W.E.B. Du Bois, Voice Of The Black Protest Movement

Elliott M Rudwick

On the Department’s official website Du Bois’ famous quote “Education must not simply teach work; it must teach life” was emblazoned. It was wonderful that this great controversial scholar and activist was being honored by the Department of Education. By being a founder of the Niagara Movement, the NAACP and the Crisis Magazine, Du Bois created the blueprint by which Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement overthrew Jim Crow. In honoring Du Bois’ pioneering activism, Dr. King wrote, “One idea he insistently taught was that black people have been kept in oppression and deprivation by a poisonous fog of lies.” Du Bois supported young black student protesters reminiscent of activists in Black Lives Matter today. Du Bois edited the NAACP’s official magazine, The Crisis, from 1910 to 1934, publishing many of the leading voices in African American literature and politics and helping fuel the spread of the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s. Marcus Garvey and the UNIA, 1916. Born in Jamaica, the black nationalist leader Marcus Garvey founded his Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) there in 1914; two years later, he brought it to the United States.