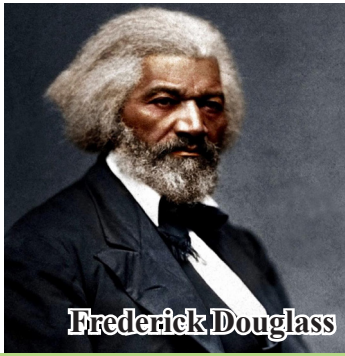


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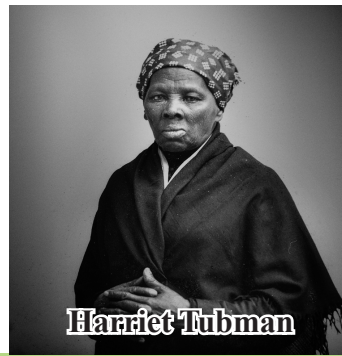
Issue #3 February 15-March 14, 2021

- understanding our roots, promoting our culture

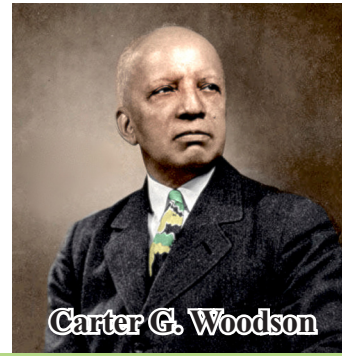
We Will Never Forget



Frederick Douglass



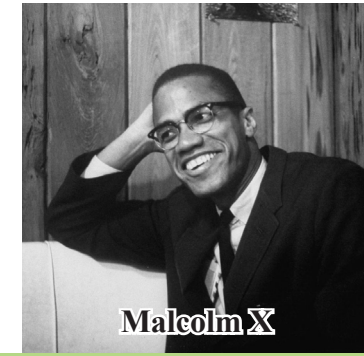
Harriet Tubman



Carter G. Woodson



Martin Luther King Jr.



Malcolm X



Dan Vandal

We Have Introduced Online Citizenship Test.

Immigration has always been a topical issue, as people continue to move across borders in search of better living conditions elsewhere. Now, Canada is no exception to that traffic, as our country has opened up her arms to receive immigrants from other parts of the world. Many of these immigrants quickly settle here as Canada affords them the opportunity to work and raise a family at the same time. But a unique problem has arisen, no thanks to the on-going coronavirus pandemic, where immigrants to Canada are stuck and are unable to continue on the path toward citizenship, due to a total halt on the citizenship process. For example, no accommodation was made for immigrants to write the citizenship test online, a vital component to gaining citizenship in Canada. We went out in search of answers for immigrants caught in the web of this bureaucratic negligence and spoke to two sitting MLA's, Audrey Gordon and Uzoma Asagwara, to try and find answers for members of the Black community for whom life seems to be at a stand still. They are unable to apply for the kind of jobs they will like to do, because they're yet to complete the citizenship process. It is important to note that the only method provided for applicants to complete a citizenship test, before the corona-virus pandemic, is the in-person method of testing which was

not a bad idea. But since the pandemic hit hard, federal and provincial governments, in Canada, had put in place restrictions to help limit the spread of the virus. One of those restrictions was to limit the number of people at gatherings as well as shut down government offices save for phone and email communications. The private sector quickly put in place measures and counter-measures to mitigate the stress caused to their customers, by introducing novel ideas like free delivery for online orders as well as curbside pick-up for goods. Many other businesses simply relocated online. But the government seemed to demonstrate apathy to these new techniques of doing business, instead focussing on some issues while neglecting others. We asked Audrey Gordon, a one-time Deputy Minister of Labour and Immigration, as well as Director of the Multiculturalism Secretariat and Director of Settlement and Newcomer support, why the government did not introduce online testing to help mitigate the hardship faced by applicants. She told us that "Citizenship is federally regulated and provincially administered for the Provincial Nominee Program, and cannot say why the federal government has not made available an online citizenship test." She referred us to Dan Vandal, the Member of Parliament (MP) for the riding. Uzoma on her part expressed frustration at

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First US Female Presidential Candidate

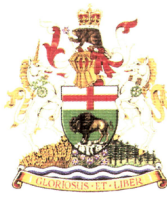
Brooklyn-born Shirley Anita Chisholm announced her campaign for President of the United States, on January 25th 1972, and six months later, she became the first African-American and female Presidential candidate (in the Democratic Party) vying for the ticket of a major party in the United States. She received 152 first-ballot votes at the Miami Beach, Florida convention. An early childhood educator, Chisholm overcame gender and race discrimination to become the first African-American woman to be elected into the New York State Assembly, in 1964, and was then elected to congress four years later. Born Shirley Anita St. Hill to poor immigrant parents from Guyana and Barbados (dad was a labourer, and mom, a seamstress), Chisholm was sent back to Barbados where she lived with her maternal grandmother until she returned to the United States in 1934. She said of her upbringing,



Shirley Chisholm

"Granny gave me strength, dignity, and love. I learned from an early age that I was somebody. I didn't need the Black revolution to tell me that." Chisholm was a woman of significant firsts. She became the first African-American woman elected to congress in 1968, representing New York's 12th Congressional District. And served seven terms from 1969 to 1983, holding the record for the longest-serving Black woman in congress. Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2015, the author of *Unbought and Unbossed* graduated BA (Brooklyn College) in 1946, and MA (Columbia University) in 1952, and was a member of the Harriet Tubman Society as well as the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. A founding member of the

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PREMIER OF MANITOBA

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

Manitoba is vibrant mosaic of religions, customs and traditions, made up of more than 250 ethno-cultural groups, representing over 150 different countries and languages. We are a tolerant, inclusive society that draws its strength from our remarkable diversity. For generations, we have opened our arms and hearts to people from all regions of the world, regardless of their age, gender or religion.

That is why I am so proud to join my fellow Manitobans in celebrating Black History Month 2021.

It is a time for us to recognize the heritage, history and achievements of our Black community here in Manitoba and throughout Canada. It is also an opportunity to learn about, and reflect upon, the many challenges encountered and struggles endured by generations of Black Manitobans as they worked to build the strong Black community that contributes so much to our province today.

I encourage all Manitobans to join me in observing Black History Month, and in acknowledging the remarkable role that Black Manitobans have played – and will play in the future – in our province's growth and prosperity.

