



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH



A CELEBRATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE



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# Celebrate Black History Month

## February is dedicated to Black History Month

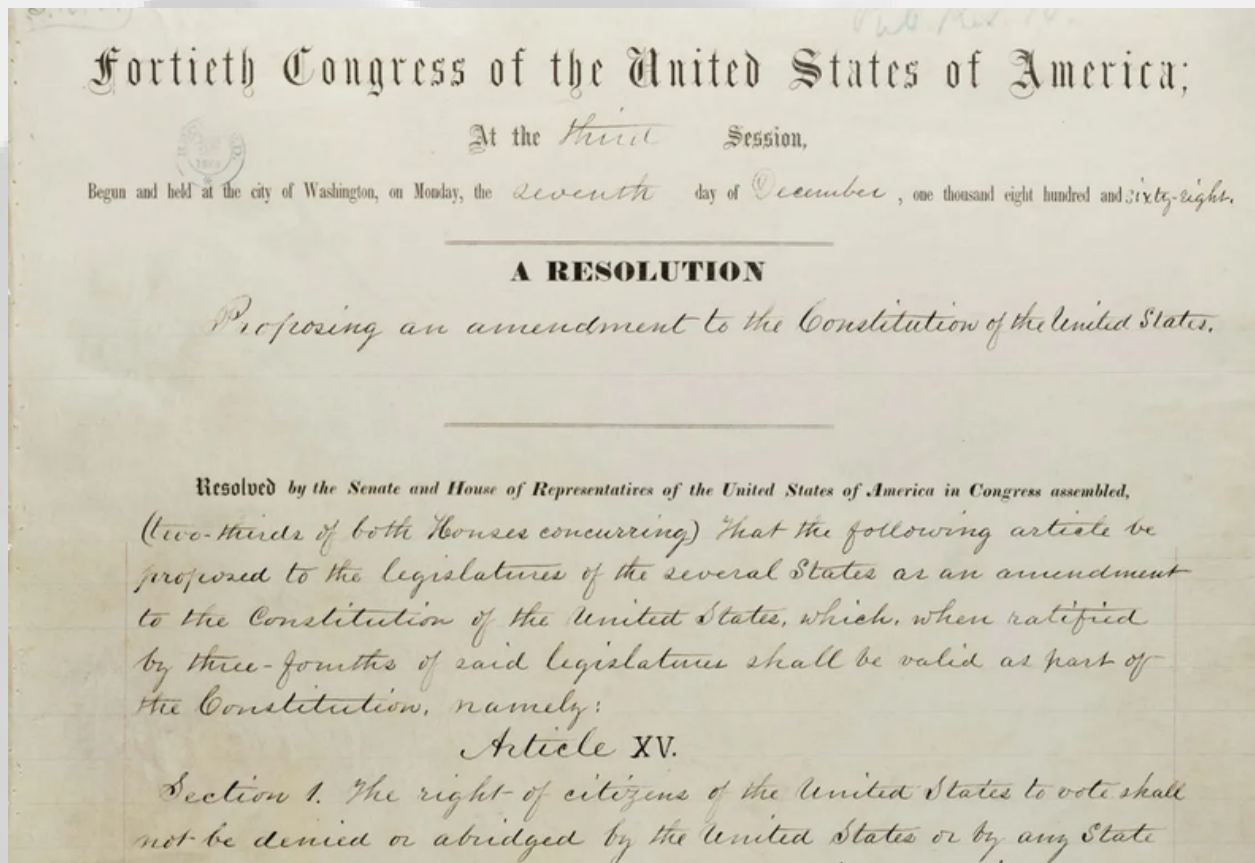
Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month, which is a time dedicated to acknowledging and celebrating the achievements of not only African Americans, but also the progress made towards racial equality in America. This month-long observance is credited to historian Carter G. Woodson, who in 1926 established it as 'Negro History Week' (a week that included both his birthday and President Lincoln's), with a goal to educate both black and white Americans about contributions made by African-Americans throughout history.

Carter G. Woodson is now recognized as the "Father of Black History".

## This year's theme

In honor of Black History Month, 2022's national theme is **"Black Health and Wellness."**

The 2022 theme considers activities, rituals and initiatives that Black communities have practiced in an effort to maintain health and wellbeing. The theme each year is chosen by ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History).



The 15th amendment, passed on February 3, 1870 declaring that citizens shall not be denied by race or color.

*" I decided I wasn't going to come  
down. I was going to fly. I was  
going to stay up in the air  
forever. "*

-  
JESSE OWENS

THE FIRST AMERICAN TRACK AND FIELD  
ATHLETE TO WIN FOUR GOLD MEDALS  
AT A SINGLE OLYMPIC GAMES.





# Did you know these important periods in Black History?

William Tucker was the first  
Black child known to be  
born in America **in 1621.**



Fourteenth Amendment  
passed; Blacks become  
citizens **in 1868.**



Rosa Parks refuses to give up her  
seat on a bus to a white man in  
Montgomery, Alabama **in 1955.**



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
gives his "I Have a Dream"  
speech **in 1963.**

Barack Obama becomes  
the first Black president of  
the United States **in 2008.**



**Over 100 years of progress - Still much further to go.  
Keep the spirit alive.**



## The Dashiki: A symbol of Black History Month

Traditional dashikis are a big part of African culture and history. They have been worn for centuries as a symbol of pride, identity, or heritage in Africa itself - not just Black History Month!

The reason why so many people love wearing dashiki dresses is because they're comfortable enough to be lived with every day and they are eye-catching too.

### The Dashikis role in Black History

In the 1960's, a dashiki was worn as an act of resistance. It symbolized black pride and acceptance into society despite Apartheid laws that prohibited them from wearing clothing such as suits or ties outside their workplace. This fashion statement became popular during this time period because Black Americans felt empowered by fighting against racial segregation.

The dashiki is a symbol of African culture that can be carried through American history by those who continue to wear it. It can serve as an important reminder during Kwanzaa and Black History Month, but many people just enjoy wearing one every day because they are comfortable and stylish!



### *The Largest Selection of African Dashiki's anywhere*

Find the most popular designs and lots of choices to fit your personality at Africa Imports.

You'll love the money saving prices and you can get your favorite Dashiki with fast same day shipping.

[Find Dashiki's Here](#)

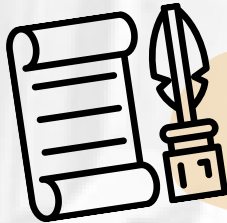
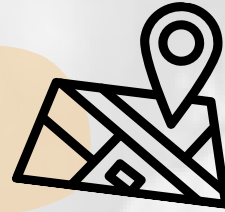


# Some things you may not know about African American history



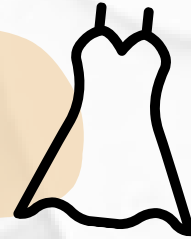
Modern vaccines were created from an African practice taught by a slave to a US doctor.

The layout of Washington DC was created by a black man.



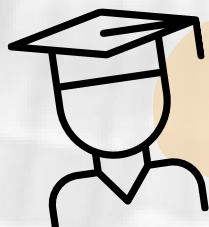
A slave girl named Phyllis Wheatley in the 1700's became a famous poet touring Europe.

Betty Boop was actually a black woman named Esther Jones from Harlem. The character is famous for being a sexy and confident woman ahead of her time.



More than 40,000 black soldiers were killed in the Civil War.

The first black female in the US Army (Cathay Williams) pretended to be a man in order to join.



Martin Luther King Jr. was only 19 when he first graduated from college.



*"Our nation is a rainbow – red,  
yellow, brown, black and white –  
and we're all precious in God's sight."*

JESSE JACKSON

SUPPORTED MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT



# Honoring African American Men and Women in History

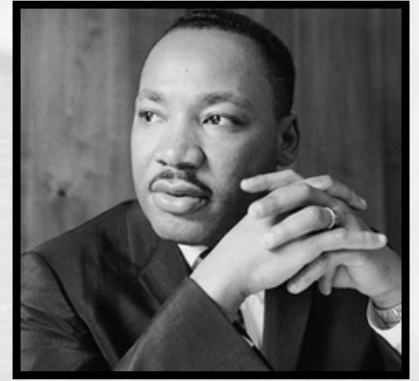
Here are some people to celebrate during Black History Month



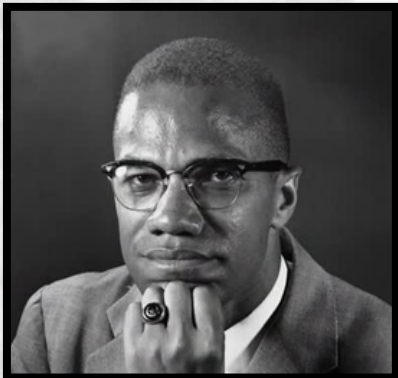
**HARRIET TUBMAN**  
Freed enslaved people



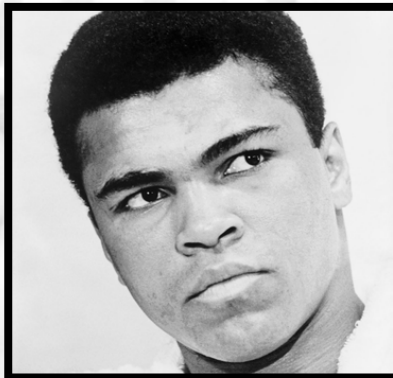
**ANGELA DAVIS**  
An activist for civil rights



**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**  
Led the movement to end segregation



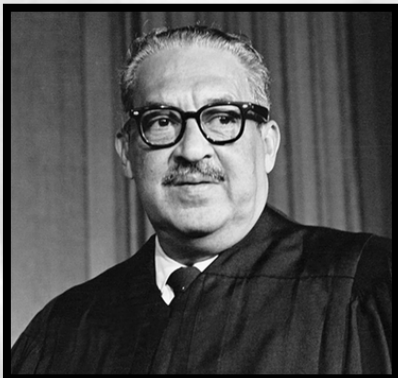
**MALCOLM X**  
A human rights activist



**MUHAMMAD ALI**  
A famous humanitarian and activist



**SAMMY DAVIS JR.**  
A popular African American entertainer



**THURGOOD MARSHALL**  
Court's first African-American justice



**BO DIDDLEY**  
An influential rock and roll singer



**ROSA PARKS**  
Refused to give up her seat to a white passenger

# Do you know the **Ruby Bridges** story?

**It was 1961**, and the Federal government had just made a law that all white schools needed to allow black children. Ruby Bridges was one of the first black children to go to school this way, and was taken to school by US federal Marshals. This was because the state and local police did not want to help her into the school. She spent the day as the only child in her class, because parents didn't want their children to be in the same class with her.

A sort of famous child psychologist from Harvard went to interview her for a study he was doing on trauma in children. She was yelled at and cursed by mobs of angry people when she went to school. When he asked her how this made her feel, she talked about praying a lot. He asked her what she was praying, she said that she was praying for the angry people. She was praying for God to forgive them. He then asked why she was praying this when these people were so scary and yelling at her. She said it was because this is what Jesus did when he was on the cross. She prayed that God would forgive them because they do not know what they are doing. The highly respected Harvard psychologist talks about how he was deeply changed by talking with this 6 year old poor black girl from Louisiana.

The photo below shows 6 year old Ruby Bridges going to school in 1961 with a mob of angry people protesting and yelling at her.





*"Never be limited by other  
people's limited  
imaginations"*

DR. MAE JEMISON

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN  
FEMALE ASTRONAUT IN 1992



# Three ways to show your pride for Black History Month

## Wear a fun t-shirt!

Express yourself this Black History Month with a fun t-shirt for you or the whole family. There are hundreds of unique t-shirt ideas that you can find [here](#) and some have been designed by our customers.



*Include your children!*



*Show your royal roots*

## Show your heritage

Give your outfit an authentic Black History look with a stylish black history inspired accessory. Show your sense of style and be proud to show them off.





# Wear a style from your motherland!

Wearing some traditional clothing from your heritage is one way to embrace Black History this February. The Dashiki is a popular choice for men and women but some women prefer to wear something more elegant such as a traditional print skirt.



