

The World During Our High School Years

1965



World Events:

- Population: 3.345 billion
- The first US combat troops arrive in Vietnam. By the end of the year, 190,000 American soldiers are in Vietnam. Background: Vietnam War
- US marines land in the Dominican Republic as fighting persists between rebels and Dominican army (April 28).
- France withdraws its Atlantic fleet from NATO.
- Rhodesia unilaterally declares its independence from Britain (Nov. 11).

U.S. Events:

President: Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President: Hubert H. Humphrey

Population: 194,302,963

Life expectancy: 70.2 years

Homicide Rate (per 100,000): 5.5

Federal spending: \$118.23 billion, Federal debt: \$322.3 billion

Unemployment: 5.2%

Cost of a first-class stamp: \$0.05

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and more than 2,600 others arrested in Selma, Ala., during demonstrations against voter-registration rules (Feb. 1).
- Malcolm X, black-nationalist leader, shot to death at Harlem rally (Feb. 21).
- Blacks riot for six days in Watts section of Los Angeles: 34 dead, over 1,000 injured, nearly 4,000 arrested (Aug. 11-16).

Nobel Prizes Awarded:

- Peace Prize: UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)
- Chemistry: Robert B. Woodward (US), for work in synthesizing complicated organic compounds
- Physics: Richard P. Feynman, Julian S. Schwinger (both US), and Shinichiro Tomonaga (Japan), for research in quantum electrodynamics
- Physiology or Medicine: François Jacob, André Lwoff, and Jacques Monod (all France), for study of regulatory activities in body cells
- Literature: Mikhail Sholokhov (USSR)

Science Events:

- Arno A. Penzias and Robert W. Wilson's (US) discovery of cosmic background radiation confirms the "Big Bang" theory.
- Early Bird, the first commercial communications satellite, is launched.
- Wally Schirra and Thomas Stafford aboard Gemini VI perform the first rendezvous with another spacecraft, Gemini VII, with Frank Borman and James Lovell.
- Soviet cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov performs the first spacewalk (Mar. 18). Edward White II becomes the first American to walk in space (June 3). Background: Space Exploration
- Invention of the first artificial sweetener chemical, aspartame (later marketed under the name NutriSweet)
- Invention of AstroTurf artificial grass (for the Astrodome in Houston, Texas)

Sports News:

- World Series: LA Dodgers d. Minnesota (4-3)
- NBA Championship Boston d. LA Lakers (4-1)
- Stanley Cup Montreal d. Chicago (4-3)
- Wimbledon: Women: Margaret Smith d. M. Bueno (6-4 7-5); Men: Roy Emerson d. F. Stolle (6-2 6-4 6-4)
- Kentucky Derby Champion: Lucky Debonair
- NCAA Basketball Championship UCLA d. Michigan (91-80)
- NCAA Football Champions: Alabama (AP, FW-tie) (9-1-1) & Michigan St. (UPI, NFF, FW-tie) (10-1-0)

Entertainment News:

- The Sound of Music premieres. An instant hit, the film was one of the top-grossing films of 1965 and remains one of film's most popular musicals.
- ABC pays an unprecedented \$32 million for a four-year contract with the NCAA to broadcast football games on Saturday afternoons.
- Bill Cosby, starring in I Spy, becomes the first African American to headline a television show.

Pulitzer Prizes (literature)

Fiction: The Keepers of the House, Shirley Ann Grau

Drama: The Subject Was Roses, Frank D. Gilroy

Academy Awards (movies)

Best Picture: "THE SOUND OF MUSIC" (Other nominees: "Darling", "Doctor Zhivago", "Ship of Fools", "A Thousand Clowns")

Best Actor: LEE MARVIN in "Cat Ballou" (Other nominees: Richard Burton in "The Spy Who Came In From the Cold", Laurence Olivier in "Othello", Rod Steiger in "The Pawnbroker", Oskar Werner in "Ship of Fools")