The Honourable Brian Pallister

Celebrating Black History Month

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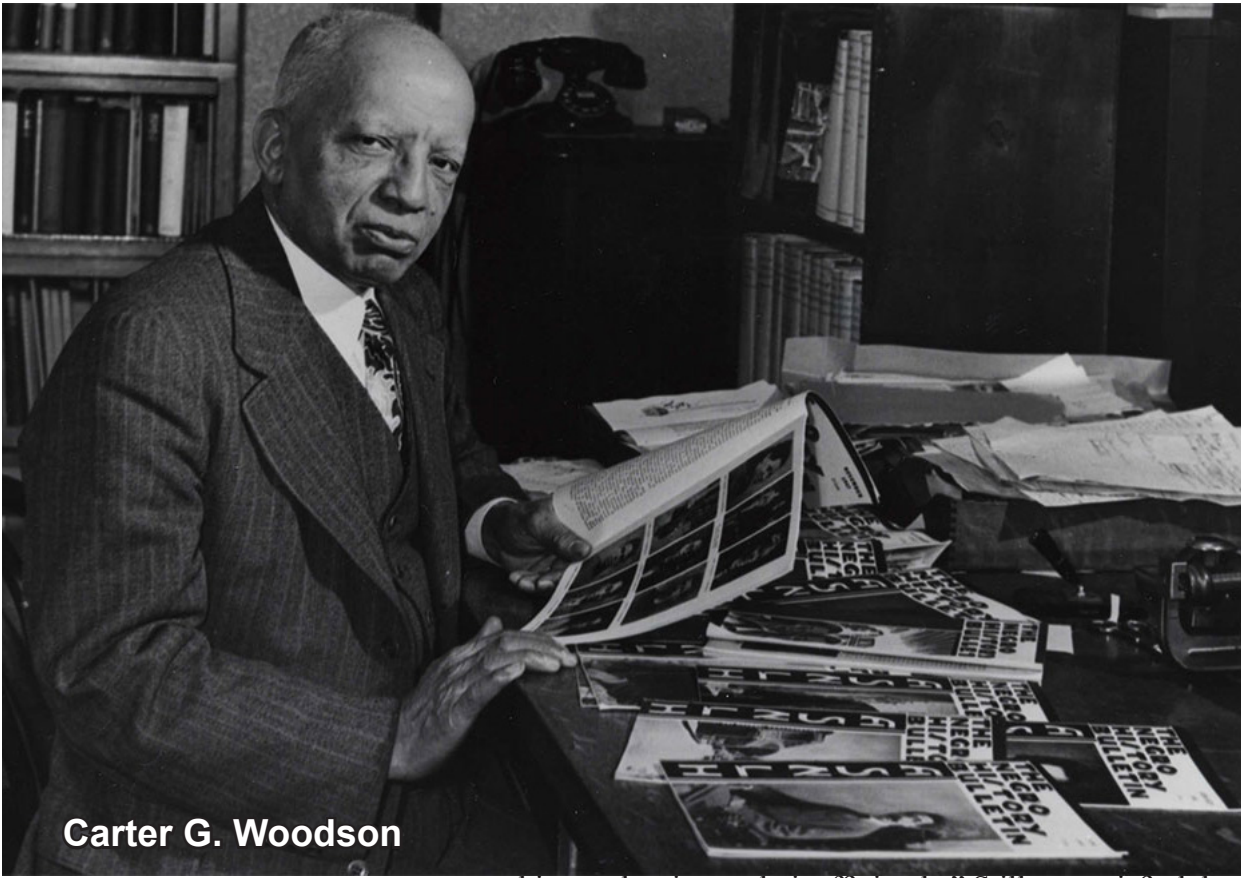
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The Man We Owe Gratitude For Black History Month.

It is no surprise that the second African-American to receive a doctorate degree from Harvard, after the eminent scholar W.E.B. Du Bois, would be the man to bring about Black History Month. Carter G. Woodson, author, writer and historian, considered the "Father of Black History," dedicated his life to the study of African-American history. Noted for his book, "The Mis-education of the Negro (1933)," Woodson worked tirelessly to establish Black History Month. Born to Eliza and James Woodson, and the fourth of seven children, Woodson was unable to attend high school until he turned 20, because he had to work as a sharecropper, during the day, and a miner, at night, to help sustain his family. When he eventually attended school, Woodson's talent was so immense that he completed a four year programme in only two years. He took a break from school, after attending Berea College, to work for sometime, during which he worked in the Philipines as an education supritendent for the US government. A graduate of University of Chicago where he earned his Bachelors and Masters degrees before proceeding to Havard, where he also earned a doctorate in 1912, Woodson was an avid reader and researcher. Not satisfied that Black people were not taught about the achievements of their ancestors, Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), in 1915, to help educate Black children in America. He followed up a year later by launching a publication, the Journal Of Negro History, which is still in circulation today, under a different name, the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History (ASALH). He also founded the Associated Publishers Press in 1921. Woodson did all he could to bring Black history to the African-American, since conventional education at the time omitted or outrightly suppressed the teaching of any Black history. It was his view that if Black people knew the achievements of their forebears,

they would hold their heads up high irrespective of what they've been through. Woodson would dedicate himself to research and methodology, creating a whole new system to properly educate African-Americans in America. He gathered a large collection of materials through his study, believing that only Black people can tell their history correctly, as mainstream historians at the time refused to do so. He declared that White people had no business badmouthing Blacks as having contributed nothing to the advancement of mankind, rather concluding that racial prejudice "is merely the logical result of tradition, (and) the inevitable outcome of thorough instruction to the effect that the Negro has never contributed anything to the progress of mankind." With the help of his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, he organized the first Negro History and Literature Week, in February 1926, after it was created in 1924. Woodson chose the month of February because it contained the birthdays of two prominent Americans who were already being celebrated - Abraham Lincoln (February 12th) and Frederick Douglass (February 14th). The author of more than 20 books, including, A Century of Negro Migration (1918), The History of the Negro Church (1921), The Negro in Our History (1922) and his most celebrated, The Mis-Education of the Negro (1933), Woodson would declare, "I have made every sacrifice for this movement. I have spent all my time doing this one



Carter G. Woodson

thing and trying to do it efficiently." Still not satisfied that a week is enough to celebrate Black heritage and history, Woodson started to agitate to extend the celebrations to a full month. And though he did not witness it until his death, in 1950, members of his Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) together with other Black Power movements extended it to a full month in 1970, and since 1976, on the 50th anniversary of the first Negro History Week, every US President, beginning with President Jimmy Carter, has designated February as Black History Month. Woodson also served as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, at Howard, and has many honours and tributes to his name, among them, the Spingarn Medal, and a US Postal Service stamp issued in his honour in 1984. The beautiful number, 50, is recurrent in Woodson's chronology. First, in 1915, while taking part in a national celebration of the 50th anniversary of emancipation, Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH). Again, at the 50th anniversary of the first Negro History Week, Black History Month was born. And now, this is 50 years after the birth of Black History Month. Let us celebrate the achievements of our forebears. Happy Black History Month folks.



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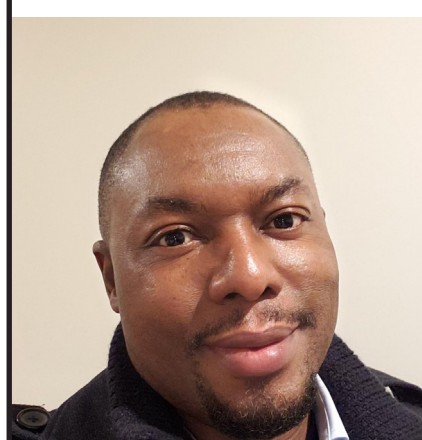
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Richard Elendu

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Richard Elendu is an advocate for racial equality and social change in the community.

Black History Month is here, and there are a lot of activities lined up to mark the special occasion, irrespective of the pandemic. Most of these activities are virtual and online. Please avail yourself the opportunity to participate in as many as you can. I know there is the activity associated with Uzoma Asagwara as well as City Councillor, Markus Chambers. Of particular mention is the Black Stem Cells event which has been put in place by the Black Medical Students Association of the University of Manitoba. Details can be found on Instagram as well as reproduced below on this page.

