

## History of Jazz – The 1950's



- During the 1950's, Americans began to turn **to television** as their entertainment. As a result, dance halls -- where jazz bands once played -- began to close all across the country.
- The Milton Berle television program helped to introduce America to Elvis Presley and his fresh, energetic sound. This newer style of music -- **rock 'n roll** -- became the hottest sensation for a new generation of teenagers.
- With entertainment like television, movies and rock and roll, **jazz faced new competition** and shrinking audiences. Despite the shift in jazz's popularity, talented musicians continued to produce complex and powerful music and take jazz in new directions.