

Black History Month

Jackie Robinson was the first African American to play major league baseball in the 20th century.

Charles Drew was a doctor. He created the first large blood bank during World War II.

Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery. She then led many more slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Toni Morrison is a writer and editor. She was the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize in literature.

In 2008, Barack Obama became the first African American president of the United States.

W.E.B. DuBois was a scholar who co-founded the NAACP in 1909.

Alvin Ailey started a modern dance company in 1958. It has performed for millions of people around the world.

Katherine G. Johnson solved hard math problems at NASA. Her work helped put astronauts into space.

George Washington Carver was a scientist. He is most famous for creating over 100 inventions based on the peanut.

In 1955, Marian Anderson became the first African American to sing with the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus. This led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped stop segregation.

Thurgood Marshall was the first African American justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Jesse Owens was a record-breaking athlete. He won four gold medals in track and field in the 1936 Olympics.

Ralph Bunche helped form the United Nations in the 1940s. He was the first African American to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1951, Althea Gibson was the first African American tennis player to compete at Wimbledon. She was also the first African American woman ever to compete on the professional golf tour.

Frederick Douglass was an author and human rights leader in the 19th century. He was the first African American to hold a high position in the U.S. government.