

# John Coltrane

Power Point for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Language Arts/Social Studies Unit



The power point and related unit go with the school assembly show  
*Carolina Live!—Our Musical History.*

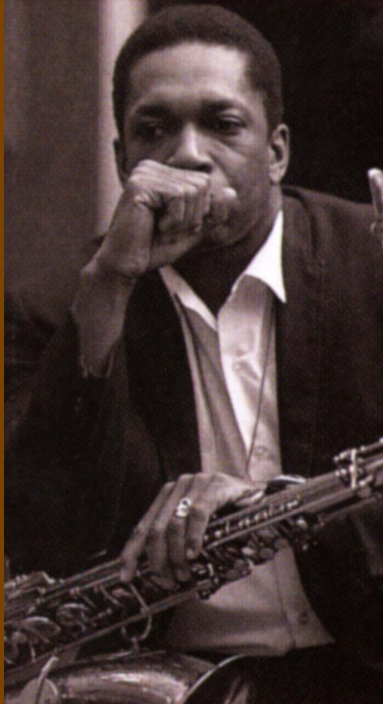
For more information, visit [www.carolinamusicways.org](http://www.carolinamusicways.org).

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**John William Coltrane**  
1926 - 1967



Jazz great John Coltrane was born in Hamlet, North Carolina, in 1926. A few months later, his family moved to High Point.



High Point is about twenty minutes from  
Greensboro and Winston-Salem.





This is where John Coltrane grew up in High Point  
from 1926 -1943.

He came from a very musical family.





This is Coltrane's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class during the 1934-35 school year at the Leonard Street Elementary School. Coltrane is standing at the top left with his hands in his pockets.



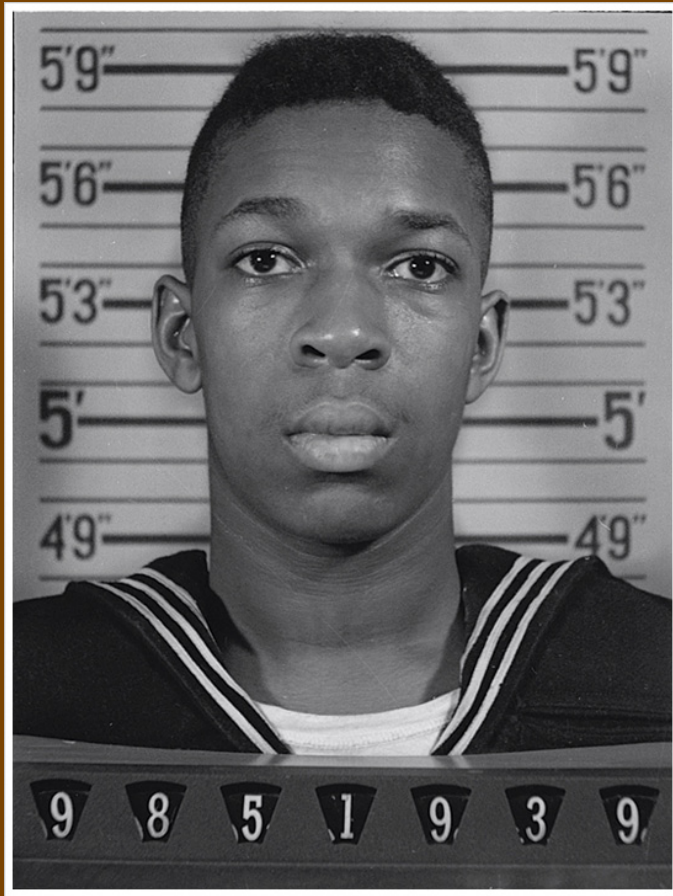
John Coltrane grew up in the 1930s during the Great Depression. His family had enough money, so he did not wait on breadlines for food like many people did.





During his childhood in North Carolina, Coltrane was upset that blacks and whites could not drink from the same water fountains or go to the same schools.





