

The World During Our High School Years

1964



World Events

- Population: 3.276 billion
- Nelson Mandela sentenced to life imprisonment in South Africa (June 11).
- Congress approves Gulf of Tonkin Resolution after North Vietnamese torpedo boats allegedly attack US destroyers (Aug. 7).
- Khrushchev is deposed; Kosygin becomes premier and Brezhnev becomes first secretary of the Communist Party (October).
- China detonates its first atomic bomb. Background: nuclear weapons

U.S. Events

President: Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President: none

US Population: 191,888,791

Life expectancy: 70.2 years

Homicide Rate (per 100,000): 5.1

Federal spending: \$118.53 billion; Federal debt: \$316.1 billion

Unemployment: 5.7%

Cost of a first-class stamp: \$0.05

- US Supreme Court rules that Congressional districts should be roughly equal in population (Feb. 17).
- Three civil rights workers—Schwerner, Goodman, and Cheney—murdered in Mississippi (June). Background: Civil Rights
- President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy issues Warren Report concluding that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.
- Jack Ruby convicted of murder in slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Nobel Prizes Awarded:

- Peace Prize: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (US)
- Chemistry: Dorothy Mary Crowfoot Hodgkin (UK), for determining structure of compounds needed in combatting pernicious anemia
- Physics: Charles Hard Townes (US), Nikolai G. Basov, and Aleksandr M. Prochorov (both USSR), for developing maser and laser principle of producing high-intensity radiation
- Physiology or Medicine: Konrad E. Bloch (US) and Feodor Lynen (Germany), for research on mechanism and regulation of cholesterol and fatty-acid metabolism
- Nobel Prize for Literature: Jean-Paul Sartre (France) (declined)

Science Events:

- Ranger VII takes 4,316 high-resolution pictures of the moon.
- US Surgeon General Luther Terry affirms that cigarette smoking causes cancer.
- The Lava Lamp was invented by Englishman Edward Craven Walker

Sports

World Series: St. Louis Cardinals d. NY Yankees (4-3)

NBA Championship: Boston d. SF Warriors (4-1)

Stanley Cup: Toronto d. Detroit (4-3)

Wimbledon: Women: Maria Bueno d. M. Smith (6-4 7-9 6-3); Men: Roy Emerson d. F. Stolle (6-4 12-10 4-6 6-3)

Kentucky Derby Champion: Northern Dancer

NCAA Basketball Championship: UCLA d. Duke (98-83)

NCAA Football Champions: Alabama (AP, UPI), (10-1-0); Arkansas (FW), (11-0-0) & Notre Dame (NFF), (9-1-0)

1964 Entertainment

Miss America: Donna Axum (AR)

Academy Awards (movies)

Best Picture: "MY FAIR LADY" (Other nominees: "Becket", "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned To Stop Worrying...", "Mary Poppins", "Zorba the Greek".)

Best Actor: REX HARRISON in "My Fair Lady" (Other nominees: Richard Burton in "Becket", Peter O'Toole in "Becket", Anthony Quinn in "Zorba the Greek", Peter Sellers in "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned To Stop Worrying...")

Best Actress: JULIE ANDREWS in "Mary Poppins", (Other nominees: Anne Bancroft in "The Pumpkin Eater", Sophia Loren in "Marriage Italian Style", Debbie Reynolds in "The Unsinkable Molly Brown", Kim Stanley in "Seance on a Wet Afternoon")

Best Supporting Actor: PETER USTINOV in "Topkapi", (Other nominees: John Gielgud in "Becket", Stanley Holloway in "My Fair Lady", Edmond O'Brien in "Seven Days in May", Lee Tracy in "The Best Man")

Best Supporting Actress: LILA KEDROVA in "Zorba the Greek", (Other nominees: Gladys Cooper in "My Fair Lady", Edith Evans in "The Chalk Garden", Grayson Hall in "The Night of the Iguana", Agnes Moorehead in "Hush...Hush, Sweet Charlotte")

Best Director: GEORGE CUKOR for "My Fair Lady", (Other nominees: Michael Cacoyannis for "Zorba the Greek", Peter Glenville for "Becket", Stanley Kubrick for "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned To Stop Worrying...", Robert Stevenson for "Mary Poppins.")

Television: Emmy Awards

- Best Program, Drama: The Defenders (CBS)
- Best Program, Comedy: The Dick Van Dyke Show (CBS)
- Best Program, Variety: The Danny Kaye Show (CBS)
- Best Lead Actor in a Series (Comedy or Drama): Dick Van Dyke, The Dick Van Dyke Show
- Best Lead Actress in a Series (Comedy or Drama): Mary Tyler Moore, The Dick Van Dyke Show
- Best Performance in Variety Series: Danny Kaye, The Danny Kaye Show
- Program of the Year: The Making of the President 1960 (ABC)
- Best News Program: Huntley-Brinkley Report (NBC)

Top Ten US Television Shows for 1964:

1. Beverly Hillbillies
2. Bonanza
3. The Dick Van Dyke Show
4. Petticoat Junction
5. The Andy Griffith Show
6. The Lucy Show
7. Candid Camera
8. The Ed Sullivan Show
9. The Danny Thomas Show
10. My Favorite Martian

1964 Tony Awards (theater)

Best Play: Luther
Best Musical: Hello, Dolly!
Best Actor, Drama: Alec Guinness, Dylan
Best Actress, Drama: Sandy Dennis, Any Wednesday
Best Supporting Actor, Drama: Hume Cronyn, Hamlet
Best Supporting Actress, Drama: Barbara Loden, After the Fall
Best Actor, Musical: Bert Lahr, Foxy
Best Actress, Musical: Carol Channing, Hello, Dolly!
Best Supporting Actor, Musical: Jack Cassidy, She Loves Me
Best Supporting Actress, Musical: Tessie O'Shea, The Girl Who Came to Supper
Director, Play: Mike Nichols, Barefoot in the Park
Director, Musical: Gower Champion, Hello, Dolly!

Grammy Awards (music)

Record of the Year: "The Days of Wine and Roses," Henry Mancini
Album of the Year: The Barbra Streisand Album, Barbra Streisand (Columbia)
Song of the Year: "The Days of Wine and Roses," Henry Mancini and Johnny Mercer, composers

Entertainment Events

- Folk musician Bob Dylan becomes increasingly popular during this time of social protest with songs expressing objection to the condition of American society.
- Psychedelic bands such as The Grateful Dead and Jefferson Airplane enjoy great success with songs celebrating the counterculture of the '60s.
- Peyton Place premieres on ABC and is the first prime-time soap opera. Color television makes its way into U.S. homes.
- The Beatles appear on The Ed Sullivan Show.

Best Selling Books

Donald Barthelme, Come Back, Dr. Caligari
John Berryman, 77 Dream Songs
John Cheever, The Wapshot Scandal
James Dickey, Helmets, Two Poems of the Air
John Hawkes, Second Skin
Ernest Hemingway, A Moveable Feast
Katherine Anne Porter, Collected Stories of Katherine Anne Porter
Hubert Selby, Last Exit to Brooklyn

Notable Deaths

- Former President Herbert Clark Hoover 10/20/1964
- Gen. Douglas MacArthur
- Actor/Comedian Harpo Marx