

CHICAGO – CITY, PEOPLE, AND HISTORY

INSPIRED YOUTH WRITING May 2011 Vol. 23, No. 6

Jean Baptist DuSable

DuSable was a pioneer that built the first trading post in Chicago. He was also the first settler in Chicago. The trading post was a big success and now Chicago is one of the greatest cities in the world.

He was born in 1745 in the country of Haiti. His mother was a beautiful slave while his father was said to have been a French sea captain. His father took him to France when he was a little boy and put him in school. He became a very smart boy.

As a young man he became a seaman on his father's boat and wanted to go to America. While on his way to America, his boat wrecked, but he still managed to reach safety. Also, there were some men trying to get him, but there was a priest that found him and kept him safe until the men were gone.

After he was well enough, he left New Orleans and traveled up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, Missouri. Then later on he decided to settle in Peoria, Illinois, and made friends with the Potawatomi Indians. The Indians trusted him and then he began trading with the Indians. He was important to the Indians. He met a woman which later on became his wife, from the Potawatomi tribe, named Catherine. They soon after had a daughter named Susana and a son named Juan. He was successful in owning a land of 800 acres, but he also left his family a lot. When he would, he would always pass through Chicago, and knew that it would be the right place for his trading post.

He was a very busy man that built the first trading post in Chicago in 1779. They were the first buildings to be built in Chicago. Not only did he build a trading post, but built a town also. His daughter got married in Chicago and his grand-daughter was the first child to be born in Chicago in the family. Suddenly on May 7, 1800, DuSable sold everything he owned for a small amount of money and then left Chicago and no one knew why.

By Andre T. (11th gr.)

Jean Baptist DuSable

DuSable was a fur trapper and a trader, also a pioneer, and he built a trading post. He built his trading post in Chicago because of the Chicago River. It is easier to trade when there is water close by so they can travel.

DuSable learned how to speak English and French and Spanish. DuSable's father took him to France to go to school. He became educated. DuSable was the only black kid in his class, but nobody cared about his skin color. DuSable wanted to go back to Haiti or France.

DuSable was over 6 feet tall and very strong. When DuSable grew up, he became a seaman. He traveled on his father's boat. DeSable traveled to many different places, including New Orleans, St. Louis, and Michigan or Canada.

DuSable did many things, like he built trading posts and houses. In school they showed DuSable how to speak English, Spanish, and French. This is what I know about DuSable.

By Summone S. (4th gr.)

Jean Baptist DuSable

--from *Heritage Kids*

Jean Baptist DuSable was one of the first people to settle in Chicago. He was a Haitian man, but he was not a slave. Jean made the first trading post in Chicago. After all of his fame was done, he sold it for \$2,000 and moved away with his family.

Jean was born in Haiti with his mother, a slave, and his father, a French sea captain. DuSable's father took him to France to go to school, because no one cared about his color there. DuSable grew up and became a seaman. Even though he wasn't, he was mistaken as a runaway slave when he left home.

Jean traveled to Peoria, Illinois, where he became friends with the Indians who lived there. He lived as the Indians did. He married an Indian and had children, but he had to leave them to go and trade in different areas. Jean built a trading post on the Chicago River. White people and Indians traded with DuSable.

Later DuSable's family moved to live with him in Chicago.

By Jasmine T. (12th gr.)

Jean Baptist DuSable

DuSable was the father of Chicago. He didn't care about the bad smell. He was friendly with the Indians. He traded fur.

He left Chicago for ever. He died 18 years later.

By Darryl Y (3rd gr.)

Jean Baptist DuSable

Jean Baptiste DuSable lived an interesting life. Although his mother was a slave he had a great education. He learned French, Spanish, and English! DuSable became a seaman on his father's boat.

DuSable's boat sank right before he got to New Orleans. He got hurt but he made it. In New Orleans people thought he was a slave because he was black. The priest hid him until he traveled to St. Louis.

After he went to St. Louis he went to Peoria, Illinois. He met some people in the Potawatomi Indian tribe. While in Peoria, DuSable "learned their customs and often met with leaders of the Indian tribes." (Page 19)

He started a family with his Potawatomi wife. He owned a lot of land. Because of his job he had to travel to Canada or Michigan. Every time he traveled to Canada or Michigan he had to go through Chicago.

By Andrew T.

Marquette and Jolliet

Jacques Marquette: He was an explorer. He learned Indian languages. He crossed Lake Michigan. He and Louis searched together. He died in 1675.

