## Arts -- Signs of the times

## A country's culture often reflects its political, economic, and social conditions

In this assignment, you will be exploring the arts of the 1930's in songs and photographs.

You are to choose a song and an artwork you think best depicts the era of the Great Depression. Write an explanation of why (1 paragraph for each piece) and be ready to present your findings to the class.

Songs that you may choose to study:

- It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)
- Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?
- Whistle While You Work
- · Happy Days Are Here Again

Photographs and paintings can be found here:

<u>A New Deal for the Arts</u> - http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/new\_deal\_for\_the\_arts/

You are not limited to using these songs or artwork – they are simply to provide direction. ☺