Louis Armstrong

William Z.

Many musicians can be inspiring, especially when they are being challenged. Louis Armstrong overcame many challenges to become a great musician. He overcame segregation, poverty, and racism. Silly things but hard to overcome.

First, Louis Armstrong overcame segregation. Louis was extremely poor and was treated unfairly. This mainly happened while he was a child, there were "white only" signs in places like restaurants, hotels, and schools. Louis was also not allowed to perform in certain places like the Gardens theater in New York City causing him to not make as much money. This was resolved by the Civil Rights Movement put in place in 1965.

Next, Louis Armstrong had to overcome poverty. Being in poverty is when you are extremely poor. Poverty was as hard as making Mount Rushmore. Louis was very poor. Louis would go around the community and look for jobs he could earn money by doing. Also, Louis made very little money by preforming in the streets. In order to buy his first cornet, Louis had to take a loan from the couple he was working for. This loan was soon paid back, but comes to show how much money five dollars was back then. Louis gradually made more money, slowly working his way out of poverty.

Finally, Louis had to overcome racism. Racism is disliking someone only because of their skin color. Since Louis was black, many white people would disrespect him because of his skin color by interrupting his shows and concerts. Also, one night a radio announcer refused to let Louis' band perform on air because all the members were black, but Louis and his band showed the announcer his band was good enough, he performed so well that the announcer was fired. To add, in some states there were laws called Jim Crow laws. This would separate black, and white people, although this sounds like segregation, it is also racism. Louis overcame this by simply ignoring it knowing that racism is as silly as a buck-toothed donkey.

To conclude, Louis Armstrong had to subdue many problems in order to succeed. Louis had to overcome challenges like, segregation, poverty, and racism. Musicians that face challenges can be huge inspirations.