

History of Black History Month

The month of February has been designated & recognized as Black History Month since 1976, when President Ford officially called on Americans to sei the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." This came a century after the 13th Amendment abolished slavery in the United States.



The precursor to this month began when the The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926. The group chose the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. This inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, host performances, and establish history clubs.

Harriet Tubman



Her code name was "Moses" and she never lost a slave Known for being the best "conductor" of the Underground Railroad and a Union scout

Risked her life and made 19 missions to rescue an estimated 300 slaves

Historical Figures

Frederick Douglass



- Former slave who escaped from slavery and made his way north
- Leader in the American abolitionist movement
- Is often called the father of the Civil Rights Movement

Shirley Chisholm



Rosa Parks

- Mother of the Civil Rights Movement
- Refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in 1955
- Civil rights activist before her arrest

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Click on photos to view a

video clip!

- American politician, author and educator
- She was the first black woman elected to the US Congress, and represented NY's 12th Congressional District for seven terms Chisholm also became the first African American woman to run for president when she ran in 1972 for the Democratic Party



Jackie Robinson

First African American MLB player in the US On April 15th 1947, he broke the racial barrier when he first appeared on the field with the Dodgers against the Braves



Martin Luther King Jr.



- Very important figure in the Civil Rights Movement
- His famous speech was the "I have a dream" speech given at the Lincoln Memorial
- Assassinated in April 1968
- Went to jail 29 times for acts of civil disobedience





Creators of BLM- Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi:

In 2013, these three women joined together to create the Black Lives Matter Movement in response to the events surrounding the death of Trayvon Martin. The project has now grown to a global network of more than 40 chapters. They have organized many protests, and continue to organize projects to fight against the oppression Black people still face today.

CONTEMPORARY FIGURES

Angela Davis:

Born in 1944, Angela Davis has written several books on the inequalities Women and African Americans face, as well as Prison reform and other injustices. She is one of the founders of Critical Resistance, a national organization dedicated to building a movement to abolish the prison-industrial complex. She was also part of the Black Panthers, a civil rights group formed in October 1966. She was a teacher, and retired in 2008, although she continues to lecture at universities discussing issues or race, the criminal justice system, and women's rights.



Stacey Abrams:

Stacey Yvonne Abrams is an American politician, lawyer, voting rights activist, and author who served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 2007 to 2017, serving as minority leader from 2011 to 2017. Her efforts have been widely credited with boosting voter turnout in Georgia, including in the 2020 presidential election, where Joe Biden won the state, and in Georgia's 2020–21 U.S. Senate election and special election, which gave Democrats control over the Senate.



<u>Miles Davis</u>

Megan Thee Stallion



American jazz trumpeter, bandleader, and composer. He is among the most influential and acclaimed figures in the history of jazz and 20th -century music.

MUSIC

Is an American rapper, singer, and songwriter. She first garnered attention when videos of her freestyling became popular on social media platforms such as Instagram.



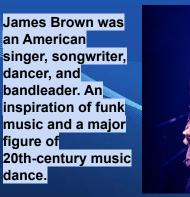
Salt -n- Pepa

James Brown A.k.a. "The Godfather of Soul"



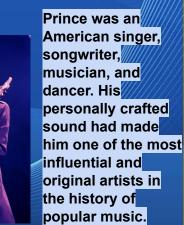
Salt-N-Pepa is an American hip-hop girl group formed in 1985. Salt-N-Pepa has sold over 15 million records worldwide,making them one of the best-selling rap acts of all time, male or female.

Click on Miles Davis, James Brown, & Prince to listen!



Frank Ocean





An American singer, songwriter, and record producer. He creates music that mixes soul, rap, rock, and electronic music which have won him two Grammys and given him nearly 15 million spotify listeners.



Deep South Sweet Potato Pie Recipe







Mango Turmeric Smoothie





Here you can find some very delicious traditional African American recipes!



Authors and Poets



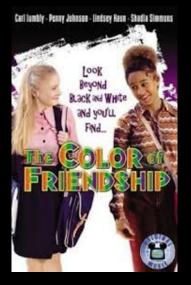
"If growing up is painful for the Southern Black girl, being aware of her displacement is the rust on the razor that threatens her throat. It is an unnecessary insult."

Maya Angelou:

Grew up dealing with racism that came with living in the south. In addition, her childhood included many traumatic experiences. This was detailed in her book <u>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</u>. The book allowed her to be the first African American woman to have a nonfiction bestselling book. "One night I accidently bumped into a man, and perhaps because of the near darkness he saw me and called me an insulting name. I sprang at him, seizing his coat lapels and demanded he apologize. He was a tall blond man, and as my face came close to his he looked insolently out of his blue eyes and cursed me, his breath hot in my face as he struggled."

Ralph Ellison:

Ellison had two brothers, one of which died in infancy. His father also died in a construction accident three years after his birth. He learned how to play music from a neighbor's father while in high school. His book <u>Invisible Man</u> won the US National Book Award for Fiction in 1953. This made Ellison the first African American to receive awards for fiction books.



The Color of Friendship Based on actual events about the friendship between two girls; Mahree & Piper, one from the United States and the other from apartheid South Africa, who learn about tolerance and friendship. On Disney Plus



Hidden Figures The story of a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. On Disney Plus



Black Panther A man named T'Challa's journey to take his rightful place as king of the nation Wakanda. This features an almost completely black lead cast.

On Disney Plus



Princess and the Frog Features first African American disney princess. A waitress who wants to become a restaurant owner is sent to turn a frog prince back into a human. But she has to face the same problem after she kisses him.

On Netflix & Disney Plus

Inspiring Quotes



Nelson Mandela: "It always seems impossible until it's done."



Maya Angelou: "Stand up straight and realize who you are, that you tower over your circumstances."

"IF THEY DON'T GIVE YOU A SEAT AT THE TABLE, BRING A FOLDING CHAIR."

- Shirley Chisholm



"THE ONLY WAY YOU REALLY SEE CHANGE, IS BY HELPING CREATE IT."

– Lena Waithe





"Don't count the days, make the days count" -Muhammad Ali

> "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." -Barack Obama







Amanda Gorman

American Poet Laureate & Activist Click on her name to watch her Inaugural Poem.