Navy photo

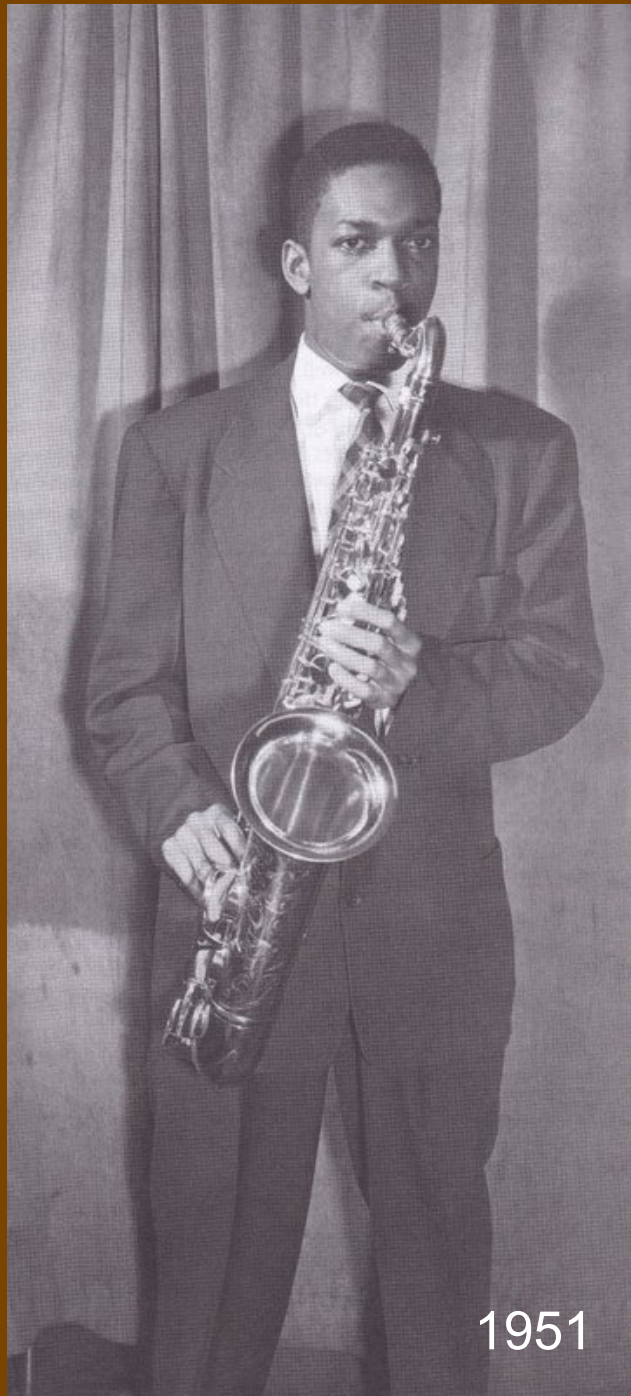


Pearl Harbor bombed, 1941



Navy ship

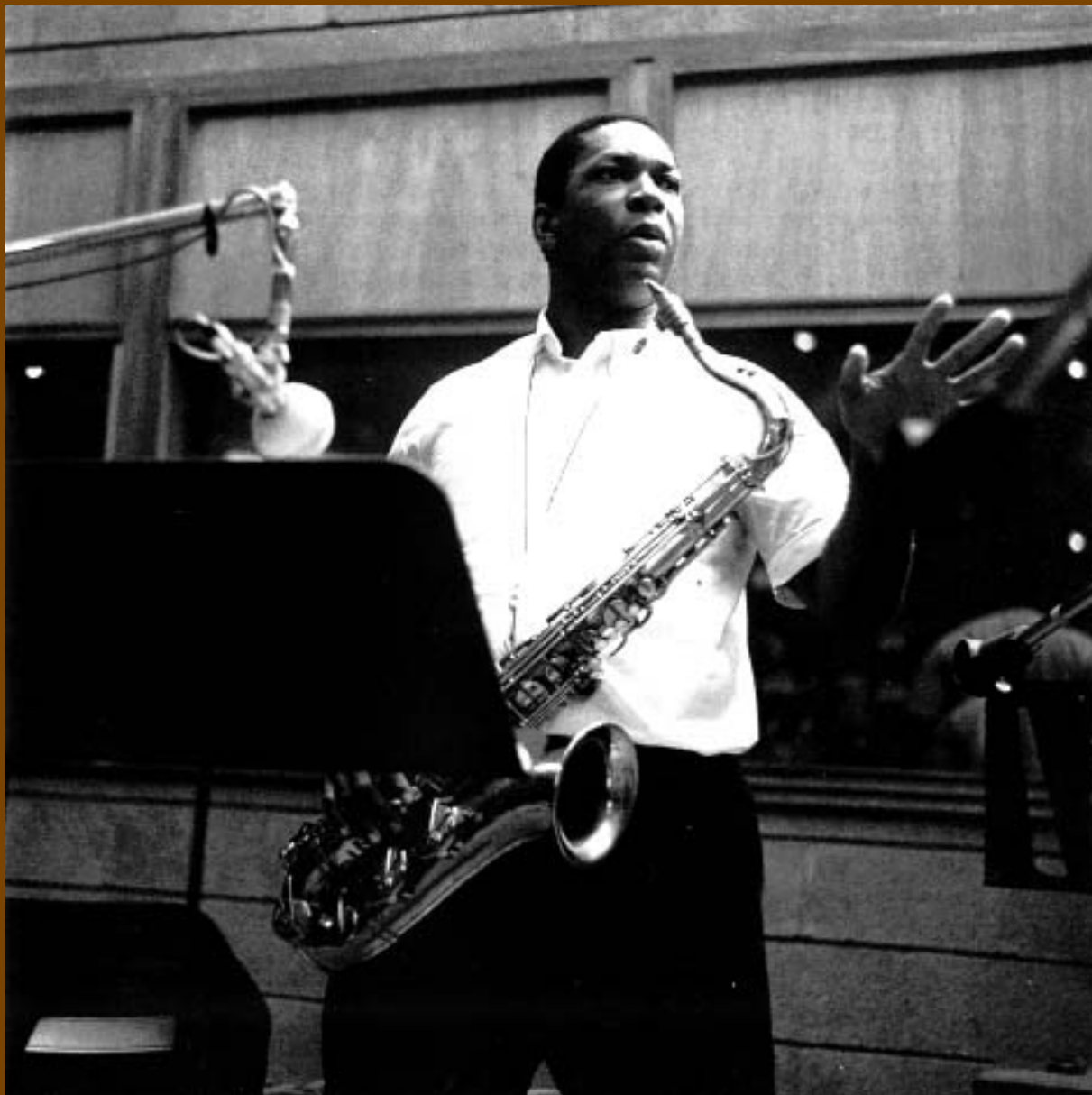
After high school, Coltrane joined the Navy during WW II. From 1945–1946, he played in the Navy band in Hawaii.



John Coltrane  
became famous for playing the  
saxophone. He started playing it in  
high school. After the Navy,  
during the 1940s and 1950s, he  
toured the country playing in a  