Louis Jolliet: He was a trader and a map maker. His canoe turned over. He explored other places. He died in 1700.

By Diego M. (3rd gr.)

The Potawatomi Tribe

My main topic is the Potawatomi Tribe.

The Potawatomi people changed how they looked for special occasions. In war Potawatomi men shaved their heads in a Mohawk style. The Potawatomi used colorful paint on their faces for special occasions. Sometimes Potawatomi people wore a porcupine roach in their hair for special occasions. By Sheila M. (3rd gr.)

The Illini Tribe

The Illini tribe is a very important part of our history. They created many of the useful things we use today, and were very important.

The Illini Indians lived many places. They lived in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, and Iowa. But because of war they were forced to move to Kansas and Oklahoma. They also set up a government, laws, and services, which we use today. Their lives depended on these laws.

The Illini culture was very interesting. They spoke native Miami-Illinois language. They were known for making quilts, and beads for clothing. Many people used leather and moccasin shoes. Today some Illini still wear this kind of clothing.

The Illini tribe talked and interacted with many kinds of people. They fought with many tribes like the Iroquois, Sioux and Winnebago. Also, the Ottawa tribe fought with the Illini tribe, which made the Miami tribe closer with the Illinis. Both tribes today are still allies.

Even though the Illini tribe is not as popular as they used to be, they are very important to our history. By Jennifer S. (6th gr.) and her tutor Gillian

Black Hawk

Do you know how Black Hawk killed the buffalos? Keep reading so you can get more details about how they kill buffalos.

This is the first reason how Black Hawk killed the buffalos. He killed it by chasing the buffalos until they went to the canyon, and then Black Hawk will kill the buffalo. He killed it like beating them with the rocky walks.

This is the second reason when he killed the buffalos. Black Hawk went every spring to hunt buffalos or elks. Black Hawk hunted with the men, but he was too young.

This is my conclusion. As you can see these are all my reasons how Black Hawk killed buffalos and how he killed the buffalos.

By Marleny R. (4th gr.)

Cyrus McCormick, Inventor of the reaper, founder of International Harvester Company

Farming these days is really easy. Do you know why? Well, if you don't, let me tell you. Cyrus McCormick was born in 1809. His father tried to make an easier way to farm, but he didn't succeed. His son saw his father making errors and through his father he learned. ... by Yulisa R. (8th gr.)

Cyrus McCormick

In 1809 farmers that worked in the fields all harvested with their hands. That all changed when Cyrus McCormick invented his machine. He called it the reaper. They thought he was foolish to use this invention. So Cyrus added features such as a blade,

made for chopping wheat, to improve his invention. His brilliant idea raised his sales sky high! By 1850 Cyrus sold about 5,000 reapers a year. His invention led to a bunch of wheat being sold from Chi-town.

By LaMarr S. (5th gr.)

The Great Chicago Fire

This report is about the Great Chicago Fire.

It happened on October 8 to Oct. 10, 1871. It killed hundreds and destroyed about 4 square miles in Chicago. On the municipal flag of Chicago, the second star is for the fire.

The fire started at about 9:00 p.m. in a small shed in 137 DeKoven Street. Many people were panicking and panicking. One-third of the city of Chicago was burning down then. The Chicago Fire Soccer team was named after the event that happened in October 1871.

And, I think that everybody was sad that Chicago burned.

By Tomas T. (5th gr.) and his tutor Joey

The Great Chicago Fire

In 1871 there was a fire in Chicago. The cow kicked out a lantern. That is how the fire started. Some of the buildings burned down. A lot of people died. The wind made the fire go faster. The firefighters worked so much to control all the fire.

When the fire had ended, the smoldering remains were still hot, but the church had been saved. Almost immediately, reform began in the city's fire standards, spurred by the efforts of leading insurance

executives and fire prevention reformers, such as Arthur C. Ducat and others.

Chicago emerged from the fire with one of the country's leading fire-fighting forces. After only 22 years, Chicago hosted more than 21 million visitors at the World's Columbian Exposition.

By Leoncio M. (3rd gr.)

The Great Chicago Fire

This paper is about the Chicago fire that started in 1871. The fire destroyed a lot of the city. A lot of houses burned out and a lot of people didn't have jobs. The church burned out, buildings burned out, and there were ships burning out.

So many people were afraid, and they were afraid of the fire, and many people got hurt. The fire finally burned itself out and it started to rain, and that helped the fire to burn out. The firefighters were really tired from the work that they did, and the firefighters put some water on the fire so it could burn out.

