

American History Cards: BLACK HEROES

DIRECTIONS: Cut out the cards on pages 1-7 as a starting point for learning about each of these influential African American thinkers, leaders, scientists, innovators, and artists.

Print on cardstock for more durable cards.

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**



b. 1929
d. 1968

Civil rights activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner who used peaceful civil disobedience as a form of protest

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
DANIEL HALE WILLIAMS**



b. 1858
d. 1931

Cardiologist who performed the first successful open-heart surgery

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
HARRIET TUBMAN**



b. 1820*
d. 1913

Abolitionist who led over 300 people to freedom using the Underground Railroad

* approximate

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
JACK JOHNSON**



b. 1878
d. 1946

First African American world heavyweight boxing champion

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
DEFORD BAILEY**



b. 1899
d. 1982

Harmonica player who was the first person to perform on the Grand Ole Opry stage and radio show

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
REGINA BENJAMIN**



b. 1956

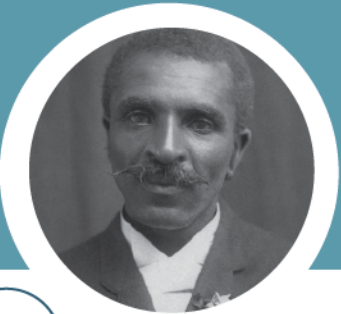
Respected doctor appointed as the 18th Surgeon General of the United States in 2009



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KEEP GOING! Cut out the cards below to start learning about these influential individuals.

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER**



b. 1864
d. 1943

Botanist whose research proved the benefits of crop rotation for both humans and depleted soil

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
BESSIE COLEMAN**



b. 1892
d. 1926

Aviator who was the first African American pilot to hold an international pilot's license

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
GARRETT MORGAN**



b. 1877
d. 1963

Inventor of the three-position traffic signal and the gas mask

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
MALCOLM X**



b. 1925
d. 1965

Human rights activist who created the Organization of Afro-American Unity

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
JANE BOLIN**



b. 1908
d. 2007

First African American woman to graduate from Yale Law School and the first to serve as a judge in the United States

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
ROY WILKINS**



b. 1901
d. 1981

Clergyman and civil rights activist and one of the founders of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights



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**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
IDA B. WELLS**



b. 1862
d. 1931

Journalist and human rights activist who helped found the NAACP

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
THURGOOD MARSHALL**



b. 1908
d. 1993

Lawyer who won the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* case and was the first African American justice on the Supreme Court

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
ELLA FITZGERALD**



b. 1917
d. 1996

Jazz singer who was the first African American musician to win a Grammy award

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
JESSE JACKSON**



b. 1941

Clergyman and civil rights activist who founded PUSH and the Rainbow Coalition

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
BLANCHE BRUCE**



b. 1841
d. 1898

First African American statesman to preside over the U.S. Senate

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
NAT KING COLE**



b. 1919
d. 1965

First African American performer to host a television variety show



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**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
HIRAM RHODES REVELS**



b. 1827
d. 1901

Clergyman who was the first African American Senator

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
MAYA ANGELOU**



b. 1928
d. 2014

Author and poet who was the first African American woman to have a nonfiction work make the bestseller list

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE**



b. 1875
d. 1955

Civil rights activist and educator who founded the National Council of Negro Women

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
ALVIN AILEY**



b. 1931
d. 1989

Choreographer and founder of the world-famous Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON**



b. 1856
d. 1915

Educator and reformer who was the first president of Tuskegee University

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
HENRY O. FLIPPER**



b. 1856
d. 1940

First African American graduate of West Point Academy and the first African American commander in the U.S. Army



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**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
ARTHUR ASHE**



b. 1943
d. 1993

Professional tennis player who was the first African American man to win the U.S. Open

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
JACKIE ROBINSON**



b. 1919
d. 1972

Baseball player who was the first African American Major League Baseball player of the modern era

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
MADAM C.J. WALKER**



b. 1867
d. 1919

Entrepreneur, social activist, and philanthropist who became the first female self-made millionaire in America

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
W.E.B. DU BOIS**



b. 1868
d. 1963

Civil rights activist and author who helped found the NAACP

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
HALLE BERRY**



b. 1966

First African American woman to win an Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
HENRY OSSAWA TANNER**









b. 1859
d. 1937

First African American artist to have a painting enter the permanent collection of the White House

Image credit Gage Skidmore

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<p>BLACK AMERICAN HEROES: GEORGE CARRUTHERS</p>  <p>b. 1939 d. 2020 Inventor and physicist who developed the first moon-based space observatory: an ultraviolet camera for Apollo 16</p>	<p>BLACK AMERICAN HEROES: BEN CARSON</p>  <p>b. 1951 Neurosurgeon who led the first successful operation to separate a pair of conjoined twin infants</p>	<p>BLACK AMERICAN HEROES: SHIRLEY CHISHOLM</p>  <p>b. 1924 d. 2005 Educator and politician who was the first woman to run for the Democratic presidential nomination</p>
<p>BLACK AMERICAN HEROES: BAYARD RUSTIN</p>  <p>b. 1927 d. 1987 Human rights activist, strategist, and pacifist who was a key organizer of the 1963 March on Washington</p>	<p>BLACK AMERICAN HEROES: MARIAN ANDERSON</p>  <p>b. 1897 d. 1993 Contralto singer who was the first African American vocalist to sing at the Metropolitan Opera House</p>	<p>BLACK AMERICAN HEROES: JOHN LEWIS</p>  <p>b. 1940 d. 2020 U.S. Congressman and civil rights activist who was one of the original 13 Freedom Riders</p>



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**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
CORETTA SCOTT KING**



b. 1927
d. 2006

Human rights activist who founded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
BARACK OBAMA**



b. 1961

First African American President of the United States

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
RALPH BUNCHE**



b. 1904
d. 1971

Political scientist and diplomat who was the first African American person to win the Nobel Peace Prize

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
ARETHA FRANKLIN**



b. 1942
d. 2018

Singer who was the first female artist inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
SOJOURNER TRUTH**



b. 1797
d. 1883

Abolitionist and women's rights activist who was one of the first African American women to win a lawsuit against a white man

**BLACK AMERICAN HEROES:
MARY CHURCH TERRELL**



b. 1863
d. 1954

Activist and co-founder of both the National Association of Colored Women and the NAACP

