

FEBRUARY 13, 2021 AT 6 PM EASTERN

# BLACK HISTORY TRIVIA NIGHT





# Rules

- Take time to learn something new, and
- Share your own knowledge!
- Questions always welcomed (perhaps we will have answers😊)
- Can participate as Individual or Team
- Have fun!



# Have fun by any means necessary!

- Ask the Audience
- Phone a Friend
- 50-50
- Google / Alexa / Cortona / Mars Blackmon
- Your spouse or significant other

# Use Kahoot to play the Game!

- Every will use your own devices to connect to Kahoot, e.g., a phone, tablet, laptop or computer.
- To join the game, go to **kahoot.it** using your laptop or computer,
- Or you can download and use the **Kahoot! App** on your phone or Tablet
- Entering the **PIN** (to be provided) and your nickname.

The Kahoot! logo is displayed in a stylized, bold, purple font. It is centered within a white circle that has a thin purple border. The circle is positioned on the right side of the slide, overlapping a dark purple vertical bar that runs along the right edge of the image.

**Kahoot!**

# Topics



Science



Notable Achievements



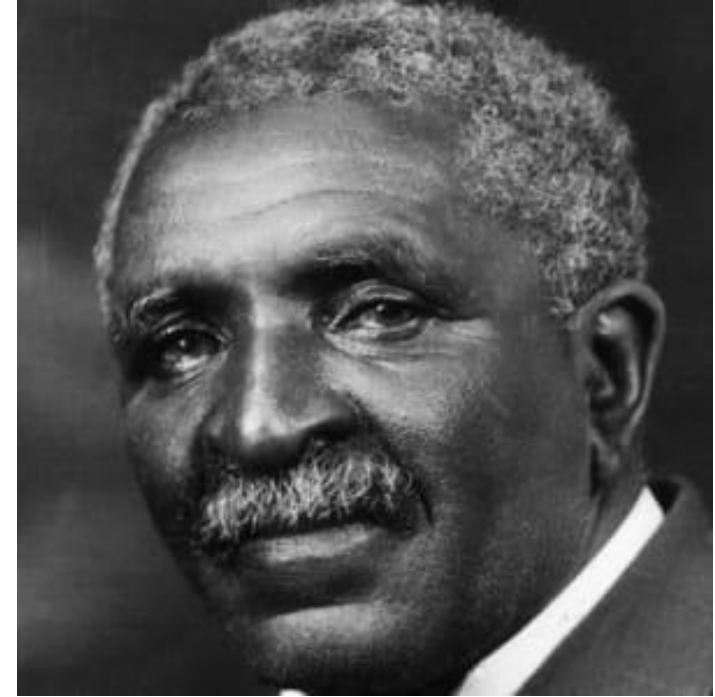
Education



Medicine



# Blacks in Science



# Invented the radio telephone, the cell phone

I led the first team from Bell Laboratories in 1988 to introduce digital cellular technology in the United States paving the way for the advances in communication we use today!





# Otis Boykin

**Otis Boykin** created a new resistor that could withstand shifts in temperature and air pressure.

Boykin's resistors were used in products from televisions and IBM computers to military missiles.

Boykin also famously invented a control unit for the pacemaker, a device implanted in the body to help the heartbeat normally. This invention allowed the pacemaker to be more precisely regulated.

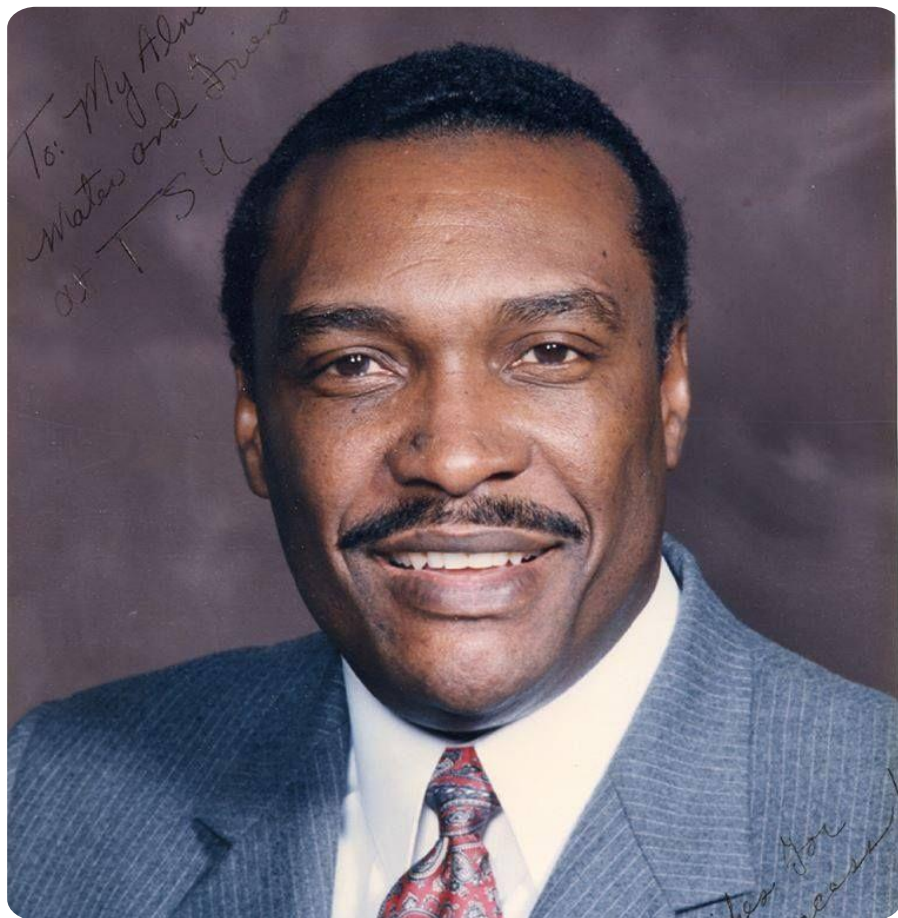




# Clarence “Skip” Ellis

**Clarence Ellis** is the first African-America to earn a Ph.D. in computer sciences (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1969).

Contributed to the development of ILLIAC IV supercomputer, icon-based GUI, object-oriented programming languages, “groupware” technology, and Operational Transformation (OT).



# Jesse Eugene Russell

**Jesse Eugene Russell** led the first team from Bell Laboratories in 1988 to introduce *digital cellular* technology in the United States.

He owns the following patents, “Base Station for Mobile Radio Telecommunications Systems,” (1992), the “Mobile Data Telephone,” (1993), and the “Wireless Communication Base Station” (1998).

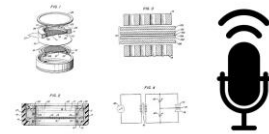


# Mark Dean

Mark Dean is a computer scientist, who led the team that developed the ISA bus, and led the design team responsible for creating the first one-gigahertz computer processor chip.

# Co-developed the foil electret microphone

More than 90% of the microphones used today, including the microphones used in phones and cameras, use a microphone I invented in 1964.