Once the fire ended, the smoldering remains were still too hot for a survey of the damage to be completed for days. Between two and three million books were destroyed from private libraries. The Water Tower was one of just five public buildings and one ordinary bungalow spared by the flames within the disaster zone. They were burned so bad that they thought at least 200-300 people died. People that didn't know each other shared money, food, clothing, and furnishings.

The Haymarket Affair

The Haymarket Affair happened in 1886 in Chicago. It started when workers were fighting to get eight hours of work. It ended with some getting killed.

It all started on May 4, 1886. There was a rally by workers to get eight hours of work. They were not trying to cause violence. It was just peaceful.

But then violence broke out when a bomb exploded. Then the police started shooting. Some even started shooting each other. There was chaos. There were a lot of people killed and one of the police called Mathias was killed by the bomb.

The workers were just trying to get eight hours of work. Everything was peaceful. But the violence began with a bomb. People were killed.

Eight anarchists were tried for murder. Four people were executed, but all of the people that were convicted died without throwing the bomb.

By Anahi M. (6th gr.)

World's Columbian Exposition

This article was about the World's Columbian Exposition that was held in Chicago in 1893. There were conflicts through the process. One was the Caucasians didn't want the ideas from the African Americans. Another one was how there was a difference between the White City and the Midway. Although the process of making the World's Columbian Exposition happen included many struggles, it turned out to be a great success.

One of the conflicts was about what city was going to host the World's Columbian Exposition. There were a lot of cities that were interested, for

example, St. Louis, New York City, and Washington, D.C. At the end the two cities that were chosen were Chicago and New York. At last Chicago was the one to host the Columbian Exposition because they outbid New York.

Another conflict was that Caucasian men did not want too much influence from women or African Americans. The women wanted to have their own exhibits displayed in the major building, but were denied and had their exhibits in a separate building. The African Americans requested that some of their ideas be incorporated but were also denied, so they boycotted against the fair. They finally participated when the fair had a special "colored American" day.

There was a difference between the "White City" and the Midway Plaisance. The Midway was an avenue that led you to the White City that blended education and fun together. The Midway was an inspiration to Coney Island. The White City was a museum that held all the exhibits. The main exposition was the bestowing the moniker of the "White City."

In the end, the World's Columbian Exposition got destroyed by a fire that swept through the fair grounds on the last day. Although it ended sadly, the World's Columbian Exposition defined American culture. Henry Ford, the creator of the model T Ford, saw an internal combustion engine that sparked his dream of creating a horseless carriage. The fair was gone but not its importance. The World's Columbian Exposition set a standard for every following exposition.

By Ambar A. (10th gr.)

Chicago River

The Chicago River had many problems, and people were getting sick because it went into Lake Michigan. It wasn't really safe for the people.

The Chicago River had a problem. It wasn't really clean. More people came and more garbage and pollution. More people got sick because the water went into Lake Michigan. Many of the residents called the Chicago River "the stinking river" because of the pollution and sewage that was in the river.

In 1915 a tour boat called the Eastland tipped over when it was docked and 844 passengers died. The location of this is a memorial. They plan to build an outdoor exhibit to remember the people who died.

Every year the Chicago River is dyed with green for St. Patrick, but it wasn't always safe. It wasn't safe because it was dyed with green fluorescent. This was harmful for the river because it killed fish, plants, polluted the water and it wasn't safe to drink. Today we use vegetable dye – 40 pounds.

The Chicago River used to be full of sewage and pollution and today we have made it cleaner and safer.

By David R. (6th gr.)

Lake Michigan

Lake Michigan is a great lake. Lake Michigan is the 2nd biggest lake in the United States. It is bounded from west to east by the U.S. states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan.

Some of the earliest inhabitants of the Lake Michigan region were the Hopewell Indians.

By Awat G. (4th gr.)

Navy Pier

Navy pier is fun! You can go there any time you want to.

There are many things including boats that you can do around Navy Pier. "Spirit of Chicago" is a great place to go. You can have romantic dinners.

In 1927 the pier was named again as Navy Pier for the World War veterans. Navy Pier was used as a naval training base in World War II. After the war it was used as the Chicago branch of the University of Illinois. In 1965 the university changed places and Navy Pier decayed.

By Salina B. (3rd gr.)

Navy Pier

We read about Navy Pier. Navy Pier is a large pier on Lake Michigan near Streeterville, close to Chicago's downtown. Originally known as the Municipal Pier Nr. 2, it is one of two piers called for in Daniel Burnham's 1909 plan. The other pier was never built. In 1927 the pier was renamed Navy Pier in honor of World War I veterans. It would turn out to be a prophetic name change, as Navy Pier served a naval training facility during the second world war.

