



LaVerne Nelson Black (1887-1939), *Jicarilla "Apache Fiesta,"* 1934, oil on canvas, 44 3/8 x 50 1/8 in., National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution

## Jicarilla "Apache Fiesta"

A New Deal for American Art

Great governments throughout history have embraced the art of their time. During the depths of the Great Depression, the Federal Government continued that tradition by employing thousands of artists to create public art which expressed the ideals of their time. LaVerne Nelson Black, born near an Indian reservation

in Wisconsin, began drawing at an early age using the redkeel, a soft marking stone which Indians used to paint their faces for the dances. His paintings often depicted a western theme.

U.S. General Services Administration

New Deal Art  
1933-1943  
Golden Anniversary