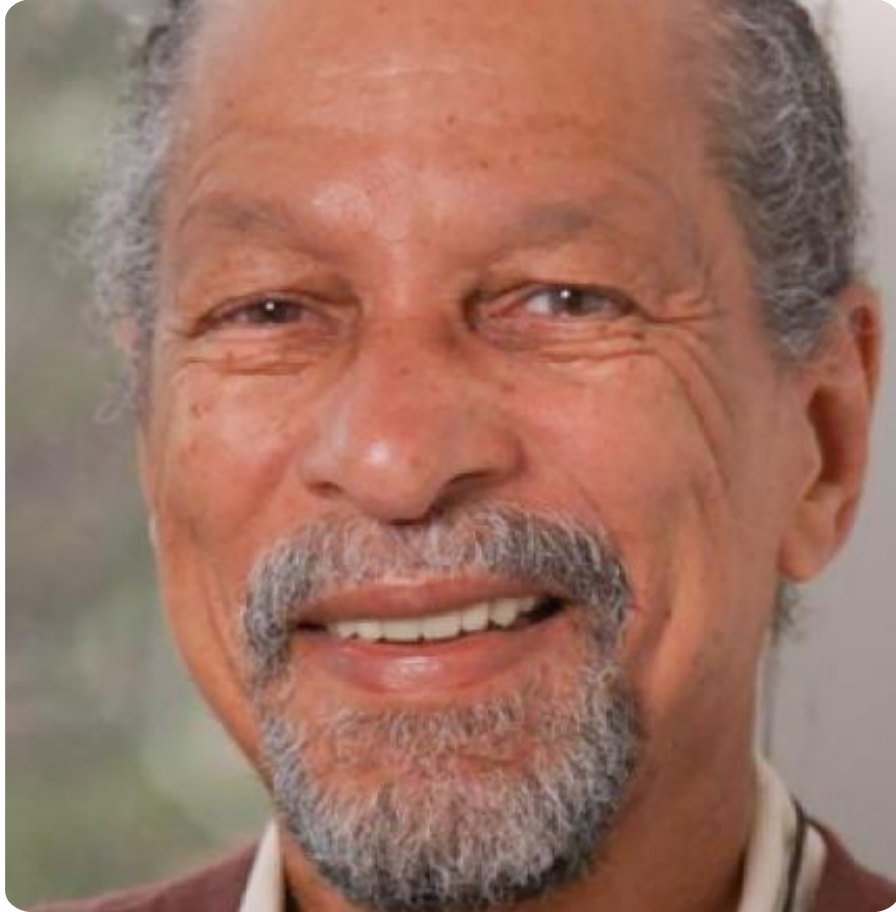
# Lewis Latimer

**Lewis Latimer** created longer-lasting *light bulbs with a carbon filament*.

Latimer began work in a patent law firm after serving in the military for the Union during the Civil War.

He was recognized for his talent drafting patents and was promoted to head draftsman, where he co-invented an improved bathroom for railroad trains.





# James E. West

**James E. West**, co-Invented the *foil electret microphone*, which was considerably less expensive to produce, and in 1964 he patented the landmark invention.

Only four years later, the new microphone was in wide production was used in hearing aids, tape recorders, most telephones and baby monitors.



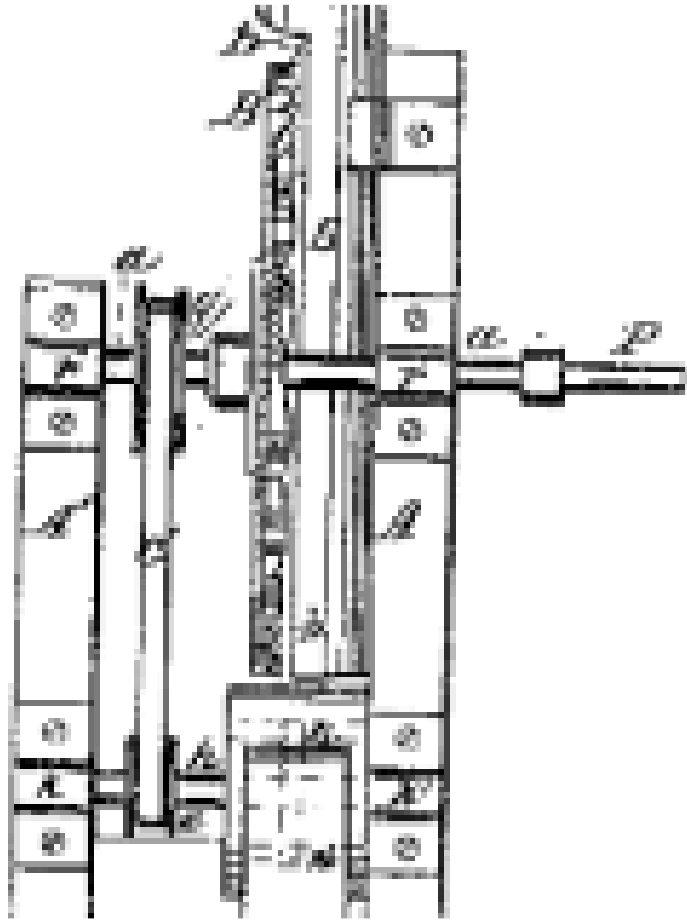


# Sarah Boone

One of the first Black women in U.S. history to receive a patent, **Sarah Boone** *expanded upon the original ironing board*, which was essentially a horizontal wooden block originally patented in 1858.

With Boone's additions, the board featured a narrower and curved design, making it easier to iron garments, particularly women's clothing.

Boone's design would morph into the modern ironing board that we use today.



# Martha Jones

**Martha Jones** of Amelia County, Virginia, is believed by many to be the first black woman to receive a United States patent.

Her application for an “Improvement to the Corn Husker, Sheller” was granted U.S. patent in 1868.

Jones claimed her invention could husk, shell, cut up, and separate husks from corn in one operation, representing a significant step forward in the automation of agricultural processes.

# Invented a *home security system*

Inspired by the security concerns that my home faced living in Queens, N.Y, I invented the original Home Security system that is used in 40% of homes within the United States today.





# Frederick McKinley Jones

African American inventor **Frederick McKinley Jones**. Jones took out more than 60 patents throughout his life, including a patent for the *roof-mounted cooling system* that's used to refrigerate goods on trucks during extended transportation in the mid-1930s.

He received a patent for his invention in 1940, and co-founded the U.S. Thermo Control Company, later known as Thermo King. The company was critical during World War II, helping to preserve blood, food and supplies during the war.



# Garrett Morgan

**Garrett Morgan** patented several inventions, including an improved sewing machine and *traffic signal*, a hair-straightening product, and a respiratory device that would later provide the blueprint for WWI gas masks.



# Alexander Miles

When the daughter of African American inventor **Alexander Miles** almost fatally fell down the shaft, he took it upon himself to develop *automatic elevator doors*.

In 1887, he took out a patent for a mechanism that automatically opens and closes elevator shaft doors, and his designs are largely reflected in elevators used today.





# Sarah Brown

**Sarah Brown** invented a *home security system* that used a camera that could slide into and look through four peepholes in her front door. The camera's view would then appear on a monitor in her home so she could survey any potentially unwanted guests.

She added other features to the system, including a microphone to speak to anyone at the door, a button to unlock the door, and a button to contact the police. She and her husband took out a patent for the system in the same year, and they were awarded the patent three years later in 1969. Home security systems commonly used today took various elements from her design.

# International Space Station

I made three trips on the Space Shuttle to the International Space Station, and my 42 days in space are the most of any African American astronaut, male or female.





# Katherine Johnson

**Katherine Johnson** was a mathematician whose calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights.

The space agency noted her "historical role as one of the first African-American women to work as a NASA scientist".