The most western building has two prominent towers in the Navy Pier Headhouse. The name was derived from the area which at the time was known as the Headland.

From this article I learned a lot about Navy Pier. I think many people should go there and visit.

By Jamileth D. (5th gr.)

The Chicago Picasso

This story was about how they built the statue by Pablo Picasso. In the story they talk all about the history, the controversy, and the artist's intent. This story has a lot of information about Pablo Picasso and his sculpture.

The Chicago Picasso weighs 162 tons! And it towers over 50 feet. There is sliding and climbing on it because it kind of looks like a jungle gym. It cost exactly #351,959.17. He got paid \$100,000 but he refused to accept it.

It was made in Gary, Indiana using COR-TEN steel. It was relocated to Chicago. It started as a 12 feet tall wooden model. They started on May 25, 1967.

They were not sure what the sculpture represented. It may have been inspired from a French girl, the girlfriend of a delivery person. Picasso made many portraits of her.

I think that this story is a great story because it has a lot of information of Pablo Picasso and his sculpture.

By Josephine A. (3rd gr.)

Picasso Sculpture

It made a huge impact on Chicago.

Sculpture— The sculpture was constructed on May 25, 1967. The sculpture was met with controversy. Before the Picasso sculpture, every sculpture of Chicago was of historical figures. It has become a well-known meeting spot for Chicagoans.

Picasso— They wanted to remove his sculpture to put Ernie Banks' statue there instead. Most of his

portraits were of Lydia Corbett, the Chicago sculpture was inspired by her. His grandson wrote a book about him.

Characteristics— Many children like this sculpture because of its jungle gym appearance. It's 50 feet tall and weighs 162 tons. Its location is in Daley Plaza, in the Chicago Loop.

The sculpture was well known because of its characteristics, the artist, and the beautiful sculpture itself.

By Leslie A. (8th gr.)

The Chicago Picasso

This report is about Picasso and his statue that inspires people.

One fact is he's nice because he gave the statue away as a gift, he made a sculpture so kids can play on it, and it inspired many artists.

The second fact is that the sculpture was initially met with controversy because it caused a lot of gossip. People didn't know what it was. Some people liked it and some people didn't like it.

The last fact is people like to party there because musical performances are held there. People like to sell items there at Christmas time. Chicago affairs are held around the Picasso statue in front of Daley Plaza.

In conclusion, Picasso is nice, the sculpture was initially met with controversy, and some people like to party there.

By MaryAnn B. (6th gr.)

Chicago Blues

Chicago blues originated in Chicago, Illinois, when African American workers migrated to the north. This form of music uses the acoustic guitar, the harmonica, drums, piano, saxophones, and the trumpet. The blues developed during the Great Migration, in the mid-twentieth century.

Most of the blues clubs were located on the Southside of Chicago, so white people didn't visit them. More white people started to listen to the blues and visited their clubs. Then, more clubs on the north side opened up.

Chicago blues contains the sound of the strong bass. They also use harmonicas and sometimes saxophones. Dominant 9th chords give the music a "jazz feel." By Ariana T. (4th gr.) and her tutor Sarah

Chicago Blues

Chicago Blues has more extended colorful notes, which gives the music more of a "jazz feeling," while remaining in the confines of the blues genre. It often uses a harmonica and has a rolling bass.

The blues started with black performers and audiences. The blues was filled with black performers. The music developed due to the migration of African Americans. They started on the south Side of Chicago.

There are many well-known Chicago blues players: Buddy Guy, Bo Diddley, Little Walter.

By Edgar R. (5th gr.)

Chicago Blues

This is about jazz music in Chicago Blues.

Jazz music developed in the 20th century due to African Americans. The blues of Chicago is filled with black performers. The blues of Chicago makes people feel good.

Chicago blues often uses harmonica and occasionally saxophones. Well-known blues players are Buddy Guy, Little Walter, Freddie King, and Magic Sam.

People should always go to hear Chicago blues to make them feel better. By Aman B. (5th gr.)

Sherman L. Robinson

Sherman L. Robinson worked in silent films.

Sherman L. Robinson was such a great silent movie piano player. During funny parts "he made audiences bowl over with laughter." During scary parts of the movies he made people's "hair rise and sent chills up their spines."

Sherman L. Robinson took time away from silent films. He played ragtime music. He learned from Jelly Roll Morton and Scott Joplin. He also learned to play vaudeville music.

