

**It is often presumed
that drama in HBCUs
began at Howard
University with the
organization of the
first drama club in
1911.**

**An important start in
black college theatre
was made at North
Carolina Agricultural
and Technical College
in 1907 with a course
entitled Expression and
Dramatic Art.**

Willis Richardson's
debuted his play *The*
Chip Woman's Fortune
in 1921 which set a
standard for black
achievement.

**Two important movements
helped change the face of
black college theatre: the
Art Theatre Movement
that embraced folk drama,
and Du Bois' *The Star of
Ethiopia* pageant.**

**W. E. B. Du Bois and
Alain Locke welcomed
the Art Theatre
Movement because of
its attention to the
need for writing folk
plays.**

**The Negro Intercollegiate
Dramatic Association was
a union of five colleges
that initially came
together to address the
role of teacher education
in theatre arts.**

**The Southern Association
of Dramatic and Speech
Arts set forth goals that
addressed class and race
in a manner different from
that of the Negro
Intercollegiate Dramatic
Association.**

The Southern Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts later turned its attention to placing drama in the college curricula by removing it from departments of English and marrying drama to speech departments.

**Sheppard
Randolph**

**Edmonds was the
father of black
educational
theatre.**

Thomas Pawley was another key figure in the development of black college theatre who established a summer theatre at Lincoln University where plays were student-produced.