I want to use this medium to thank all who drew my attention to their inability to reach me via email. Many called, texted, and messaged me on other social media platforms. It is my fault. A dot (.) appeared between my first and last name, in the email I provided. That shouldn't be. The correct email address is richardelendu@prairieafrican.com.

In this issue, we bring to you some of the achievements of our forebears, before, during, and after slavery and segregation. Like Carter G. Woodson would want me to do, I have

Our Mission

provided information, mostly sourced from the internet, about the achievements of Black people in America.

And as we continue the month-long celebration, we also want to remember the White people who supported us in attaining freedom in North America and the world. Some of them paid the ultimate price in a world that didn't make sense to them. People like William Lloyd Garrison, Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, James Reeb, and many more (please send me more names, the world needs to know these White people as well). They should be celebrated as we celebrate Black History Month.

For us, at Prairie African, Black History Month, is a monthly affair. Some of you can attest to the fact that we already provide information about Black and African people who are currently making history - like Audrey Gordon, Jamie Moses and Uzoma Asagwara in our provincial legislature.

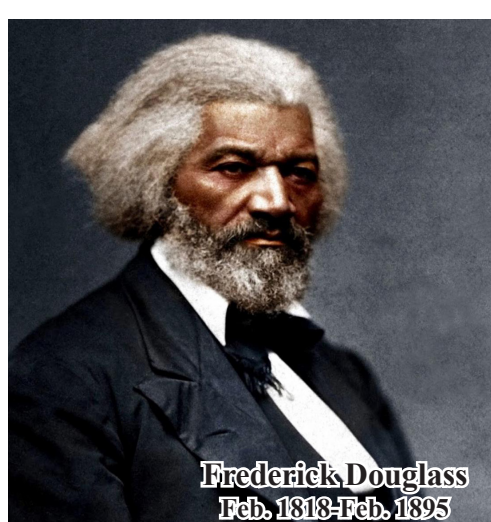
As usual, we have our "In case you missed it" column (see page 4), where we

present snippets of various African and Black people who continue to do us proud around the world, in spite of the discrimination and rejection they sometimes face. But this month, we have substituted the content to reflect important Black people who lived a couple centuries ago.

Remember, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good (people) do nothing" (Edmund Burke). Let us all strive to find something to do. There must be something new that we can do to dissuade racists amongst us. Racism is not a fight that one person can fight alone. I need you to think outside the box and come up with that solution the world has been waiting for. Let's help one another.

Finally, my gratitude goes to the many Black and African businesses that continue to show their support for what we do. As usual, it is with much pleasure and pain that I salute your courage. Africans (Blacks) are a great people, and great people communicate through proverbs. "We desire to bequeath two things to our children; the first one is roots, the other is wings." We salute you.

In case you missed it



Frederick Douglass
Feb. 1818-Feb. 1895

Of all the stories of Black people in slavery and segregation, the story of Frederick Douglass, the first African-American nominated for Vice President of the United States, an Intellectual, Abolitionist, Speaker, Writer, Journalist, Teacher, Social Reformer, and Statesman, is the most captivating to me, for a number of reasons. Yes, there are other prominent Blacks like W.E.B. Du Bois, Marcus

Garvey, Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Carter G. Woodson, Malcom X, and Sojourner Truth, but in terms of leadership within the Black community, sacrifice for the cause of emancipating the Black man, and his approach to the whole issue of slavery and segregation, Douglass is the man. After escaping from slavery in Maryland (a 24 hour "walk" to freedom), Douglass became a national leader of the abolitionist movement in Massachusetts and in New York. He believed in racial equality, and unlike other activists, did not sideline the women in his fight, and was also quick to mend fences with former slave owners as long as they crossed over to the other side. Douglass was quoted as saying, "I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong." A self-educated Douglass would go on to teach other slaves, in secret, because he believed that, "knowledge is the pathway from slavery to freedom." He wrote several autobiographies, and established The North Star, an anti-slavery newspaper.

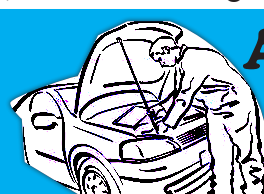
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

We are excited to share this event with you!

Stem Cell Club Manitoba and the University of Manitoba's Black Medical Students' Association are holding an event called Black Stem Cells Matter in honour of Black History Month to educate Black donors on the need to have an ethnically diverse registry to help increase the chances of Black patients.

Patients who need a stem cell transplant are more likely to find a suitable donor from someone of the same ethnicity. However, less than 3% of registered donors are Black. This means that Black patients who are in need of a stem cell transplant to save their life are less likely to find a match!

Speakers: Dr. Craig Speziali & Dr. Warren Fingrut. To RSVP for the event, please click the link in @stemcellclub_mb's bio. You will then receive an email closer to the event date with the Zoom meeting information. DM @stemcellclub_mb or email them at stemcellclub.mb@gmail.com. Raffle prizes available!



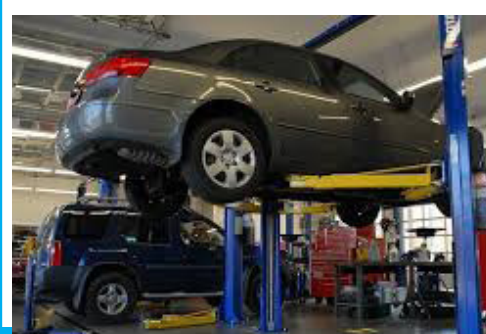
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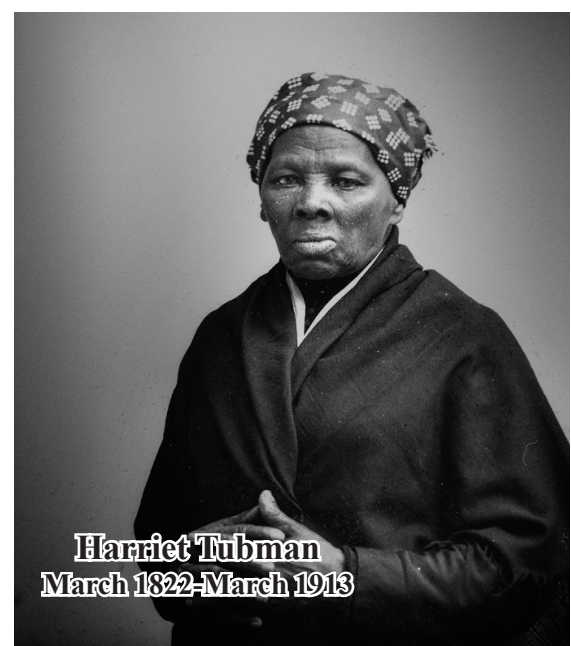
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Harriet Tubman

When we first hear the name, Harriet Tubman, our mind quickly makes the connection to the Underground Railroad, a "network of antislavery activists and safe houses" designed to bring many slaves from the plantations in the Deep South to freedom. The remarkable story of Ms Tubman escaping but going back, multiple times, putting herself in danger, to rescue "approximately 70 enslaved people," including family and friends, could only be compared with super-human or spirit beings, like Jesus Christ. "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die" (Rom 5:7 KJV). "Traveling by night and in extreme secrecy, Tubman (or "Moses," as she was called) "never lost a passenger." After the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 was passed, she helped guide fugitives farther north into British North America (Canada), and helped newly freed enslaved people to find work. Born Araminta Ross, Tubman became the first woman to lead an armed expedition in the war, she guided the raid at Combahee Ferry, which liberated more than 700 enslaved people, and helped John Brown plan and recruit supporters for his raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859. She also "served as an armed scout and spy for



Harriet Tubman
March 1822-March 1913

the Union Army" during the Civil War. Having endured the same kind of treatment that Frederick Douglass endured (she was often beaten and whipped by her various masters, even as a child), Tubman began experiencing strange visions and vivid dreams, which she ascribed to premonitions from God. These experiences, combined with her Methodist upbringing, led her to become devoutly religious. After the war, she retired to the family home, in Auburn, New York, where she cared for her aging parents on a property she had purchased. She was also very active in the women's suffrage movement. Her legacy includes the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument, Harriet Tubman National Historical Park, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park, and the Harriet Tubman Museum among many others.



