

10 cents U.S. postage

Issue Date: May 1, 1975
First Day City: Dayton, Ohio
Designer: Walter D. Richards

New Canaan, Connecticut

Press: Andreotti Gravure

Colors: Magenta, cyan, yellow and two

blacks

Image Area: 0.84 x 1.44 inches or

21.3 x 36.5 millimeters

Plate Numbers: Five Stamps to pane: 50

Selvage: "Mail Early in the Day"

"Use ZIP Code" and "Mr. ZIP"

Paul Laurence Dunbar Commemorative Stamp

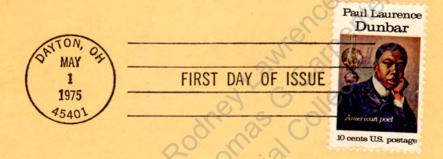
(American Arts Set)

The 10-cent commemorative stamp honoring black American poet Paul Laurence Dunbar is part of a three-stamp American Arts Set to be issued in 1975. The other two stamps in the set honor American artist Benjamin West and motion picture pioneer D. W. Griffith.

Dunbar, the son of former slaves, was born in 1872 in Dayton, Ohio, where the first day of issue ceremony will be conducted. Although best known for his humorous dialect poems of Negro life, Dunbar also wrote in conventional literary English. In addition to his verses, Dunbar published three novels and five collections of short stories.

The stamps were printed by the conventional gravure method on the Andreotti press, using electrostatic assist devices which give a better reproduction of the stamp design.

First day cancellation requests should be addressed to "Dunbar Stamp, Postmaster, Dayton, OH 45401." Proper remittance must be enclosed and orders must be postmarked no later than May 1.





Paul Laurence

American Poet (1872-1906)

First Day of Issue

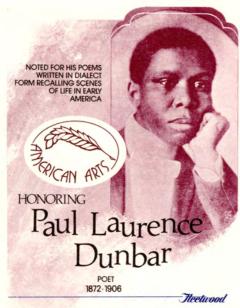
Paul Laurence Dunbar

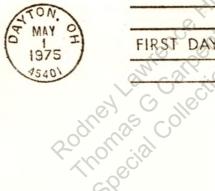


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1975 Podney Se Collect

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FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR

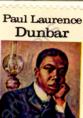
Paul Laurence Dunbar, son of an escaped slave, was born June 27, 1872, in Dayton, Ohio. As the only black student in his high school, his flair for writing blossomed while editor of the student newspaper. Following graduation he worked as an elevator operator, where he found his first audience for his writings. A wide appeal developed for his verse, which contributed greatly to an early and sensitive understanding of his race. He was invited to read his poems to audiences both in the United States and England, and his international prominence was thus established. Following his return from Europe, he obtained a job in the reading room of the Library of Congress. Later his writings took a turn toward prose, and he published four collections of short stories as well as four novels prior to his untimely death in Dayton on February 9, 1906.



Paul Laurence Dunbar

1872-1906

AMERICAN POET





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American poet

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE