

Kurtis Walker aka **Kurtis Blow** aka **Kool DJ Kurt** is a MC, DJ, Rapper, Artist, Singer, Songwriter, Producer, Actor and a Public Speaker.

He grew up in Harlem, New York while attending Music and Arts High School, before enrolling in CUNY and Nyack College.

Kurtis was raised in the tough streets of Harlem, where occasionally he hung out on 125th street and Uptown Harlem.

He began as a DJ throwing parties at local spots in New York City with some of Hip Hop Greatest Legends.

Kurtis frequently performed at The Fever, The Celebrity Club and the Famous Harlem World.

In 1979, Kurtis Blow became the first MC/Rapper to be signed to a major label (Mercury records).

The label released the first successful commercially hip hop single “**Christmas Rappin**”.

“**The Breaks**” was his next single to be released and it instantly went certified Gold. During his lustrous career, Kurtis released ten albums. His first album was self titled “Kurtis Blow”

Kurtis also produced some of the greatest Hip Hop singles of all time. “8 Million Stories”, “AJ Scratch”, and “Basketball”

were all top hits on the Billboard Charts and regularly played during basketball games and other events.

In 1996, “If I ruled the World” was a number one hit and remade by “Naz”.

When Kurtis began producing, he was responsible for the discovery of “The Fat Boys” and “Run DMC”

Run of “Run DMC” began his career as the Son of Kurtis Blow. Run would follow Kurtis all around the city.

Kurtis also produced LoveBug Starski, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Full Force, Russell Simmons and Wyclef Jean to name a few.

He co-produced “King Holiday” with Dexter Scott King, Celebrating the first Martin Luther King Day in 1986.

Kurtis Blow was one of the first Solo artist to breakdown barriers for future artist.

Kurtis Blow starred in the hit film “**Krush Groove**” with The Fat Boys & Run DMC and help coordinate the music in the film.

He was a co-producer for Das Leben Amerikanischer Gangs in 1995, an International film that focused on west coast gangs.

Kurtis was involved in the three volume release of “The History of Rap for Miramax Rhyme and Reason records in 1998.

In 2003, he won praises for having the most viewed documentary on Showtime “Slippin, ten years with the Bloods”.

He was also a producer in the hit film series “The Get Down”, which can be seen on Netflix.

In 2016, Kurtis was selected as a chairman of the **Universal Hip Hop Museum**.

Kurtis also appeared in the Documentary series “Hip Hop Evolution” which airs on Netflix

In 2017, Kurtis formed “The Bboy Committee”, a group of first generation BBoys and BGirls.

The Committee is responsible for creating Bboying, Rocking and Break Dancing.

In 2009, he founded the Hip Hop Church in Harlem and became an Ordained Minister.

Kurtis Blow also started working on the radio at 106 radio station in California.

He hosted the Oldschool show on Sunday Nights, featuring hits from the past.

From 2000-2004, Kurtis worked for Sirius Satellite radio on the Classic old school Hip Hop station.

He is a musical genius, his contributions to hip Hop are astounding and he continues to give to the Culture.

Kurtis Blow is one of the Greatest Pioneers, Producers, Legends and MC’s in Hip Hop History.

Written by Tony Tee aka Tony Paris