Thurgood Marshall
July 1908–Jan. 1993

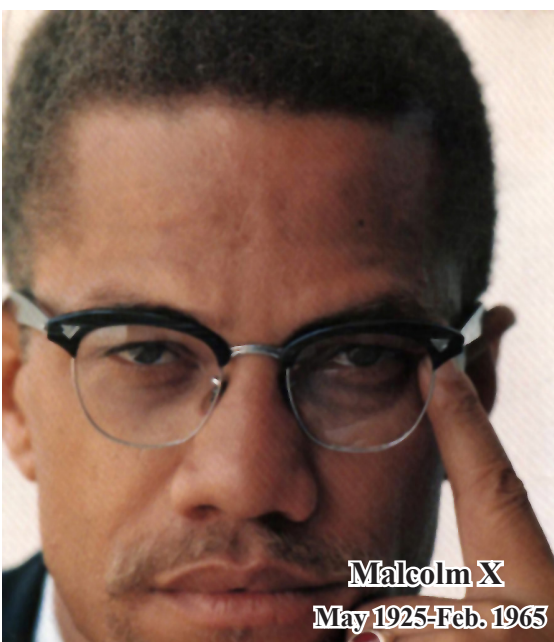
Thurgood Marshall

mind behind the NAACP, establishing its Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and served as its first executive director. Born Thoroughgood (which he shortened to Thurgood) Marshall, in Baltimore, Maryland, to a railroad porter dad, and a teacher mom, Marshall’s parents instilled in him an appreciation for the United States Constitution and the rule of law at a tender age. His mother had to pawn her wedding and engagement rings to pay for his tuition at Howard, and he graduated first in his class with an LL.B. magna cum laude. Marshall first learned how to debate from his father, who took Marshall and his brother to watch court cases; they would later debate what they had seen. The family also debated current events after dinner. Marshall said that although his father never told him to become a lawyer, he “turned me into one. He did it by teaching me to argue, by challenging my logic on every point, by making me prove every statement I made.” In 1967, President Lyndon Johnson successfully nominated Marshall to succeed retiring Associate Justice Tom C. Clark as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, calling it “the right thing to do, the right time to do it, the right man and the right place.” Recently, Vice President Kamala Harris used Marshall’s Bible at her inauguration, last January.

Famous for successfully arguing the Brown v. Board of Education case, which held that racial segregation in public education is a violation of the Equal Protection Clause, civil rights lawyer, Thurgood Marshall, who also successfully argued several other cases before the Supreme Court, as a private lawyer, would later become the first African-American justice of the Court. Some of his notable cases include, Smith v. Allwright, Shelley v. Kraemer, Chambers v. Florida, and McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents. Thurgood Marshall was an American lawyer and civil rights activist who served as Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, from October 1967 until 1991, when he vacated the position for another African-American justice, Clarence Thomas, upon retirement. Armed with a Law degree, from Howard, in 1933, the Frederick Douglass High School trained Marshall became the legal

Malcolm X

Popular civil rights activist, el-Hajj Malik Omowale el-Shabazz, better known as Malcolm X, was an African American Muslim minister and human rights activist, who was a leading mind against segregation and the subjugation of Black people all over the world. Malcolm X’s activism transcended the American political spectrum, which saw him give speeches in several countries around the world. Some of these countries he visited two or more times, placing him on the FBI watch list. Malcom X gave speeches in Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Guinea, Senegal, Liberia, Algeria, Morocco, France, and the UK, where he participated in a BBC nationally televised debate, at the Oxford Union Society, on the motion, “Extremism in the Defense of Liberty is No Vice; Moderation in the Pursuit of Justice is No Virtue.” He also met with leaders and officials, and gave interviews, as well as speak on radio and television. In Cairo, he attended the second meeting of the Organization of African Unity as a representative of the OAAU, a Pan-African organization he had formed earlier. By the end of his third visit to Africa, Malcolm X had met with essentially all of Africa’s prominent leaders; Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, and Ahmed Ben Bella of Algeria, who all



Malcolm X
May 1925–Feb. 1965

courted him to serve in their governments. He spoke in the Salle de la Mutualité, in Paris. On his second visit to Britain, in February 1965, Malcolm X addressed the first meeting of the Council of African Organizations in London. And visited Smethwick, near Birmingham, on February 12, where the Conservative Party candidate, Peter Griffiths, was accused of using the slogan, “If you want a nigger for a neighbour, vote Liberal or Labour.” In Smethwick, Malcolm X compared the treatment of ethnic minority residents with the treatment of Jews under Hitler, saying “I would not wait for the fascist element in Smethwick to erect gas ovens.” Malcolm X activism was firebrand. He called a spade by its name and was willing to reconsider his stance if he thought you had a superior argument. That was why he stood against racial integration one day and for it the next. He could tell you “no” to your face to [visit prairieafrican.com](http://prairieafrican.com) for full story.



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Celebrating the contributions and recognizing the resilience and strength of Black communities.

Celebrating Black History Month



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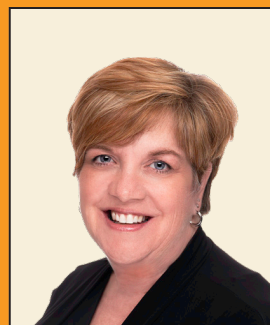
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Whitney Houston
 1963-2012

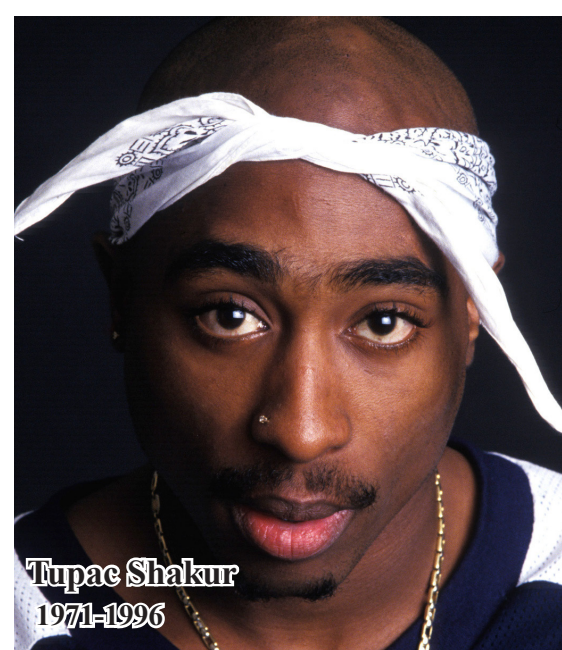
Whitney Houston

singer. She signed her first recording contract at age 19, and has sold over 200 million records worldwide. Whitney refused to work with agencies who did business with the then-apartheid regime in South Africa, and performed at Wembley Stadium, in London, in 1988, to celebrate (imprisoned) Mandela's 70th birthday, where she raised \$1 million for charities while bringing awareness to apartheid. She also helped raise \$250,000 for the United Negro College Fund. Some of her hits were songs that were already recorded by other artists.