variety of bands.

1951





Coltrane became known for being creative, hard-working, and talented. Here he is at a recording session.



Martin Luther King, Jr. -  
March on Washington, DC



PHOTO SOURCE: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



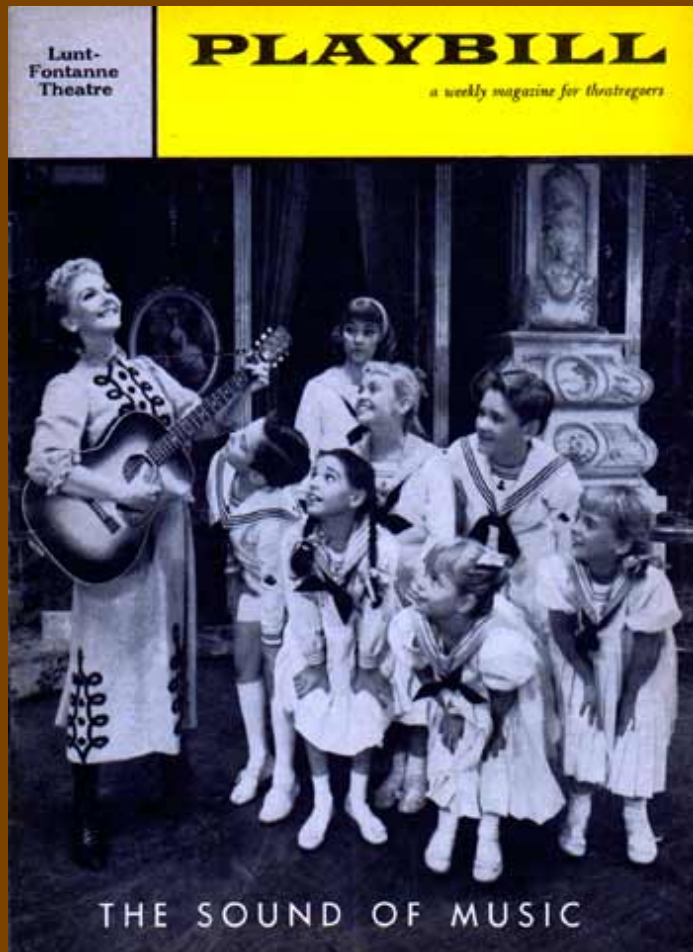
Greensboro Sit-In

Coltrane became famous during the  
Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s.