# Jeanette Epps

NASA astronaut **Jeanette Epps** to be first Black woman to join International Space Station crew. NASA astronaut Jeanette Epps will soon make history, becoming the first Black woman to live and work long-term aboard the International Space Station. Her flight is scheduled for 2021



# Stephanie Wilson

**Stephanie Diana Wilson** is an American engineer and a NASA astronaut. She flew to space onboard three Space Shuttle missions and is the second African American woman to go into space, after Mae Jemison. Her 42 days in space are the most of any African American astronaut, male or female.



# Dr. Mae C. Jemison

**Mae C. Jemison** is an American astronaut and physician who, on June 4, 1987, became the first Black woman to be admitted into NASA's astronaut training program.

On September 12, 1992, Jemison flew into space with six other astronauts aboard the Endeavour on mission STS47, becoming the first African American woman in space. In recognition of her accomplishments, Jemison has received several awards and honorary doctorates.



Name that  
song


- Nothing Can Change This Love
- Watching Me
- I Believe
- Superstition

# Achievement





“Whistle  
Register”



I made the “Whistle Register” and my 5-Octave vocal range famous long before Ariana Grande and Mariah Carey brought those notes into the mainstream.



# Marian Anderson

- Marian Anderson (1897 - 1993)
- Though she's considered one of the [greatest contralto singers](#) in the world, Anderson was often denied the opportunity to show off her unique vocal range because of her race. However, things started to change in 1957, when she went on a 12-nation tour sponsored by the Department of State and the American National Theatre and Academy. She documented the experience in her autobiography, [My Lord What a Morning](#). In 1963, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Her last major accomplishment before her death was receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Grammy's in 1991.





# Minnie Riperton

Minnie Riperton (1947 - 1979)

Mariah Carey is heralded for her whistle register, which is the highest the human voice is capable of reaching. But Riperton perfected the singing technique years before and was best known for her [five-octave vocal range](#). The whistling can be heard on her biggest hit to date, "[Lovin' You](#)." The infectious ballad was originally created as an ode to her daughter, Maya Rudolph, of [Bridesmaids](#) and *Saturday Night Live* fame. However, before she could become a household name, she died in 1979 at the age of 31 from breast cancer.



# Jane Bolin

- Jane Bolin (1908 - 2007)
- A pioneer in law, Jane Bolin was the first Black woman to attend Yale Law School in 1931. In 1939, she became the [first Black female judge](#) in the United States, where she served for 10 years. One of her significant contributions throughout her career was working with private employers to hire people based on their skills, as opposed to discriminating against them because of their race. She also served on the boards of the NAACP, Child Welfare League of America, and the Neighborhood Children's Center.





# Bessie Coleman

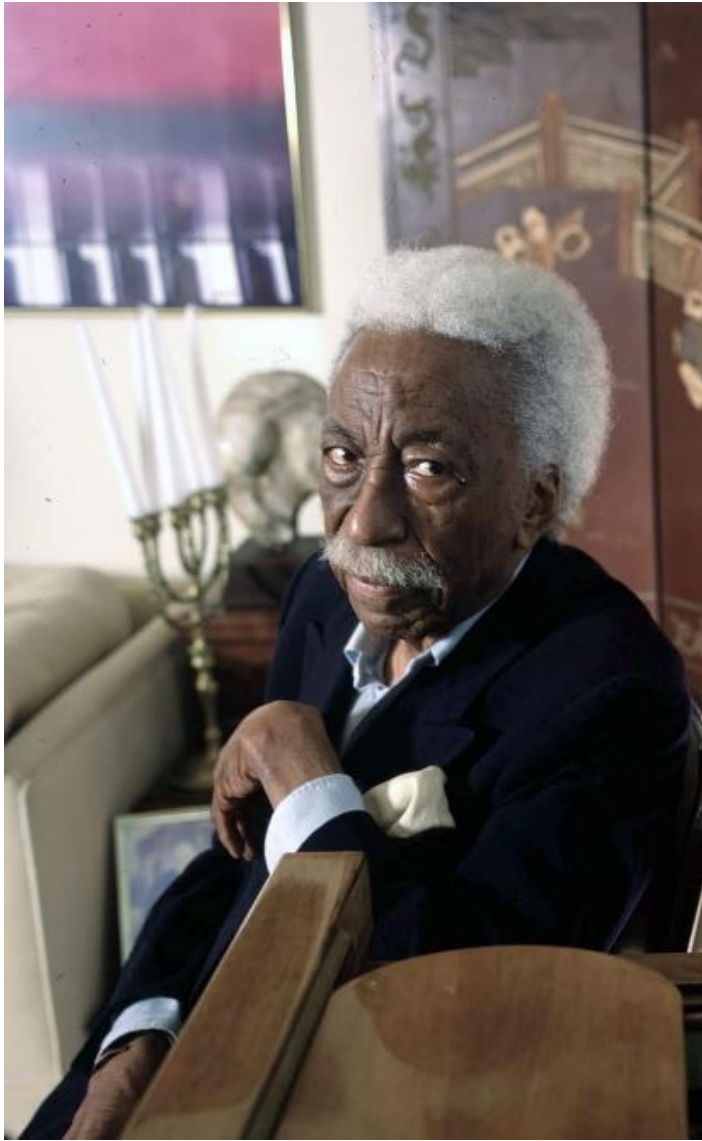
- Bessie Coleman (1892 -1926)
- Despite being the [first licensed Black pilot](#) in the world, Coleman wasn't recognized as a pioneer in aviation until after her death. Though history has favored Amelia Earhart or the Wright brothers, Coleman—who went to flight school in France in 1919—paved the way for a new generation of diverse fliers like the Tuskegee airmen, Blackbirds, and Flying Hobos.



United States  
General

I was the first Black General within  
the United States Military and my  
name is not Colin Powell.