Whitney could literally sing any song that was presented to her. She takes a song and makes it better. Her rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner," at Super Bowl XXV, as well as her performance for troops returning home from the Persian Gulf War remains indelible in the heart of veterans. Houston released seven studio albums and two soundtrack albums, all of which have been certified diamond, multi-platinum, platinum, or gold by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). And is regarded as one of the greatest artists of all time. Some of her hits include, "Saving All My Love for You" (1985), "Where Do Broken Hearts Go" (1988), "I'm Your Baby Tonight" (1990), "All the Man That I Need" (1990), "I Will Always Love You" (1992), and "My Love Is Your Love" (1998), some of which was certified quintuple platinum by RIAA. Houston was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall

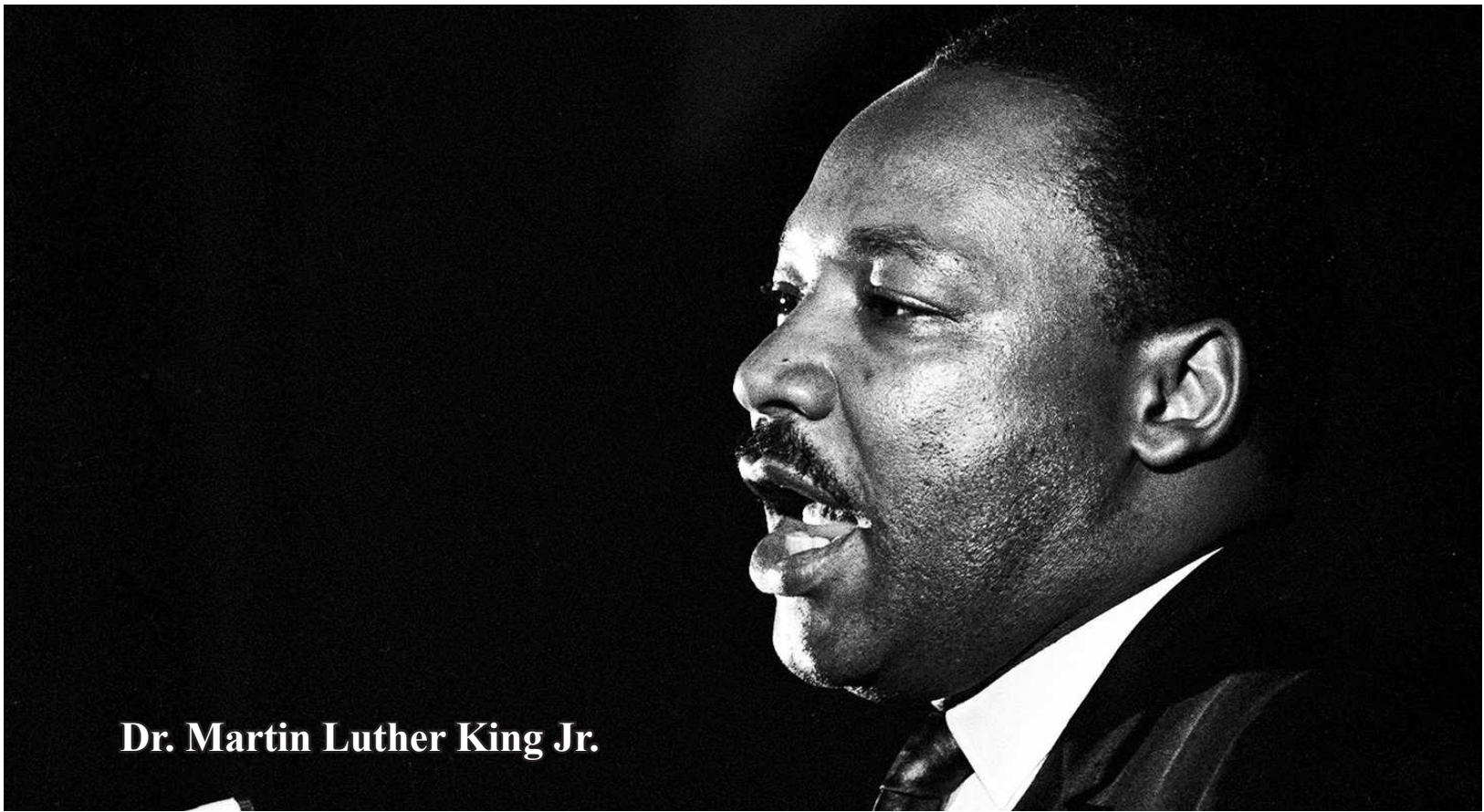
Tupac Shakur

Tupac Amaru Shakur, one of Africa's sons, was an apostle of "resistance and activism against inequality." Born Lesane Parish Crooks, to Afeni and Billy Garland, both Black Panther Party members, in New York, Tupac had his name changed, by his mother, at age one, to reflect the life that he was to lead on earth. She explains, "I wanted him to have the name of revolutionary, indigenous people in the world. I wanted him to know he was part of a world culture and not just from a neighborhood." That revolutionary leader was the descendant of the last Incan ruler, Túpac Amaru, who was executed in Peru, in 1781, after his failed revolt against Spanish rule. Tupac would lead a revolution, and chose music as his weapon of choice in his struggles against oppression and inequality. He is considered by many to be one of the most influential rappers of all time. Tupac attended Baltimore School for the Arts, where he studied acting, poetry, jazz, and ballet, and performed in Shakespeare's plays - some of that influence showing up later in his music. His poetry which often featured his friend, Jada Pinkett, was world-class, and he won competitions as the school's best rapper. Much of his work has been noted for addressing contemporary social issues that plagued inner cities. Sometimes called Makaveli, Tupac whose contemporaries include, Madonna, Biggie Smalls, and Run-DMC became a central figure in West



