American composer, pianist, and jazz orchestra leader Duke Ellington changed the face of jazz and popular music over the course of his five-decade career in New York City. He started playing the piano when he was eight years old and was nicknamed “Duke” by his childhood friends for his elegant style. His ensemble, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, became a hit at the Cotton Club in Harlem, and he went on to compose nearly 2,000 pieces, including countless top-40 hits and multiple works for orchestra.

If Ellington were a guest in your home or neighborhood, where would you take him? Make an Ellington cut-out using the illustration at right. Take a photo with your cut-out and share it with Carnegie Hall at linkup@carnegiehall.org, on social media using #orchestraswings or the Twitter and Instagram handle @carnegiehall, or in our Facebook group (Carnegie Hall Link Up).