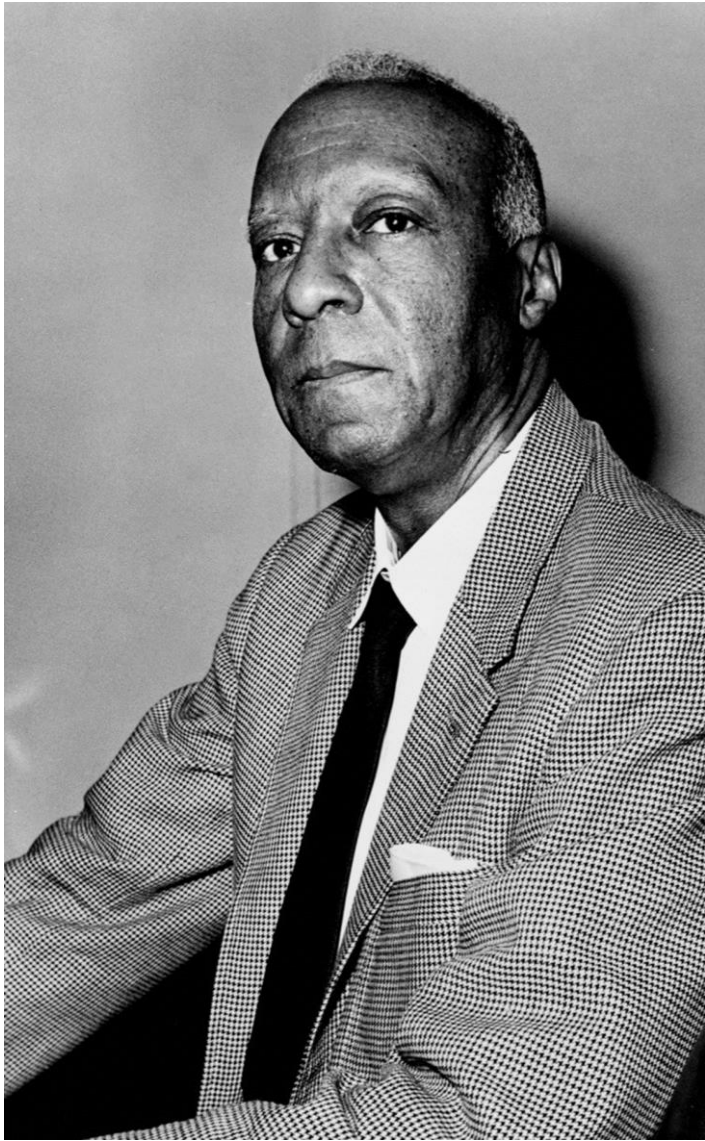
# Gordon Parks

- Gordon Parks (1912-2006)
- Parks was the first African American on the staff of [LIFE magazine](#), and later he would be responsible for some of the most beautiful imagery in the pages of *Vogue*. He also was the first Black director of a major film, [Shaft](#), helping to shape the blaxploitation era in the '70s. Parks [famously told LIFE](#) in 1999: "I saw that the camera could be a weapon against poverty, against racism, against all sorts of social wrongs. I knew at that point I had to have a camera."



# Whitney Young Jr.

- **Whitney Young Jr.** worked with and ran local branches before becoming head of the National Urban League in 1961. He was responsible for greatly expanding the size of the organization while overseeing the racial integration of corporate workplaces. Young, who faced critique over his methods, is believed to have died from drowning on March 11, 1971.
- Young was appointed executive director of the National Urban League in 1961. With a flair for enlisting the support of prominent white businessmen, he was instrumental in saving the league from financial ruin as well as handling major overhauls of the organization's structure, grandly increasing its budget and staff size.
- The League, at Young's behest and despite reservations from some benefactors, became a co-sponsor of the historic 1963 March on Washington. The League was also a major factor in the process of racially integrating staff for a variety of big-company jobs nationally.
- **Presidential Adviser**
- Politically shrewd and aware, Young had access to the U.S. presidential office and was a close adviser to [Lyndon B. Johnson](#). Young became known for his Domestic Marshall Plan, which was thought to have helped shape the president's policies, and also received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1968.



# Philip Randolph

- **Philip Randolph** was a labor leader and social activist. During World War I, Randolph tried to unionize African American shipyard workers and elevator operators, and co-launched a magazine designed to encourage demand for higher wages. He later founded the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, which by 1937 would become the first official African American labor union. In the 1940s, Randolph's abilities as an organizer had grown to such lengths that he became the driving force in ending racial discrimination in government defense factories and desegregating the armed forces, both done via presidential decree. Becoming involved in additional civil rights work, he was a principal organizer of the 1963 [March on Washington](#).






# Benjamin O. Davis Sr.

- Benjamin O. Davis Sr. (1880-1970)
- Benjamin O. Davis Sr. was the first Black general in the American military. He served for [50 years](#) as a temporary first lieutenant at an all-Black unit during the Spanish American War. Throughout his service, Davis Sr. was as a professor of military science at Tuskegee and Wilberforce University, a commander of the 369th Regiment, New York National Guard, and special assistant to the Secretary of the Army. When he retired in 1948, President Harry Truman oversaw the public ceremony. Davis Sr. is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.





# Education Integration



In 1960 I was one of the youngest black people who ever integrated a Louisiana elementary school. Through this action I helped start integration activities throughout the South.



# Ruby Bridges

- Ruby Bridges (1954 - )
- Bridges probably had no idea that the bold act she committed in 1960 would set off a chain reaction leading to the integration of schools in the South. She was just six years old when she became the first African American student to attend William Frantz Elementary in Louisiana at the height of desegregation. She is now the chair of the [Ruby Bridges Foundation](#), which was formed in 1999 to promote "the values of tolerance, respect, and appreciation of all differences."



# Alice Coachman

- Alice Coachman (1923 - 2014)
- Growing up in Albany, Georgia, the soon-to-be track star got an early start running on dirt roads and jumping over makeshift hurdles. She became the first African American woman from any country to win an Olympic Gold Medal at the [1948 Summer Olympics](#) in London. She set the record for the high jump at the Games, leaping to 5 feet and 6 1/8 inches. Throughout her athletic career, she won 34 national titles—10 of which were in the high jump. She was officially inducted into the National Track-and-Field Hall of Fame in 1975 and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 2004.



# Bessie Coleman

- Bessie Coleman (1892 -1926)
- Despite being the [first licensed Black pilot](#) in the world, Coleman wasn't recognized as a pioneer in aviation until after her death. Though history has favored Amelia Earhart or the Wright brothers, Coleman—who went to flight school in France in 1919—paved the way for a new generation of diverse fliers like the Tuskegee airmen, Blackbirds, and Flying Hobos.





# Dorothy Height

- Dorothy Height (1912 - 2010)
- Hailed the “[godmother of the women’s movement](#),” Height used her background in education and social work to advance women’s rights. She was a leader in the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the president of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) for more than 40 years. She was also among the few women present at the 1963 March on Washington, where Dr. King delivered his famous “[I Have a Dream](#)” [speech](#).



U.S. Senate

I was the first person of color elected  
to the US Senate







# Charles Hamilton Houston

- While [Charles Hamilton Houston](#)'s death preceded the widely-accepted start of the civil rights movement by four years, his influence on the movement was undeniable. A Harvard-educated lawyer, Houston was, among many other things, instrumental in challenging the racially discriminating Jim Crow laws, which led to the U.S. Supreme Court decision to declare racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional.



