## BEYOND BLACKFACE

## Racial Pride and Prejudice in Shuffle Along



Flournoy Miller, Aubrey Lyles, and Noble Sissle in character



Eubie Blake, Flournoy Miller, Noble Sissle, and Aubrey Lyles, Shuffle *Along*'s creators

100 Years ago, the first musical show written by, scored, acted, and produced by an all-Black company opened on Broadway: *Shuffle Along*.

It was the first show to:

- Feature a real, romantic love story between the two lead characters
- Portray Black politicians, grocers, and policemen
- Include syncopated music and dance

*But...*It also featured blackface comedians speaking in dialect portraying stereotypical characters.

Learn more about the history of this show...the controversies that it spawned...and the innovations that it inspired...