Tupac Shakur
 1971-1996

Coast hip hop, by 1991, after the release of his debut album *2Pacalypse Now*. He followed that up with *Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z* (1993) and *Me Against the World* (1995) with its lead single, *Dear Mama*, achieving a world musical status and commercial success with it. *All Eyez on Me* (1996) became certified Diamond by the RIAA. Named among the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time, by Rolling Stone magazine, and inducted into the Hip-Hop Hall of Fame, in 2002, Tupac is one of the best-selling musical artists of all time, having sold over 75 million records worldwide (that number is more than enough to win the presidency of the United States). Five more albums have been released since his death, all of which have been certified platinum in the US. In 2017, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility. Tupac Shakur was also known for his humor, and social influence.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Like his father, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a Baptist minister and an activist in America. He would grow to become the arrow head of the Civil Rights Movement in the 50's, at just 26, leading the movement until his death in 1968. Born Michael King Jr., in 1929, Dr. King earned a BA (Morehouse) at 19, and a PhD, from Boston University; and had taken to his father's vocation and resolve, on a much larger scale, for which he would eventually pay the supreme price. Dr. King came to consciousness and awareness of himself when he ventured outside the segregated south, for the first time, in 1944, for a vacation job, in Simsbury, Connecticut, where he discovered that after "we passed Washington there was no discrimination at all. The white people here are very nice. We go to any place we want to and sit any where we want to." His father was an avid racial equality advocate and minister. He decided to change their names to Martin Luther, after a visit to sites associated with the Reformation (Lutheran) leader, Martin Luther (1483-1546), while visiting Germany in 1934. He had witnessed and condemned antisemitism in its upshoot. Martin Luther King Snr. was an influential civil rights leader in Georgia's political space, and played an instrumental role in ending Jim Crow laws in the state. He advocated for "an educated, politically active black ministry" and led by example, educating his own children. He was instrumental in the rise of Jimmy Carter as presidential nominee for the Democratic Party in 1976, and also held positions in the NAACP, and participated in the fight for equal salaries for teachers in Atlanta. So, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was basically following in his father's footsteps. He became the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), in 1957, from where he launched many protest marches through nonviolence and civil disobedience. Among them, the Montgomery bus boycott (1955), Albany, Georgia (1963), Birmingham, Alabama (1963) and the March on Washington (1963), for which he is popularly remembered. There, he delivered, extempore, his "I Have a Dream" speech, and captivating the whole world with his grandiose eloquence.

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Poetry

“For a chance”
Forty years in this wilderness
Working for miracles
Longed for a saviour the ‘tire stretch
Wondered all alone
Like a castaway
Fugitive of all nations
Bounded by the Red Sea and Kabalahs
No dry land appeareth
Chased by chariots
No prophet to stretch out a rod
I’m not undone, not yet
Four hundred years I have shuffled
I have seen what he’s done in times past
I’m a believer
Trudging along, hoping for a burning bush
Any sense of life within this miserable desert
But forward I must go
For a chance.

Internalize them

- 1. Affirmative action
- 2. Desegregation
- 3. Civil rights
- 4. Natural rights
- 5. Human rights
- 6. Immigration
- 7. Freedom
- 8. Morality
- 9. Non-violence
- 10. Protest

FameHall OF

Fame



Dwight D. Eisenhower - US President (1953-1961)

- Declared racial discrimination a national security issue.
- Used his authority to end segregation in the Federal Government and the Armed Forces.
- Integrated black and white public school children.
- Proposed and signed Civil Rights Act into law.



Robert F. Kennedy - US President (1961-1963)

- Supported racial integration and civil rights.
- Appointed many blacks to office including Thurgood Marshall to the federal bench.
- Assigned federal marshals to protect the Freedom Riders rather than use federal troops
- Signed Executive Order 10925 requiring affirmative action in government positions.



Lyndon B. Johnson - US President (1963-1969)

- signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law
- Used his faith as a moral compass in galvanizing support for civil rights.
- Passed the Voting Rights Act, allowing millions of southern blacks to vote for the first time.
- Arrested and prosecuted members of the KKK

Shame



Orval Faubus - Governor of Arkansas (1955-1967)

- Resisted desegregation in Arkansas.
- Deployed Arkansas National Guard against nine African-American students and prevented them from entering Little Rock school.
- Shut down all high schools in Little Rock, in 1958, rather than permit integration.



Ross Barnett - Governor of Mississippi (1960-1964)

- Resisted desegregation in Mississippi.
- Blocked the admission of James Meredith into the University of Mississippi.
- Ignored the US Supreme Court judgement in favour of Meredith.
- Arrested and imprisoned Freedom Riders.



George Wallace - Governor of Alabama (four terms)

- Apostle of segregation in Alabama and America.
- Figuratively drew a line in the sands of Alabama to derail desegregation.
- Prevented four African-American students from entering elementary school.
- Physically stood in the doorway of a school to prevent black students from getting in.

The Queen Of Soul

Aretha Louise Franklin, better known as the “Queen of Soul,” was an American R&B artiste who donned many hats and transcended multiple platforms in her lifetime. One of the greatest artistes of all time, Aretha Franklin was a singer, songwriter, actress, pianist, and civil rights activist. Born in 1942 to Clarence Franklin (a Baptist minister) and Barbara Franklin (a pianist and singer), the young Aretha started singing in the church where her father pastored, the New Bethel Baptist Church, in Detroit, Michigan. Young Aretha lost her mother when she was only 10, and signed for Columbia Records when she turned 18. Aretha had the opportunity to meet and be influenced by a number of celebrity artistes while growing up. Her father, who also doubled as her

manager, at age 12, was also somewhat a celebrity himself, and attracted the likes of Clara Ward, James Cleveland, Albertina Walker, Inez Andrews, Martin Luther King Jr., Jackie Wilson and Sam Cooke (who influenced her to sing pop music) to his home, even though he was just a preacher. Dinah Washington, the most successful Black recording artiste in the 50’s did prophesy that “Aretha was the ‘next one,’ and during a performance at the Regal Theatre, in Chicago, in 1960, Pervis Spann ceremonially placed a crown on her head. This would be symbolic of the role that Aretha would play in the field of music for the rest of her life. She performed many renditions with a voice and spirit that was out of this world. Only a person prepared could do the things she did in music.

And success would later find Ms Franklin after she signed with Atlantic Records in 1966. At the age of 16, Franklin went on tour with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and she would sing at his funeral in 1968. In 1961, Aretha had her first hit single with “Rock-a-Bye Your Baby.” Some of her other hits include, “Spirit in the Dark,” “I Never Loved a Man (The Way I Love You),” “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman,” and “I Say a Little Prayer.” She appeared in the 1980 film, *The Blues Brothers*. Her album, “A Rose is Still a Rose,” which featured the song by the same name, and produced by Lauryn Hill, was certified gold. Aretha won 18 Grammy Awards, snapping up the first eight awards given for Best Female R&B

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Dougald Lamont
Manitoba Liberal Leader
MLA St. Boniface