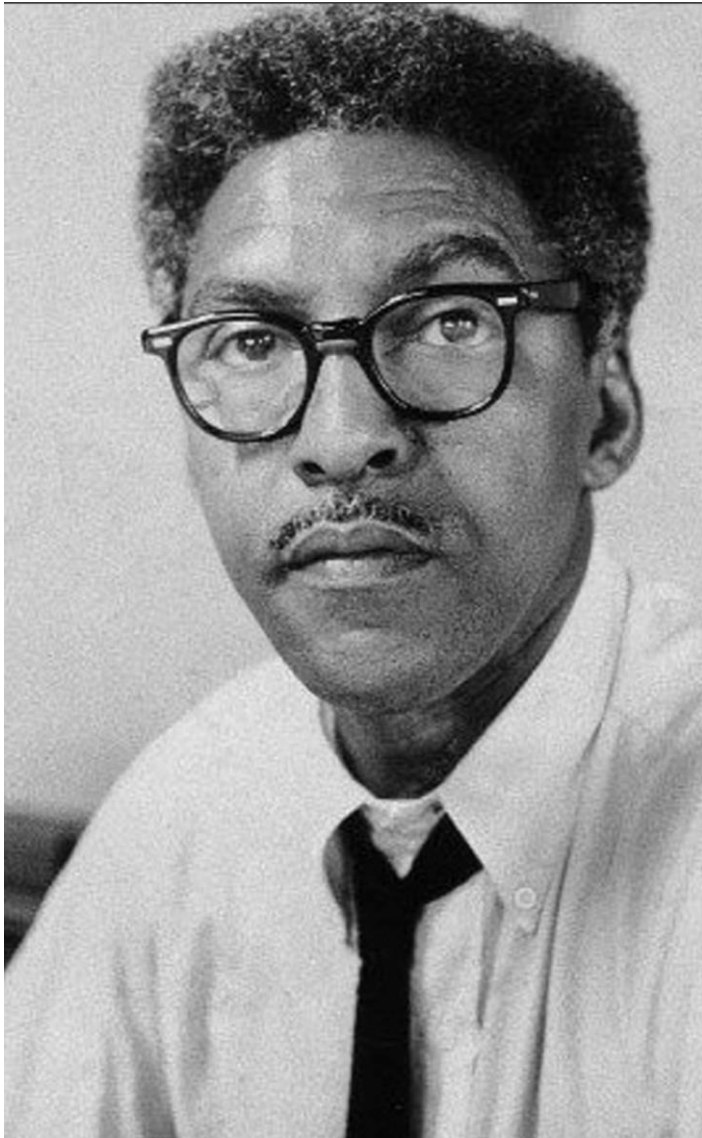
# Shirley Chisholm

- New York State Assembly member **Shirley Chisholm** was the [first black woman elected](#) to the U.S. House of Representative, as well as the first black major-party black to run for president, which she did in 1972. She was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2015.



# Hiram Revels

- Long before the civil rights movement picked up steam in the 1950s, [Hiram Revels](#) was laying the groundwork for what was to come. Revels, a minister and Civil War veteran, was the first black man elected to the U.S. Senate, a position he chose to leave to serve as president of Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College. He continued to be a staunch advocate for the integration of American schools and equal rights for African American workers.



# Bayard Rustin

- As an early organizer in the [Journey of Reconciliation](#), [Bayard Rustin](#) was a seminal figure of the civil rights movement who promoted non-violent actions for change. He was the chief organizer of the historic [March on Washington](#) and a mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., introducing the pivotal activist to **Gandhi's** philosophy of non-violent resistance, as well as tactics of civil disobedience. As an openly gay black man, Rustin bravely advocated for the [LGBT community](#) despite being persecuted, and even arrested, for his sexual orientation.

Name the  
movie

- Blackkkklansman (2018)
- Inside man (2006)
- Crooklyn (1994)
- Summer of Sam (1999)



# Blacks in Education



# Coalition Of Schools Educating Boys Of Color

My mission to affirm the social, emotional, cultural and academic development of young men of color.

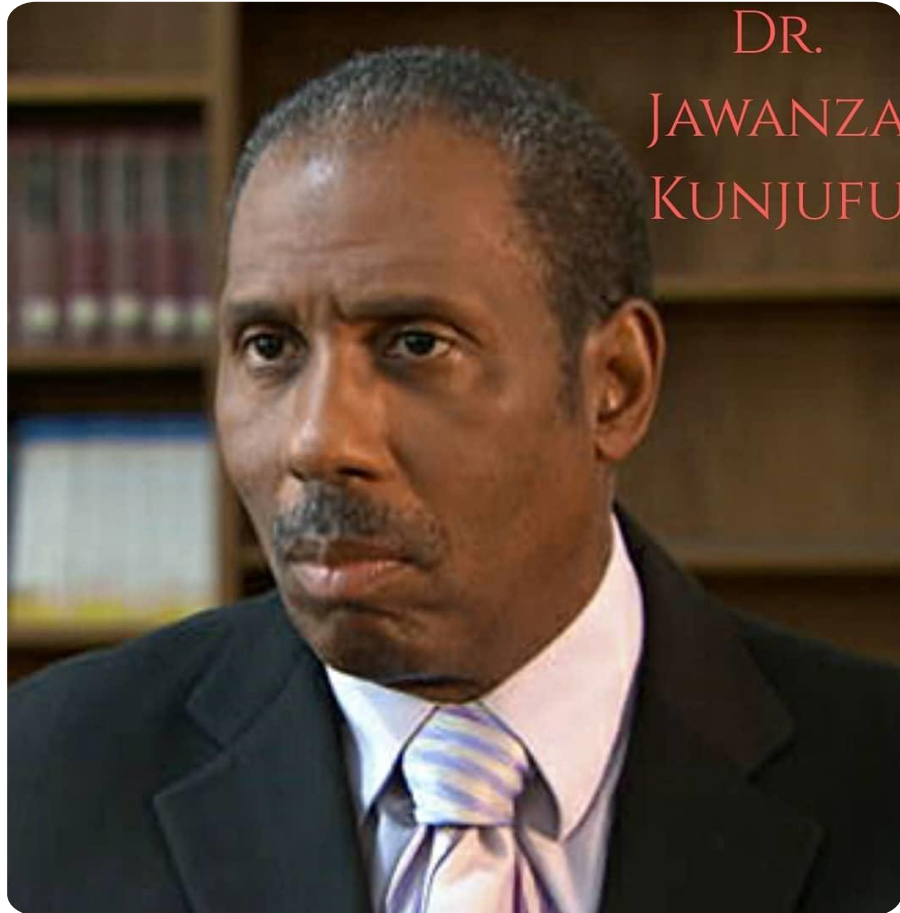




# Dr. Esther Pearson

**Dr. Esther Pearson** is a mathematician, technologist and educator. Dr. Pearson has administered grass roots community organizations and outreach programs in the Boston and greater Boston areas for approximately 18 years.

Dr. Pearson developed the STEPS program (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Pre-Engineering Program Studies), which was accepted for implementation by Middlesex Community College, and the American Engineering Association, and was acknowledged as a national model by the National Association of Minority Engineering Program Administrators (NAMEPA).



# Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu

**Jawanza Kunjufu** has dedicated his career to focus on role of black men as role models and providers of discipline including *Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys* (1982), *Developing Positive Self-Images* (1984), and *Discipline for Black Children and Motivating Black Youth to Work* (1986).



# Ronald Walker

**Ronald Walker** is founder and Executive Director for the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC).

The mission of the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC) is to connect, inspire, support and strengthen school leaders dedicated to the social, emotional and academic development of boys and young men of color.





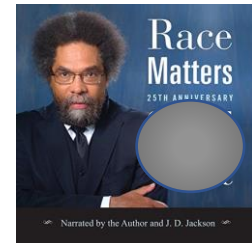
# Sharif El-Mekki

**Sharif El-Mekki** is Director, Center for Black Educator Development.

Sharif became the Director of the Center for Black Educator Development (CBED) in 2019. Under the umbrella of the Fellowship-Black Male Educators for Social Justice, a group Sharif helped create in 2014, CBED will expand on efforts to recruit and maintain Black male and female educators both locally and nationally.

# *Race Matters*

I am author of the book *Race Matters* (1993), where I document the spiritual impoverishment of the African American underclass and critically examined the “crisis of black leadership” in the United States.





# Dr. Carter G. Woodson

The Father of Black History Month, **Dr. Carter G. Woodson**, was the son of former slaves. In 1907, he obtained his BA degree from the University of Chicago. In 1912, he received his PhD from Harvard University.

In 1926, Woodson proposed and launched the annual February observance of “Negro History Week,” which became “Black History Month” in 1976. It is said that he chose February for the observance because February 12th was Abraham Lincoln’s birthday and February 14th was the accepted birthday of Frederick Douglass.