*Wear something elegant  
and traditional*



*The Dashiki: A Symbol of Africa*



*Add a fun accessory  
such as a Kente Sash*



# Five ways to celebrate Black History Month

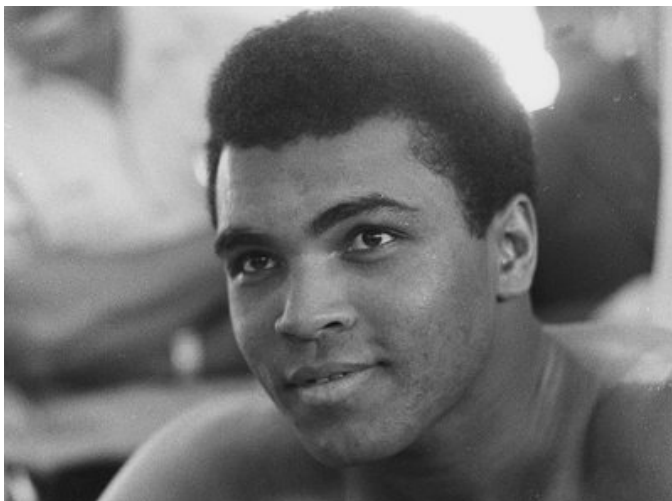
**1** ***Read a book or listen to an audiobook*** – There are so many great black writers in America and they have been creating powerful pieces of work for decades. You can also try Spotify with their playlist full of poetry by Langston Hughes that will uplift you while on the go. One final tip - articles from civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Shirley Chisholm etc., whose words give life lessons about equality are still relevant today.

**2** ***Listen to the music*** – Take some time this Black History Month and explore black people who made music what it is today. Black artists have been influencing our culture for generations with their talent and you may find they are very similar to some of your favorite artists today!

**3** ***Watch a film*** – The streaming giants are all about Black history this time of year. Netflix and Amazon have dedicated space for movies that celebrate the most iconic figures. Take some moments out from your busy schedule and enjoy some great films with amazing people in our community who have made major impacts on society.

**4** ***Eat soul food with friends*** – Malcolm X believed that soul food is a symbol of the south and black culture. Soul restaurants provide an opportunity for people in neighborhoods all over America to come together, eat good cooking made by our own African-American chefs - it's not just about filling your stomach but also celebrating Black History with friends!

**5** ***Wear something African*** – The African continent is one of the most colorful and vibrant in all world, with a rich history that you can be proud to share with your kids. This Black History Month make sure they know their heritage with traditional clothing from your motherland.



**“**  
*Don't count the days,  
make the days count.*  
**”**

- MUHAMMAD ALI -





*"There are still many causes  
worth sacrificing for, so  
much history yet to be made."*

-  
MICHELLE OBAMA

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN  
FIRST LADY IN 2009

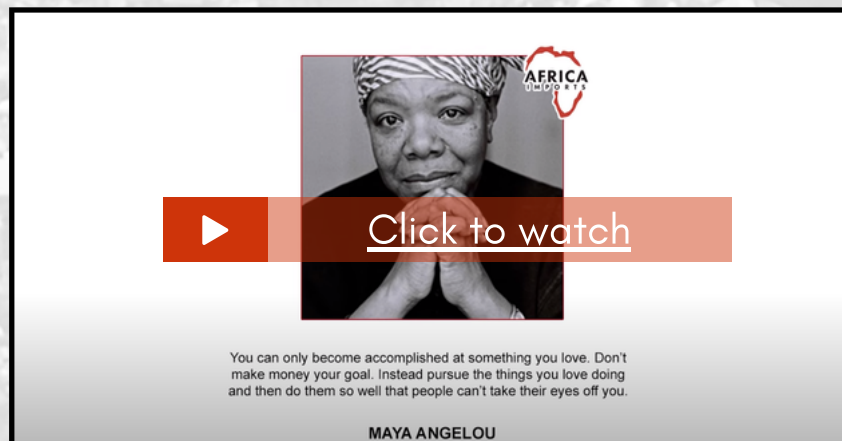
# Want to learn more about Black History?

Visit the Africa Imports YouTube Channel [here](#) or by clicking the videos below.

## Why is Black History Month In February?



## Black History Heroes Quotes



## African Dashikis: Their History & Meaning







**Celebrating Black History Month**

[africaimports.com](http://africaimports.com)