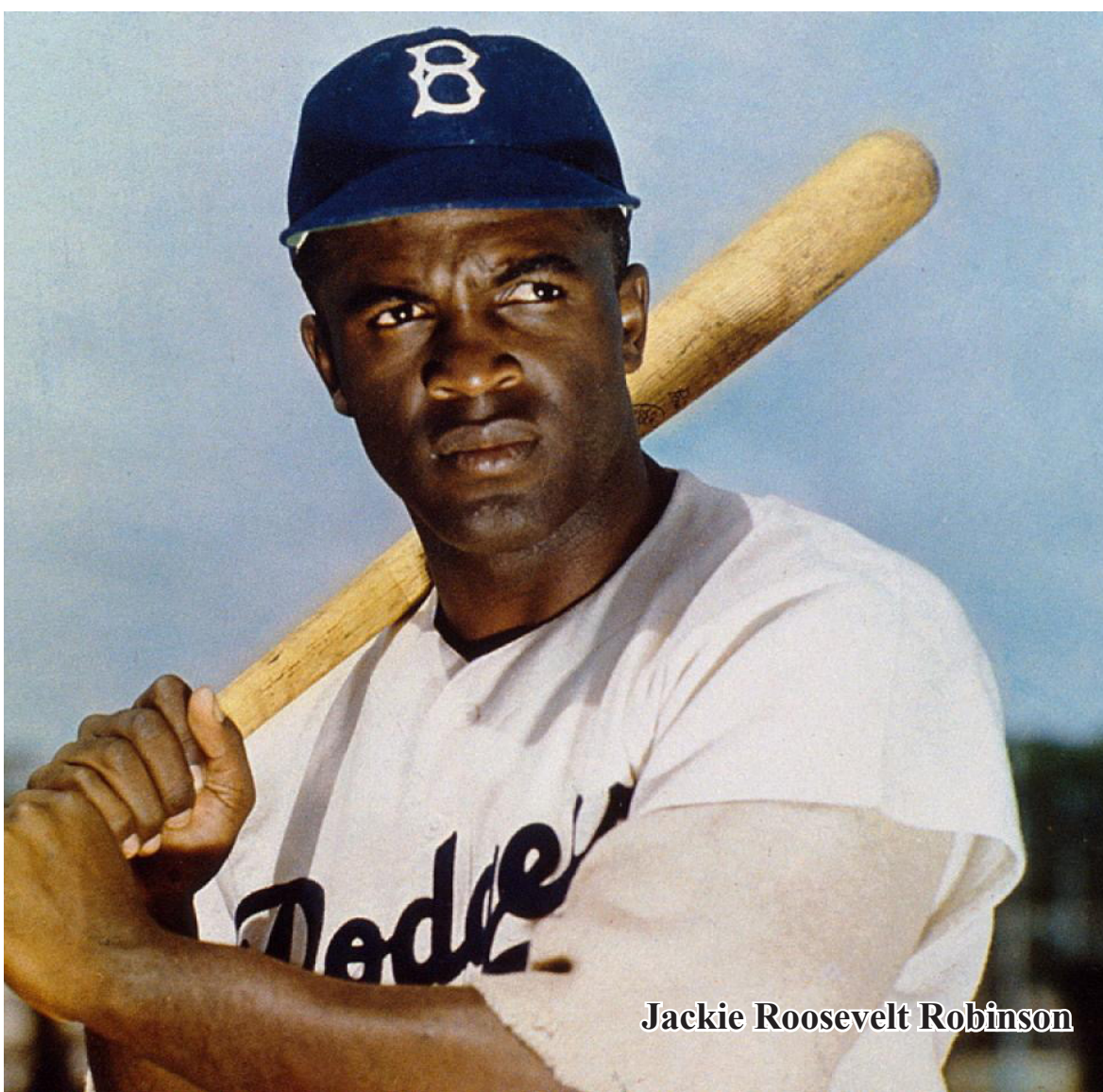
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Jackie Roosevelt Robinson

Sports Heroes Of The Civil Rights Movement.

There were many sportsmen who also contributed, in their own "little" way, to ending racism and discrimination in a racially segregated world. Jackie Robinson (N0. 42) is one of those men. Common, how can a Black man dream of playing Major League Baseball in a racially segregated America? But Jackie was no ordinary Black man. He had been in the US Army and was a long ways coming. Jackie had fought racism in the Army and had been honourably discharged after being court-martialled for refusing to go to the back of an Army

bus when ordered to do so by the driver. He wouldn't stop at dreaming, but actually took practical steps to actualize his dreams. If you only pray and dream, you can never get to your Eldorado. You also have to back it up with actions, and that was what this iconic Black figure did in baseball. Jackie's story is a perfect example of triumph over adversity, with him breaking the colour barrier, and by extension, racial segregation in all of professional sports in America. Through the sport of baseball, he demonstrated that one could excel and become a champion at what one does, in spite of the opposition. Little wonder, Jackie had 12 homers, 29

steals and a .297 average in just his rookie year alone, and will go on to become the national league's most valuable player, in 1949, winning the batting title with a .342 average. This is incredible for a player who wasn't even welcomed by fellow players because of his skin colour. His accomplishments in Baseball put him on the nation's map, and Jackie was called to testify before congress in 1949. Jackie Roosevelt Robinson contributed in no small measure to the culture of non-violence in the civil rights movement that was to follow. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962, and in 1967, the United States Postal Service honored him by having his image on a commemorative postage stamp. Jackie will forever be immortalized by the number 42, his jersey number. It was rested in his honour across all Major League Baseball teams in 1997. The NAACP honoured him with

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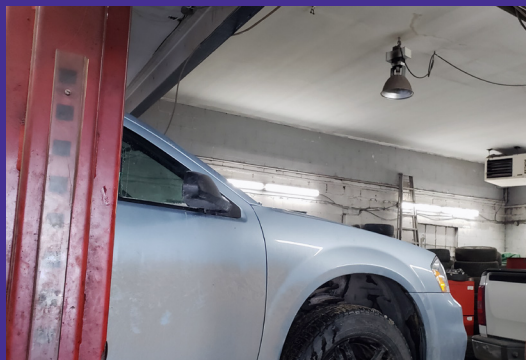
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Muhammad Ali

Ali - “The Greatest”

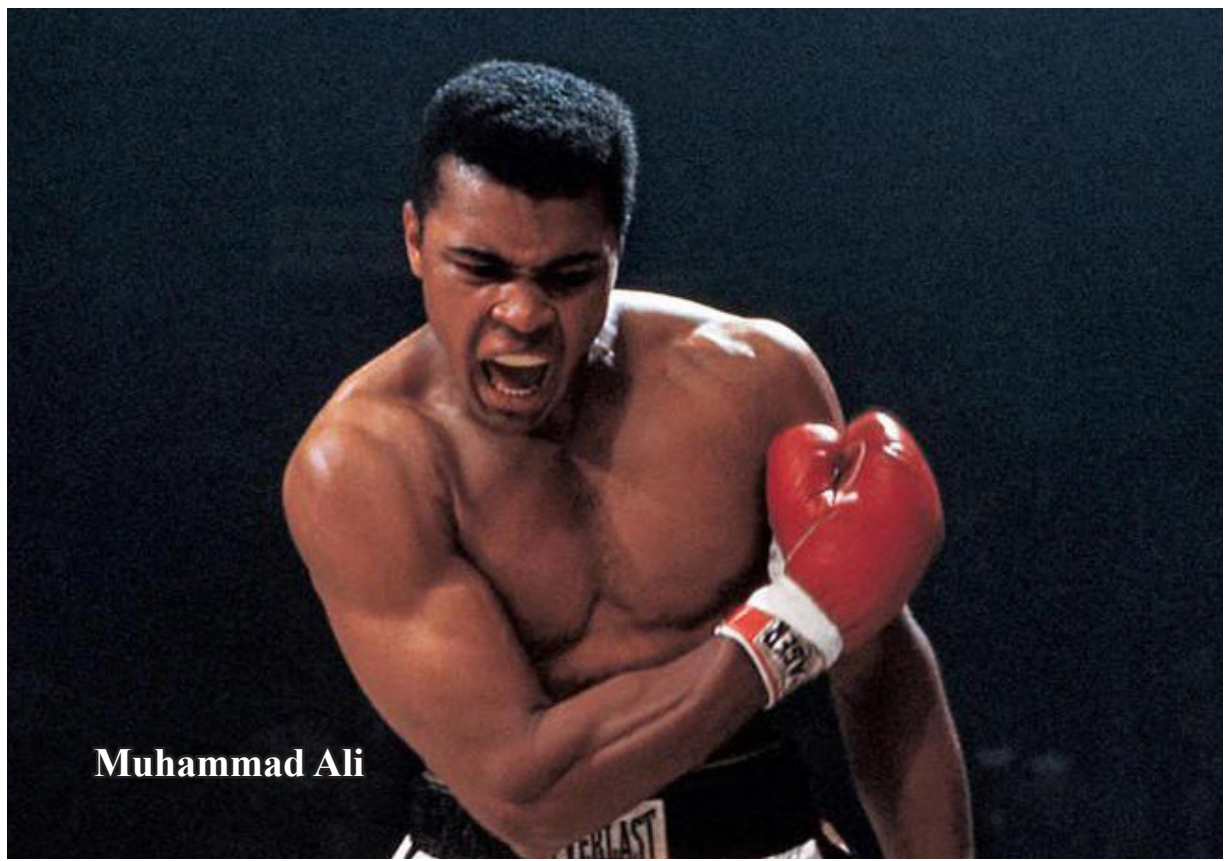
Mohammed Ali’s story is one of remarkable success. Born Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr., in 1942, Ali, as he was fondly called, was an activist, entertainer, philanthropist, poet, and, an outstanding Heavyweight boxing champion, who captivated the world at such a young age. Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Ali began boxing at age 12, and at 18, he captured the gold medal, at the 1960 Olympics held in Rome. And upon turning professional, four years later, he won the world heavyweight championship. Muhammad Ali always referred to himself as “The Greatest” even before he won his world titles, and contributed his quota in the fight against racism and segregation in America. Ali was a towering figure during the civil rights movement, pitching tent with Malcolm X who supported racial integration. In 1966, when America was in the heat of prosecuting the Vietnam War, Muhammad Ali refused to be drafted to fight against the Vietnamese, calling it a senseless war. He said he wasn’t going “to shoot and kill people who have done him no harm,” and was convicted of draft evasion, stripped of his boxing titles, in 1967, and banned from the sport he loved for about three and half years, much of his prime taken away. Ali would’ve spent 5 years in prison but for his appeal to the US Supreme Court. This was a man who fought for what he believed in, winning his case against the American government in a long drawn out legal war that culminated in his victory at the Supreme Court. And this would make Muhammad Ali “a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War (and) an icon for the larger counterculture generation” of his time. I personally see Muhammad Ali as one sent ahead of his time, a “sporting poet,” as I choose to call him. Ali is famous for his banter rhymes which he employed against opponents, in mind games, before fights. For example, before his duel with Archie Moore, Ali wrote on the chalkboard in his dressing room,