# Dr. Patricia Hill Collins

**Patricia Hill Collins** published her groundbreaking article, "*Learning from the Outsider Within*," in *Social Problems* in 1986. In her work, she describes how the national framing of "the Black family" as a problem was problematic because it neglected an understanding of families within the wider context of oppression and resistance.

Collins went on to publish *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment* (1990) and *Black Sexual Politics: African Americans, Gender and the New Racism* (2004). By this time, she integrated sexuality into her analysis, and the importance of looking across borders to view racism on a global scale.



# Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

**Henry Louis "Skip" Gates Jr.** (born September 16, 1950) is an American literary critic, professor, historian, filmmaker, and public intellectual who serves as the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University.

He rediscovered the earliest African-American novels, long forgotten, and has published extensively on appreciating African-American literature as part of the Western canon.

Gates has been a host of the television series *Finding Your Roots* on PBS. It combines the work of expert researchers in genealogy, history, and genetics historic research to tell guests about their ancestors' lives and histories.





# Dr. Cornel West

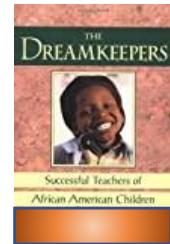
**Dr. Cornel West** is a lifelong educator, philosopher and activist who is a well-known voice in the realms of civil rights, the arts and African-American studies and writings.

West became a university lecturer and professor at multiple institutions including Harvard, Yale and the University of Paris. He wrote prolifically and his best-seller, *Race Matters*, came out in 1993. He penned over 20 books during his career.

In addition to writing and teaching about African American-centric topics, West was and is a political activist.

# *Dreamkeepers : Successful Teachers of African-American Children*

My research examines the pedagogical practices of teachers who have been successful with African American students.





# Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings

**Gloria J. Ladson-Billings** (born 1947) is an American pedagogical theorist and teacher educator. She is the former Kellner Family Distinguished Professor of Urban Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She also served as the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

Ladson-Billings is known for her work in the fields of culturally relevant pedagogy and critical race theory. Ladson-Billings' work *The Dreamkeepers: Successful Teachers of African-American Children* is a significant text in the field of education



# Dr. Gholnecsar (Gholdy) Muhammad

**Gholnecsar (Gholdy) Muhammad** began her career as a reading, language arts and social studies middle school teacher. After teaching in the classroom, she served as a school district curriculum director and was responsible for K-12 literacy instruction, assessments, and professional development.

Her research interests are situated in the historical foundations of literacy development and the writing practices among Black communities. Each year she holds a summer literacy institute with Black girls called, Black Girls WRITE!, which reflects literacy practices found in 19th-century African American literary societies.



# Dr. Bettina L. Love

**Dr. Bettina L. Love** is an award-winning author and the Athletic Association Endowed Professor at the University of Georgia. Her writing, research, teaching, and activism meet at the intersection of race, education, abolition, and Black joy.

Dr. Love is concerned with how educators working with parents and communities can build communal, civically engaged schools rooted in Abolitionist Teaching with the goal of intersectional social justice for equitable classrooms that love and affirm Black and Brown children.





# Dr. Zaretta Lynn Hammond

- **Dr. Zaretta Hammond** is a former classroom English teacher who has been doing instructional design, school coaching, and professional development around the issues of equity, literacy, and culturally responsive teaching.
- She has trained instructional coaches in reading development, especially targeted at students of color and English learners. She has also designed national seminars such as the three-day Teaching with A Cultural Eye series for teachers and school leaders.

# Montgomery Bus Boycott

I am known for the following quote  
"The boycott was the most beautiful  
memory that all of us who participated  
will carry to our resting place"





# Fanny Jackson Coppin

**Fanny Jackson** was appointed to the Institute for Colored Youth, in Philadelphia. She later became head principal, from which position she influenced two generations of young people.

She expanded the curriculum to include an Industrial Department, established a Women's Industrial Exchange to display the mechanical and artistic works of young women, and founded a Home for Girls and Young Women to house workers from out of town. Moreover, she persuaded employers to hire her pupils in capacities that would utilize their education.



# Septima Clark

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. referred to **Septima Clarke** as the "Mother of the Movement". She was a teacher and leader in the education realm.

The South Carolina native began volunteering for the NAACP in 1919, going on to lead civil rights workshops in Tennessee.

She worked with Thurgood Marshall on getting equal pay for black teachers, and accompanied Martin Luther King, Jr. to his Nobel Peace Prize ceremony.



# Jo Ann Robinson

Civil Rights activist and educator in Montgomery; head of Women's Political Council

Organized Women's Political Council in Montgomery to boycott busses in 1955 after Rosa Parks removed from bus. Year long boycott successfully lead to desegregation and to national attention and support for Civil Rights Act 1963





# Dr. Marcus Foster

**Marcus Albert Foster** was an American educator who gained a national reputation for educational excellence while serving as principal of Simon Gratz High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as Associate Superintendent of Schools in Philadelphia, and as the first black Superintendent of a large city school district when he was appointed Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District in Oakland, California in 1970.

Name that  
artist

- Gladys Knight & The Pips
- Gil Scott Heron
- The John Wright Trio
- Kirk Franklin

# Blacks in Medicine





# Open Heart Surgery

I performed the first successful  
open-heart surgery in 1893.





# Dr. Charles Drew

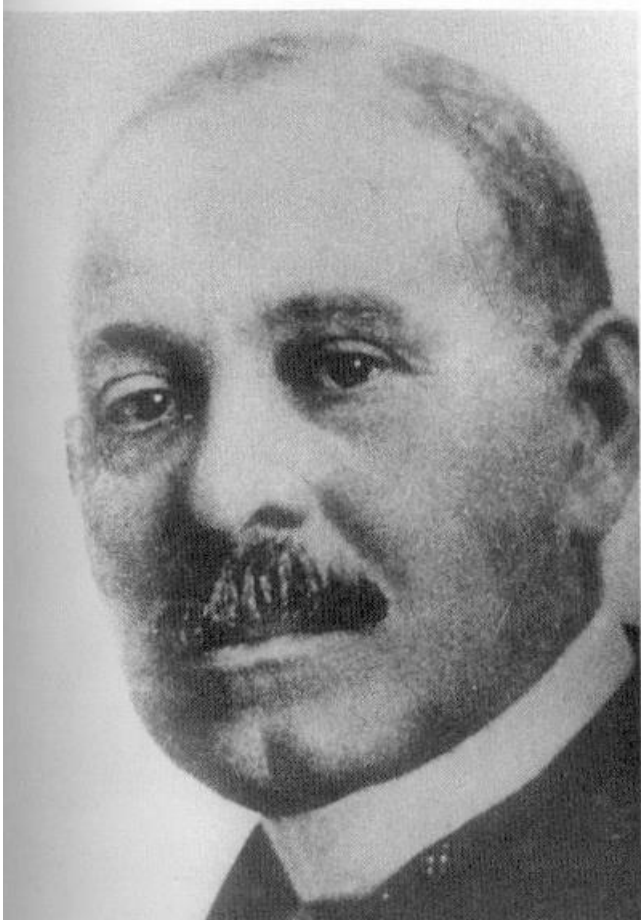
- Dr. Charles Richard Drew broke barriers in a racially divided America to become one of the most important scientists of the 20th century. His pioneering research and systematic developments in the use and preservation of blood plasma during World War II not only saved thousands of lives but innovated the nation's blood banking process and standardized procedures for long-term blood preservation and storage techniques adapted by the American Red Cross.
- Drew's doctoral research assessed previous blood and transfusion research, blood chemistry and fluid replacement, and evaluated variables affecting shelf-life of stored blood — from types and amounts of anticoagulants (substances that prevent blood from clotting) and preservatives, to shapes of storage containers and temperature.