Sherman L. Robinson went back to playing his silent films. He took his skills from ragtime and vaudeville music and played even better. Even when he stopped working, he still played for silent pictures at home.

Sherman L. Robinson played piano at a theater named Rialto. The Rialto was an important theater in Chicago. Sherman L. Robinson was important in Chicago. By Andrew T.

Oprah Winfrey Oprah Winfrey is a popular talk show host. She has been ranked the richest African American of the 20th century. By Senite B. (3rd gr.)

Michael Jordan

We read about Michael Jordan. He was a famous professional basketball player. He played for the Bulls.

Michael Jordan was a great basketball player. He won a lot of awards. He scored about 30 points per game. He was named the greatest North American player of the 20th century.

Michael Jordan sold lots of products. He sold Nike's Air Jordan sneakers. He starred in Space Jam. He is the majority owner of the basketball team of the Charlotte Bobcats. --By Sheila M (3rd gr.) and her tutor

Michael Jordan

My main topic was Michael Jordan. He was a famous basketball player. Michael Jordan is famous for being on the Chicago Bulls basketball team. He was really good at slam dunks, which got him the nickname "Air Jordan."

In 1991 through 1993 he won the NBA championship with the Chicago Bulls. For a little while he retired from basketball, but he came back to basketball after a year. --By Mario D. (5th gr.)

Uptown Theater The Uptown Theater is located on the corner of Lawrence and Broadway. It was built by the Balaban and Katz Theatre Chain in 1925. It is the biggest in Chicago. It has 4381 seats.

By Ariana T. (4th gr.)

Aragon Ballroom

The Aragon Ballroom was used as a skating rink, ballroom, and boxing venue.

It was a ballroom first. A ballroom is a place where you go dancing. There was a fire and new people worked there and changed it up.

Then they used it for a skating rink and boxing venue. But now they use it for shows and concerts.

By Yaheim S. (4th gr.)

Robie House, by Frank Lloyd Wright

Robie House was designed and built between 1908 and 1910 by architect Frank Lloyd Wright at 5757 W. Woodlawn Avenue on the South Side. It's a historic landmark in the Chicago area.

Frank Lloyd Wright lived from June 8, 1867 to April 19, 1959. He designed 500 houses. He promoted organic architecture.

Fredrick C. Robie was only 28 when he asked Wright to design his home. He was the assistant manager of the Excelsior Supply Company. He picked a property so he can stay close to a university. He started the design in 1908.

Frank Lloyd Wright was a famous architect. He designed more than 1000 projects but only completed over 500. He also wrote many books and articles. He also was famous for events, like 1914 fires and murders at his studio.

In 1948 Wright began working in his home. He did this because he wanted to move his family and his work closer. He also had three kids named Catherine, and David, and Frances. He added more rooms to his house because of them.

Frank Lloyd Wright was an accomplished architect and became famous for many works from books to buildings.

By Kevin A. (5th gr.)

Sue, the Dinosaur

Sue is the biggest T. rex ever found. Sue was discovered in 1990 by Susan Hendrickson. It was discovered in South Dakota. Sue is kept in the Field Museum in Chicago.

T. rex dinosaurs like Sue were enormous. They stood about 40 feet long and 13 feet high at the hips. They weighed about two to seven tons. The jaws of a T. rex flashed as many as 58 teeth.

It was very difficult to dig up Sue's skeleton. There was 30 feet of rock on top of the skeleton. They pushed 100 pieces of rock down the hill with their hands. Some of the pieces were missing.

Scientists learn things by studying Sue's bones. Sue may have lived longer than any other T. rex. From studying Sue's skull, scientists have learned that Sue's brain helped her smell. Some of Sue's bones grew together.

In conclusion, Sue is the biggest and most complete dinosaur skeleton. People are amazed when they see Sue's skeleton at the Field Museum in Chicago.

By Kevin A. (5th gr.)

Sue, the Dinosaur

Sue was discovered by people digging up dirt around her. Sue was a T. rex. Sue's bones were perfect. Sue was very big. They had to dig up all the dirt around her to take all the bones out. She is at the Field Museum in Chicago. They carried Sue in a cast. She became a fossil years after she died.

They sold Sue to the Field Museum for eight million dollars. Sue was 40 feet long and 13 feet high. Scientists said that Sue was bigger than a city bus.

Sue lived 67 million years ago. She was a meat eater. Scientists said that Sue hatched from an egg.

By Arturo P. (5th gr.)

