<https://www.moas.org/Jacob-Lawrence-and-the-Harlem-Renaissance-e-1-57.html>)



The Migration Series



The Migration Series



Different Artwork

In 1949, Lawrence was starting to become more and more depressed so he would eventually go to Hillside Hospital in Queens where he would spend 11 months. During his time there he would work on many different paintings, but these would differ greatly from his previous ones. This artwork would portray many people depressed or in pain. He was able to conquer what he was going through by expressing his pain through his paintings. This helped him recover as fast as possible and would lead him to come back as an even stronger artists than before.

(<https://www.sutori.com/story/jacob-lawrence-harlem-renaissance-artist--yfwQ6pbyJDXwjDfWZRAhuTrt>)

Artwork
created during
hospital stay





Coast Guard

During October of 1943, Jacob Lawrence was drafted into the US Coast Guard. Services were still segregated so he was automatically limited to the steward's mate rate. During his first assignment his commanding officer would tell him to continue his artistic work while away on duty. Then he was sent to his first segregated ship, USCGC Sea Cloud. Lawrence would meet Captain Carlton Skinner and he would help Lawrence receive a Public Relation Specialist rate. This would influence Jacob Lawrence's 'War Series'

(<https://www.sutori.com/story/jacob-lawrence-harlem-renaissance-artist--yfwQ6pbyJDXwjDfWZRAhuTrt>)

War Series

Jacob Lawrence has a 'War Series' which represented the tough times he was put through and the events he witnessed while serving as a United States Coast Guard. Since he was forced to be on an all black ship during this time, and he was still continuing his artwork, Lawrence had an extremely good and accurate sense of segregation in his artwork.

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War Series

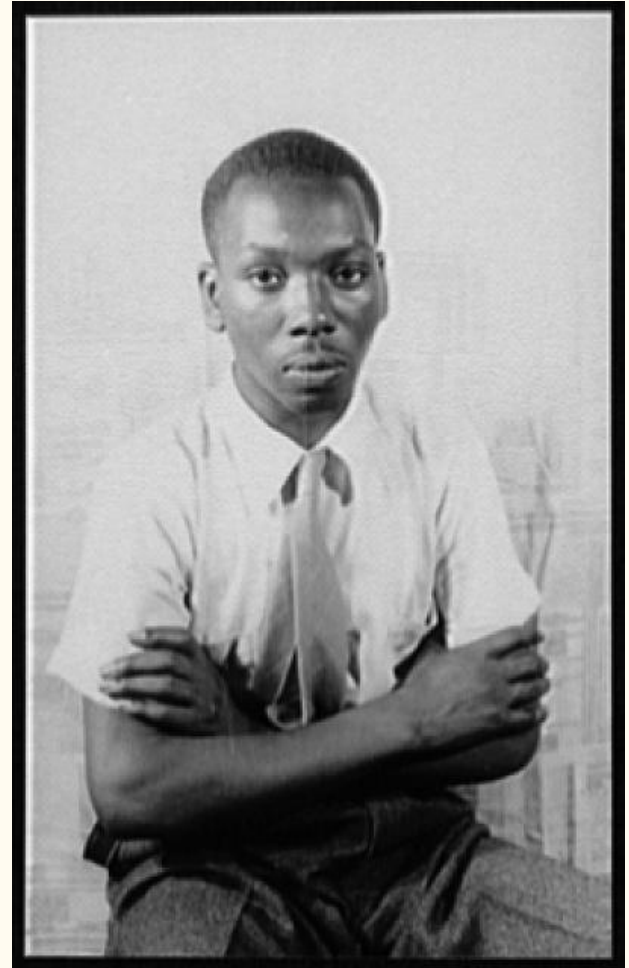


War Series



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Jacob Lawrence would end up living a very eventful life and definitely left a huge impact on the world of artists. As shown, his work used many vivid colors which is now praised in the world of art. He was one of the first artists to introduce this. He would end up teaching at the art of University of Washington for 15 years and sadly passed away June 9, 2000 at the age of 82.



THE END