# Dr. Charles DeWitt Watts

- **Dr. Charles DeWitt Watts (1917-2004)**
- First African American to be certified by a surgical specialty board in North Carolina.
- Completed his surgical training at Freedman's Hospital in Washington, DC under the tutelage of Dr. Charles Drew.
- Worked to prepare Lincoln's interns and residents for board certification and convinced Duke University Medical School to oversee Lincoln's training program so that students could get board certified
- Served as Adjunct Clinical Professor of Surgery at Duke and Director of Student Health at North Carolina Central University.
- Served for 28 years as Vice President and Medical Director for North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co., the largest African-American managed insurer in the country.
- Member of the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine, a fellow in the American College of Surgeons, and an active participant in the National Medical Association.



# Dr. Daniel Hale Williams

- **Dr. Williams** performed the first successful open-heart surgery in 1893 and founded Provident Hospital and Training School for Nurses (the first black-owned hospital in America) in 1891.
- From 1893-1898, he was Surgeon-in-Chief, Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, DC. He also founded the National Medical Association in 1895 (African Americans were denied membership in the American Medical Association).
- As a charter member of the American College of Surgeons in 1913, he was the first and only African American member for many years.




# Dr. David Satcher

- **Dr. David Satcher**
- 16th Surgeon General of the United States, sworn in Feb. 13, 1998
- Director of Center for Disease Control (CDC), Nov. 15, 1993 until being sworn in as Surgeon General. While at CDC, he increased childhood immunization rates from 55% in 1992 to 78% in 1996.
- President, Meharry Medical College, 1982-1993
- Elected in 1986 to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences



## “Blue Baby” Syndrome



I was instrumental in developing numerous heart surgeries and I’m most famous for my work in developing a surgical technique to treat the “blue baby” syndrome which is another heart defect.



# Dr. Ben Carson

- **Dr. Ben Carson**
- Director (at age 32), Pediatric Neurosurgery, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore
- Separated Siamese twins joined at the cranium in 1987. A 70-member surgical team, led by Dr. Carson, operated for 22 hours.
- Graduate of Yale University; MD, University of Michigan School of Medicine
- Described in his autobiography, *Gifted Hands* (1990), as an unmotivated child from the Detroit ghetto





# Dr. Vivien Theodore Thomas

- Dr. Vivien Theodore Thomas was born in Lake Providence, Louisiana in 1910. The grandson of a slave, Vivien Thomas attended Pearl High School in Nashville, and graduated with honors in 1929. In the wake of the stock market crash in October, he secured a job as a laboratory assistant in 1930 with Dr. Alfred Blalock at Vanderbilt University.
- Tutored in anatomy and physiology by Blalock and his young research fellow, Dr. Joseph Beard, Thomas rapidly mastered complex surgical techniques and research methodology. In an era when institutional racism was the norm, Thomas was classified, and paid, as a janitor, despite the fact that by the mid-1930s he was doing the work of a postdoctoral researcher in Blalock's lab. Together he and Blalock did groundbreaking research into the causes of hemorrhagic and traumatic shock. This work later evolved into research on Crush syndrome and saved the lives of thousands of soldiers on the battlefields of World War II.
- Thomas devised the first surgical solution to treat the "blue baby Syndrome" in 1944 at Johns Hopkins University and showed Blalock how to do it but was never given credit for that surgery
- Johns Hopkins provided Thomas an honorary doctorate in 1976.



# Dr. Joycelyn Elders

- **Dr. Joycelyn Elders**
- Dr. Joycelyn Elders was the first person in the state of Arkansas to become board certified in pediatric endocrinology.
- The unapologetically outspoken Elders was appointed the first African-American Surgeon General by President Bill Clinton in 1993, and subsequently asked to resign when the administration took exception to Elders' outspoken advocacy of early sex education, drug education and distribution of contraception in schools.
- After college, Elders joined the Army and trained in physical therapy at the Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. After discharge in 1956 she enrolled at the University of Arkansas Medical School on the G.I. Bill. Although the Supreme Court had declared separate but equal education unconstitutional two years earlier, Elders was still required to use a separate dining room—where the cleaning staff ate. She met her husband, Oliver Elders, while performing physical exams for the high school basketball team he managed, and they were married in 1960.
- Over the next twenty years, Elders combined her clinical practice with research in pediatric endocrinology, publishing well over a hundred papers, most dealing with problems of growth and juvenile diabetes
- Elders spent many years [teaching medicine](#) and was an accomplished pediatric endocrinologist. She remains a voice for progressive ideas in medicine and education.



Courtesy Alexa I. Canady, M.D.

# Dr. Alexa Canady

- Dr. Alexa Canady
- Canady, a native of Lansing, Michigan, became the first African-American woman neurosurgeon in the U.S. in 1981. She served as chief of neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital of Michigan from 1987-2001.
- Her career began tentatively. She almost dropped out of college while a mathematics major, because "I had a crisis of confidence," she has said. When she heard of a chance to win a minority scholarship in medicine, "it was an instant connection." Her additional skills in writing and debate helped her earn a place in the University of Michigan Medical School, and she graduated cum laude in 1975.
- Such credentials still could not shield her from prejudice and dismissive comments. As a young black woman completing her surgical internship at Yale-New Haven Hospital in 1975, on her first day of residency, she was tending to her patients when one of the hospital's top administrators passed through the ward. As he went by, she heard him say, "Oh, you must be our new equal-opportunity package." Just a few years later, while working as a neurosurgeon at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia from 1981 to 1982, her fellow physicians voted her one of the top residents.
- Dr. Canady was chief of neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital of Michigan from 1987 until her retirement in June 2001. She holds two honorary degrees: a doctorate of humane letters from the University of Detroit-Mercy, awarded in 1997, and a doctor of science degree from the University of Southern Connecticut, awarded in 1999. She received the Children's Hospital of Michigan's Teacher of the Year award in 1984, and was inducted into the Michigan Woman's Hall of Fame in 1989. In 1993, she received the American Medical Women's Association President's Award and in 1994 the Distinguished Service Award from Wayne State University Medical School. In 2002, the Detroit News named Dr. Canady Michigander of the Year.



# Cancer Research

Although I died at an early age due to Cancer, I will always be remembered by the immortality of my cancer cells which have been used continually around the world for cancer research and those cells have helped usher in new medicines and treatments in the cancer and infectious disease areas. It would have been great if the white doctors who treated me asked my permission to use my cells and compensated my family accordingly.