Best Actress: JULIE CHRISTIE in "Darling" (Other nominees: Julie Andrews in "The Sound of Music", Samantha Eggar in "The Collector", Elizabeth Hartman in "A Patch of Blue", Simone Signoret in "Ship of Fools")

Supporting Actor: MARTIN BALSAM in "A Thousand Clowns" (Other nominees: Ian Bannen in "The Flight of the Phoenix", Tom Courtenay in "Doctor Zhivago", Michael Dunn in "Ship of Fools", Frank Finlay in "Othello")

Supporting Actress: SHELLEY WINTERS in "A Patch of Blue" (Other nominees: Ruth Gordon in "Inside Daisy Clover", Joyce Redman in "Othello", Maggie Smith in "Othello", Peggy Wood in "The Sound of Music")

Best Director: ROBERT WISE for "The Sound of Music" (Other nominees: David Lean for "Doctor Zhivago", John Schlesinger for "Darling", Hiroshi Teshigahara for "Woman in the Dunes", William Wyler for "The Collector")

Television: Emmy Awards

Best Outstanding Program, Comedy: The Dick Van Dyke Show (CBS)

Best Outstanding Program, Drama: Hallmark Hall of Fame: The Magnificent Yankee (NBC)

Best Program, Special: My Name is Barbra (CBS)

Best Actor, Drama: Alfred Lunt, Hallmark Hall of Fame: The Magnificent Yankee

Best Actress, Drama: Lynn Fontanne, Hallmark Hall of Fame: The Magnificent Yankee

Best Actress, Musical or Comedy: Barbra Streisand, My Name Is Barbra

Best Actor, Musical or Comedy: Dick Van Dyke, The Dick Van Dyke Show

Top Ten US Television Shows for 1965

1. Bonanza
2. Bewitched
3. Gomer Pyle USMC
4. The Andy Griffith Show
5. The Fugitive
6. The Red Skelton Hour
7. The Dick Van Dyke Show
8. The Lucy Show
9. Peyton Place
10. Combat

Tony Awards (theater)

- Best Play, Drama: The Subject Was Roses
- Best Actor, Drama or Comedy: Walter Matthau, *The Odd Couple*
- Best Actress, Drama or Comedy: Irene Worth, *Tiny Alice*
- Best Supporting Actor, Drama or Comedy: Jack Albertson, *The Subject Was Roses*
- Best Supporting Actress, Drama or Comedy: Alice Ghostley, *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*
- Best Author, Play: Neil Simon, *The Odd Couple*

- Best Play, Musical: Fiddler on the Roof
- Best Actor, Musical: Zero Mostel, Fiddler on the Roof
- Best Actress, Musical: Liza Minnelli, Flora, the Red Menace
- Best Supporting Actor, Musical: Victor Spinetti, Oh, What a Lovely War
- Best Supporting Actress, Musical: Maria Karnilova, Fiddler on the Roof
- Best Author, Musical: Joseph Stein, Fiddler on the Roof

Grammy Awards (music)

- Record of the Year: "The Girl From Ipanema," Stan Getz and Astrud Gilberto
- Album of the Year: Getz/Gilberto, Stan Getz and Joao Gilberto (Verve)
- Song of the Year: "Hello, Dolly!," Jerry Herman, songwriter

Miss America: Vonda Kay Van Dyke (AZ)

Best Selling Books:

James Baldwin, *Going to Meet the Man*
Amiri Baraka, *The Dead Lecturer*
Heinrich Böll, *The Clown*
Arthur Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
Peter Matthiessen, *At Play in the Fields of the Lord*
Ralph Nader, *Unsafe at Any Speed*
Sylvia Plath, *Ariel, The Uncollected Poems*
Eudora Welty, *Thirteen Stories*

Notable Deaths

- Winston Churchill
- Nat King Cole
- T.S. Eliot
- Adlai Stevenson