“ Archie’s been living off the fat of the land.

I’m here to give him his pension plan.

When you come to the fight don’t block the door.

‘Cause you’ll all go home after round four.”



Muhammad Ali

Such was Ali’s prowess both in and out of the ring. He possessed so much power inside the ring and backed it up with prophetic power outside of it. Before Ali faced Henry Cooper, he wrote, “If Cooper gives me jive, I’ll stop him in five.” Never was any man so prophetic in the boxing ring like Ali, who, by the way, is the only three-time lineal Heavyweight champion, winning 14 unified title bouts in the process. Just before Ali became famous, after the shocking upset of reigning champion, Sunny Liston, Ali churned out a beautiful line of poetry that has come to define his boxing style in the eyes of pundits. Many youths may not know who Muhammad Ali is but they can sure quote his most popular poetic rhyme: “Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. His hands can’t hit what his eyes can’t see.” As a prized fighter, Muhammad Ali was ranked “World’s Best Heavyweight,” by BoxRec, a whopping twelve times, named The Ring magazine “Fighter of the Year,” six times, and “The Greatest Heavyweight Boxer of all time,” and “The Greatest Athlete of the 20th Century” by Sports Illustrated. Ali was also instrumental to the rise of pay per view tv as his notable fights with Joe Frazier, (Thrilla in Manila) and George Foreman (The Rumble in the Jungle) became Fights of the

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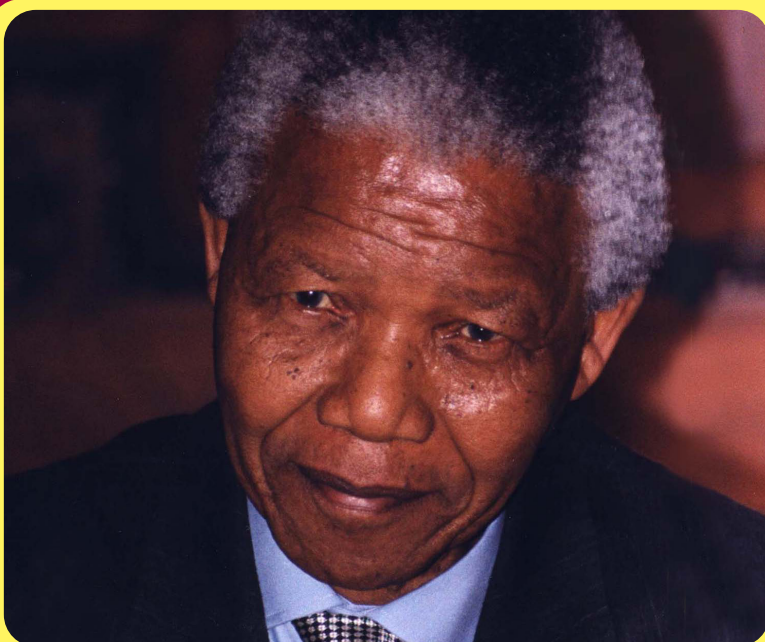
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“Sports has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sports can create hope where there was only despair.” - Nelson Mandela

UEFA Champions League

Jets on the rise again.

Feb 4

Flames 1
Jets 4

Feb 11

Senators 1
Jets 5

Feb 15

Jets 6
Oilers 5

Kamaru Usman

“The Nigerian Nightmare”

UEFA Champions League

February 16th

Leipzig vs Liverpool

Barcelona vs PSG

February 17th

Sevilla vs Dortmund

Porto vs Juventus

February 23rd

Atletico vs Chelsea

Lazio vs Bayern

February 24th

Atalanta vs Real Madrid

Gladbach vs Man City

Usman Retains Title

Last weekend saw the much anticipated welterweight title bout, between Kamaru Usman and Gilbert Burns, finally take place, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The fight which had been put on hold as a result of Burns testing positive for Covid-19, back in July, was allowed to proceed after Burns was finally cleared to fight by the Nevada Athletic Commission. However, “The Nigerian Nightmare,” Kamaru Usman, defeated the Brazilian by knockout, after just three of the scheduled five round match. It was a little surprising to see both fighters prefer the stand up game, giving that both are grapplers. Burns is a three-time Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu World Champion; Usman, a former NCAA Division II wrestling champion at 174 lbs. Usman who retained his welterweight crown on the night, and now 18-1, is unbeaten in his last 17 fights. If you recall, the UFC had quickly drafted Jorge Masvidal, who holds the fastest knockout in UFC history, at five seconds, to fill in for Burns, but Gamebred was unable to dethrone the Nigerian Nightmare, even on six days notice, going the distance against the champion. It will be recalled that Usman won the title in a one-sided

showdown against former champion, Woodley, and has since successfully defended the crown against Colby Covington and Jorge Masvidal. Usman has also beaten the likes of Leon Edwards, Rafael dos Anjos, and Demian Maia. In another development, the UFC middle-weight champion, Israel Adesanya, will look to dethrone the new light-heavyweight champion, Jan Blachowicz, at UFC 259, which comes up March 6th, at UFC Apex, in Las Vegas Nevada.

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