# Dr. Mae C. Jemison

- **Dr. Mae C. Jemison**
- First Black Female astronaut in NASA history (August, 1992). After earning her M.D. at Cornell University in 1981, Dr. Jemison went on to research various vaccines in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control (CDC). She continued, and quite literally elevated, her medical research on the shuttle Endeavour by conducting experiments in materials processing and life sciences in space.
- She holds several honorary doctorates and has been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and the International Space Hall of Fame.
- Jemison served on the board of directors of the World Sickle Cell Foundation from 1990 to 1992.<sup>[7]</sup> In 1993, she founded The Jemison Group Inc., a consulting firm which considers the sociocultural impact of technological advancements and design.<sup>[2][44]</sup> Jemison also founded the Dorothy Jemison Foundation for Excellence and named the foundation in honor of her mother





# Dr. Patricia Bath

- **Dr. Patricia Bath**
- Born in 1942 in Harlem, Bath became a pioneer in the treatment and prevention of blindness. She also advocated for eyesight as a basic human right by founding the American Institute for the Prevention of Blindness in 1976.
- **Bath's laser tool has helped restore or improve vision in patients worldwide.**
- **Background:** Born in Harlem, N.Y., Bath developed an interest in science early in her life. She attended medical school at Howard University and completed a fellowship in ophthalmology at Columbia University.
- **Bath** became the first African-American to complete a residency in ophthalmology in 1973, which led to her appointment two years later as the first woman faculty member at UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute. In 1988, Bath became the first African-American woman physician to receive a medical patent with her Laserphaco Probe, which improved cataract treatment.
- **Invention:** In 1981, Bath invented the surgical tool that made her famous: the Laserphaco Probe, which she continued to perfect and later patented in 1988. The tool was used during eye surgery to correct cataracts, an eye condition that clouds vision and can lead to blindness. Cataracts usually affect older people. Bath's laser tool was more precise, less invasive, and less risky than previous devices, and has been used around the world.
- **Did You Know?** Bath claims many "firsts": She was the first African American to complete a residency in ophthalmology; the first woman to chair an ophthalmology residency program in the United States; and the first African American female doctor to secure a medical patent. She also co-founded the American Institute for the Prevention of Blindness.



# Henrietta Lacks

## “Immortal HeLa Cell Line”

- **Henrietta Lacks**
- Born in 1920, grew up in rural Virginia, married in 1941 and moved to Maryland. Bore and raised 5 children over the next 10 years
- She died in 1951, aged 31, of an aggressive cervical cancer. Months earlier, doctors at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, had taken samples of her cancerous cells while diagnosing and treating the disease. They gave some of that tissue to a researcher without Lacks’s knowledge or consent. In the laboratory, her cells turned out to have an extraordinary capacity to survive and reproduce; they were, in essence, immortal. The researcher shared them widely with other scientists, and they became a workhorse of biological research. Today, work done with HeLa cells underpins much of modern medicine; they have been involved in key discoveries in many fields, including cancer, immunology and infectious disease. One of their most recent applications has been in research for vaccines against COVID-19.
- She nor her family have ever been compensated for the use of her cells



# Mary Eliza Mahoney

- **Mary Eliza Mahoney (1845-1926)**
- **First Black professional nurse in the United States (1879).** Mary's parents moved from North Carolina to Boston, where she was born on April 16, 1845. In Boston, black children were not permitted to attend schools with Whites until 1855, and even in New England, domestic service was the only way for a Negro woman to make a living. Interested in a nursing career from the age of eighteen, Mary was a "nurse" for several prominent white families prior to entering formal nurse training. On March 23, 1878, she was the "first coloured girl admitted" (*Medical and Nursing Record Book*, 1878) to the nurse training program at the New England Hospital for Women and Children; she graduated sixteen months later at the age of thirty-four. (Note: Mahoney's biographer, Helen Miller, was Associate Professor of Nursing Research at North Carolina Central University.)



# Sickle Cell Research

- My early research on Sickle Cell disease led to an early screening method in babies.



# Marilyn Hughes Gaston, MD

- In a pivotal experience while working as an intern at Philadelphia General Hospital in 1964, **Marilyn Hughes Gaston, MD**, admitted a baby with a swollen, infected hand. The baby suffered from sickle cell disease, which hadn't occurred to Gaston until her supervisor suggested the possibility. Gaston quickly committed herself to learning more about it, and eventually became a leading researcher on the disease, which affects millions of people around the world. She became deputy branch chief of the Sickle Cell Disease Branch at the National Institutes of Health, and her [groundbreaking 1986 study](#) led to a national sickle cell disease screening program for newborns. Her research showed both the benefits of screening for sickle cell disease at birth and the effectiveness of penicillin to prevent infection from sepsis, which can be fatal in children with the disease.
- In 1990, Gaston became the first black female physician to be appointed director of the Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Primary Health Care. She was also the second black woman to serve as assistant surgeon general as well as achieve the rank of rear admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service. Gaston has been honored with every award that the Public Health Service bestows.





# Louis Wade Sullivan, MD

- **Louis Wade Sullivan, MD**, grew up in the racially segregated rural South in the 1930s. There, he was inspired by his doctor, Joseph Griffin. “He was the only black physician in a radius of 100 miles,” Sullivan said. “I saw that Dr. Griffin was really doing something important and he was highly respected in the community.”
- Over the decades, Sullivan became an equally profound source of inspiration. The only black student in his class at Boston University School of Medicine, he would later serve on the faculty from 1966 to 1975. In 1975, he became the founding dean of what became the Morehouse School of Medicine — the first predominantly black medical school opened in the United States in the 20th century. Later, Sullivan was tapped to serve as secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where he directed the creation of the Office of Minority Programs in the National Institutes of Health’s Office of the Director.
- Sullivan has chaired numerous influential groups and institutions, from the President’s Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities to the National Health Museum. He is CEO and chair of the Sullivan Alliance, an organization he created in 2005 to increase racial and ethnic minority representation in health care.



# Leonidas Harris Berry, MD

- Even as a renowned gastroenterologist, **Leonidas Harris Berry, MD**, faced racism in the workplace. Berry was the first black doctor on staff at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, in 1946, but he had to fight for an attending position there for years. “I have spent many years of crushing disappointment at the threshold of opportunity,” he wrote to the hospital’s trustee board committee in his final plea, “keeping my lamps trimmed and bright for a bride that never came.” He was finally named to the attending staff in 1963 and remained a senior attending physician for the rest of his medical career.
- In the 1950s, Berry chaired a Chicago commission that worked to make hospitals more inclusive for black physicians and to increase facilities in underserved parts of the city. But his dedication to equity reached far beyond the clinical setting: He was active in a civil rights group called the United Front that provided protection, monetary support, and other assistance to black residents of Cairo, Illinois, who had been victims of racist attacks. In 1970, he helped organize the Flying Black Medics, a group of practitioners who flew from Chicago to Cairo to bring medical care and health education to members of the remote community.



# Regina Marcia Benjamin, MD, MBA

- **Regina Marcia Benjamin, MD, MBA**, may be best known for her tenure as the 18th U.S. Surgeon General, during which she served as first chair of the National Prevention Council. The group of 17 federal agencies was responsible for developing the National Prevention Strategy, which outlined plans to improve health and well-being in the United States.
- But it's not just her work at the highest levels of public health that earned her praise. Long before she was appointed "the nation's doctor" in 2009, Benjamin worked extensively with rural communities in the South. She is the founder and CEO of BayouClinic in Bayou La Batre, Louisiana, which provides clinical care, social services, and health education to residents of the small Gulf Coast town. Benjamin helped rebuild the clinic several more times, including after damage inflicted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and a fire in 2006. Of the clinic, she said she hopes that she is "making a difference in my community by providing a clinic where patients can come and receive health care with dignity."

Name that  
song

- Nola
- I can only be me
- Be One
- Harlem Blues



# Final Question!







# Greensboro Sit-in

February 1, 1960, Members of the Greensboro Four, David Richmond, Franklin McCain, Ezell A. Blair, Jr. and Joseph McNeil, staged a sit-in at which store?