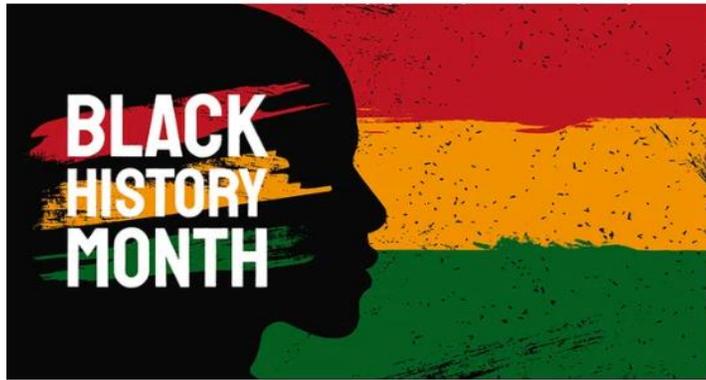


National Black History Month



Black History Month, also known as African American History Month, begins on **February 1st** and lasts throughout the month.

We celebrate Black History Month to honor the long historical achievements and contributions of African Americans. It began almost 100 years ago and lasted for a week. Slowly, it became a month-long celebration to honor the influence of black culture across the globe.

History of Black History Month

Also called African American Heritage Month, this event started as a week-long celebration known as "Negro History Week" in 1926. Carter G. Woodson, a prominent African American historian, launched this initiative to emphasize the significant contributions of African Americans to U.S. history, which were often overlooked.

A week in February was chosen to honor the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, both influential figures in the fight against slavery.

In 1976, during the United States bicentennial, the celebration expanded to a month. This change allowed more time for educational activities and events to highlight African American achievements and culture.

Since then, every **president has endorsed** February as Black History Month. This month-long observance encourages schools, communities, and institutions to organize events and share knowledge about African American history.

Black History Month recognizes and honors the rich cultural heritage and **contributions of African Americans**. It provides an opportunity for reflection, education, and celebration of the diverse stories and accomplishments that shape American history.

This month helps to ensure that the legacies of African American leaders, artists, and activists continue to inspire future generations.

February 12th – Nancy Downs
February 21st --- Eva Mae Henry

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Why is Black History Month in February?

It all began in 1926 when Carter G. Woodson graduated with a Ph.D. from Harvard. He was an African American historian and he started black history week which was then known as the Negro History Week to throw light on the lives, achievements, and contributions of Black Americans and represent them openly in the White society.

The Negro History Week became a month-long celebration in 1976 under the rule of President Gerald Ford. Carter G. Woodson chose the month of February to pay tribute to President Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass as both of them were born in the same month.

February Observances & Fun Facts

February 2025 is Observed as	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Black History Month ▶ American Heart Month
Feb. Birthstone	Amethyst
Fruit & Veggies for the Month of February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Oranges ▶ Star Fruit ▶ Calabaza Squash ▶ Chayote Squash ▶ Bitter Melon
February Flower	Violet
Feb. Astrological Sign	Aquarius (till 18th) & Pisces (19th→)
Proclamations and Notable February Observances	▶ Feb 7: National Wear Red Day