

History of Jazz – The 1920's



The Carroll Dickerson Band at the Sunset Cafe, Chicago 1922

- As African Americans **migrated to northern cities like Chicago and New York** in search of better opportunities, they brought jazz and the blues with them.
- At this time, many young Americans were disheartened by the destruction of World War I and began to challenge the old-fashioned attitudes of their parents. Listening and dancing to high-spirited jazz and blues became part of their rebellion. Young women, **known as "flappers"**, shocked their parents by cutting their hair and wearing shorter dresses.
- Because the 1920s were a time of rapid economic growth, people had money to spend on entertainment and household goods. **For the first time radios and record players were widely available in stores.** Jazz went from being played in New Orleans honky-tonks to America's airwaves, dance halls, and living rooms.