

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
United States Postal Service
1735 N. Lynn Street Room 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of a United States Postage Stamp honoring Dr. John Henrik Clarke, educator and activist.

Dr. Clarke was the oldest son of an Alabama sharecropper family and rose to prominence as an educator, scholar, activist and historian who was admired worldwide. He has written or authored more than thirty books and articles which have been translated in more than a dozen languages. He was the first president of the African Heritage Studies Association and was a founding member of the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, the African Scholars' Council and The Association for the Study of Classical African Civilization. He has received over a dozen citations for excellence in teaching and was Professor Emeritus of African World History in the Department of Africana and Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College.

Dr. Clarke served his country as a Master Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Force during WWII, and was an advisor to both Kwame Nkrumah and Malcolm X. He was a consultant for the Budweiser "Great Kings and Queens of Africa" series and was the subject of a documentary, "John Henrik Clarke: A Great and Mighty Walk."

A U.S. Postal Stamp to honor Dr. Clarke would be an inspiration to students, educators and scholars throughout the nation. It would also be a fitting tribute to an Army veteran and social activist who devoted his life to protecting the personal and intellectual freedoms of all Americans.

I urge the Committee to consider and approve a stamp to honor this great African American scholar.

Sincerely,