John Coltrane performed with the Thelonius Monk Quartet in New York in 1957. Monk, born in North Carolina, is on piano.



In 1960, Coltrane released his first hit, “My Favorite Things.” Even people who did not usually listen to jazz liked it. Coltrane’s hit was a new take on a song with the same name from the Broadway show *The Sound of Music*.





Coltrane inspired audiences around the world.  
Here he plays with his quartet in Denmark in 1963.



Jazz great John Coltrane was one of the finest musicians in American history. A U.S. postage stamp honors him. So does a church in California and a statue in High Point.

# Image Credits

John Coltrane, slide 2

[indianapublicmedia.org](http://indianapublicmedia.org)

John Coltrane photo/ historical marker, slide 3

[danteross.com](http://danteross.com)

[www.ncvisitorcenter.com/Richmond.html](http://www.ncvisitorcenter.com/Richmond.html)

North Carolina map, slide 4

Courtesy Google images

John Coltrane's family house, High Point, slide 5

photo courtesy Matt Kendrick

John Coltrane in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, slide 6

Porter, Lewis. *John Coltrane: His Life and Music*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1999. Print

Great Depression breadlines, slide 7

[rfpdemo.wordpress.com/category/jim-crow/page/2/](http://rfpdemo.wordpress.com/category/jim-crow/page/2/)  
[library.thinkquest.org/.../pictures\\_page.htm](http://library.thinkquest.org/.../pictures_page.htm)

<http://blog.redfin.com/seattle/files/2008/03/the-great-depression.gif>



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Segregation, slide 8

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<http://blog.redfin.com/seattle/files/2008/03/the-great-depression.gif>

Coltrane in the Navy and WWII photos, slide 9

[www.blogcatalog.com/blogs/drifting-on-a-reed](http://www.blogcatalog.com/blogs/drifting-on-a-reed)

[www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/wwii/jb\\_wwii\\_pearl...](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/wwii/jb_wwii_pearl...)

<http://maritimetexas.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/Liberty.jpg>

Young John Coltrane w/ Saxophone, Slide 10

Kahn, Ashley. *A Love Supreme: the Story of John Coltrane's Signature Album*.  
New York: Viking, 2002. Print.

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John Coltrane Recording, Slide 11

[visionaryartistrymag.com/.../](http://visionaryartistrymag.com/.../)

Civil Right Movement, Slide 12

<http://www.ourvoiceourcountry.org/research/civil-rights.aspx>

<http://aswilliscivilrights.blogspot.com/2009/03/civil-rights-movement-timeline.html>

<http://fashiontribes.typepad.com/fashion/2009/01/happy-martin-lu.html>

<http://www.womenpriests.org/circles/Heroic-Agents-of-Change-2008-m17080-p9-print.aspx>

John Coltrane Performing, Slide 13

<http://jazztimes.com/articles/16414-thelonious-monk-quartet-with-john-coltrane-at-carnegie-hall-thelonious-monk-quartet-with-john-coltrane>

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<http://www.lyricspond.com/artist-john-coltrane>

<http://www.musicals101.com/1950bway.htm>

John Coltrane on Stage in Europe, Slide 15

<http://www.garydavidstratton.com/2010/hollywood/culture-making/mccoy-tyner-a-chance-encounter-with-a-legend-of-jazz/>

Commemorating John Coltrane, Slide 16

<http://ncvisualhistory.com/johncoltraneinhp.html>

<http://idolator.com/5065053/the-coltrane-church-is-in-trouble>

[http://www.centerforjazzarts.org/usps\\_exhibition.html](http://www.centerforjazzarts.org/usps_exhibition.html)



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Elizabeth A. Carlson, Education Director for Carolina Music Ways, created this power point. It accompanies the John Coltrane/ “5” Royales Language Arts/Social Studies unit that goes with the school show *Carolina Live!—Our Musical History*.

Carlson is an elementary school educator who has taught at multiple grade levels. She wrote the assembly show script, as well as the related curriculum materials. Carlson holds a an Ed.M. in Language and Literacy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and a BA in English and American studies from Princeton University.

Carolina Music Ways is a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization run by a Board of Trustees. It is based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. CMW offers its standards-aligned curricula to educators free of charge online. These unique arts-in-education materials educate students and increase their appreciation of North Carolina’s musical treasures.