Sue, the Dinosaur

Sue is a Tyrannosaurus rex. Sue was found by Susan Hendrickson. Susan found Sue by a cliff. Sue was found in South Dakota. Susan is a fossil hunter who works for the Black Hills Institute.

Sue is a carnivore, which means it only eats meat. Sue might be the oldest T. rex found. Sue grew all his life.

The first T. rex ever found was in 1900. The first T. rex was about 40 feet long and 13 feet high at the hips. Sue was a strong hunter.

Sue is a reptile. Sue weighed about 7 tons. Sue became a fossil because of all the sand, water, and pressure on the bones.

This is how Sue lived. These are also fact of his life.

By Everardo L. (3rd gr.)

1968 Chicago Riots

The assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. caused violence on the west side of Chicago. The people of Chicago were upset after his death because they felt their leader or their only voice was gone. The main people affected by this were African American people or people living in the black ghetto.

In response to the violence on the west side, Mayor Richard J. Daley established a curfew for anyone under the age of 21. He also closed streets to auto traffic, banned the sale of hand guns, and he empowered the Chicago police to act to shoot to kill or maim. This response by Mayor Daley was somewhat successful in controlling the violence.

Despite the mayor's attempts, there was much devastation felt in Chicago. The resulting devastation consisted of over five hundred injuries, almost three thousand arrests, and at least 10,000 people were left homeless. The damage to building structures was severe, with many buildings being damaged beyond all repair. These riots cost the city 11 citizens and \$91 million.

In my opinion I think that both the mayor and the people were in a rough spot, but I think the people took a bad route that led to violence. If I was alive in that time I would be devastated if Martin Luther King had died, too.

By Karah P. (5th gr.)

O'Hare Airport

O'Hare Airport is Chicago's busiest airport. Many flights fly in and out of there every day.

O'Hare International Airport is a hub for many airlines. After United merged with Continental, O'Hare

will be the airport that has most United planes. A lot of American planes fly into O'Hare. The Chicago Department of Aviation runs O'Hare.

O'Hare is the 3rd busiest airport in the world; Before 2005, O'Hare was the world's busiest airport in take-offs and landings. 66,665,390 passengers pass through O'Hare every day. Planes fly to more than 60 foreign countries.

O'Hare is in Chicago, 17 miles northwest of the Loop. Most of O'Hare is in Cook County, and it is 10 miles farther from the Loop than Midway Airport.

O'Hare is great. I want to go there.

By Myreanna S. (5th gr.)

Richard M. Daley

Richard Michael Daley is the mayor of Chicago. He was elected in 1989. He is the current mayor.

Mayor Daley wants to make the city better. He has planted flowers and trees to make the city greener. He planned big building projects in Navy Pier, McCormick Place, and Millennium Park. He wants to create more parks and enlarge airports.

Mayor Daley and his father were both mayor for a long time. Richard J. Daley was elected for six times and served for 21 years. His son Richard M. Daley was also elected for six times. He will serve for 22 years, breaking his father's record of longest serving mayor.

By Guadalupe M. (6th gr.)

Richard M. Daley Richard M. Daley was born on April 24, 1942. He is the 54th mayor of Chicago. His dad was mayor before him. His party is Democratic. He has three children. His brother is in politics, too.

By Oscar B. (8th gr.)

Barack Obama

Barack Obama is the President of the United States.

He was born in the U.S.A. in Hawaii. He went to Harvard Law School. He taught at the University of Chicago Law School from 1992 to 2004. He taught constitutional law. Barack Obama has the secret service to take care of him to keep him safe. He will be President at least until January 2013.

By LilyAnn B. (7th gr.)

Barack Obama Barack Obama is the first African American to become President.

One fact is Barack Obama graduated from law school. He earned his law degree. He worked as an attorney. He taught law at the University of Chicago.

He served three terms in the Illinois Senate from 1997 to 2004. He was elected Senator in 2004. He

won the election to the U.S. Senate in November 2004. He won the Democratic Party nomination when he beat Hillary Clinton. Then he beat John McCain and was inaugurated as President on January 20, 2009. Also in 2009, Barack Obama won the Nobel Prize.

Obama attempted to reform the economy. He helped the unemployed and helped repeal the Don't Ask Don't Tell Act.

Obama withdrew combat troops from Iraq, increased troop levels in Afghanistan, signed treaties on Arms Control, and ordered enforcement of the no fly zone.

Barack Obama is successful to be a President. He helped the nation and also helped the people.

By Fredy F. (7th gr.)