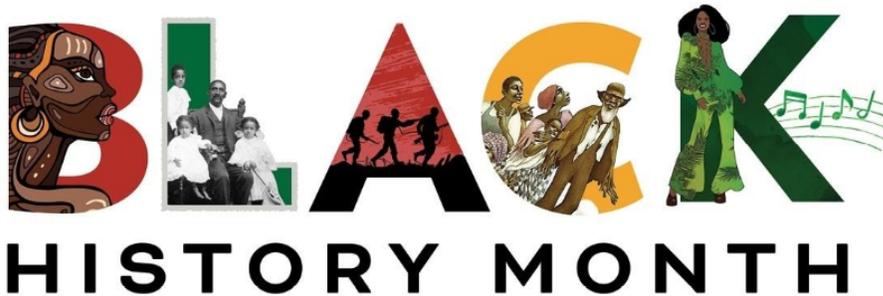


Black History Month



cityofsouthfield.com

What is Black History Month?

This month is a yearly celebration of achievements by Black Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history.

Black History month has expanded from a week of recognition that began in 1926. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Feb 14) and Fredrick Douglass (Feb 12).

Every year a theme is chosen for Black History month. This years theme is "Black Health and Wellness".

1

DID YOU KNOW?

Black History Month is celebrated in the US, Canada and Germany during February but, in Ireland and the UK it is celebrated in October.

2

1976

President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month, as a time to honor the accomplishments of Black Americans.

3

TODAY

47.5 million Americans identify as Black. It wasn't until 1986 Congress passed a law to observe Black History Month nationally.



freethought-trail.org

LOCALLY:

Take a self-guided tour of sites around Rochester significant to the life and work of Frederick Douglass

<http://www.douglasstour.com/tour/>

DOWNLOAD:

The Rochester African American Heritage and Historical Culture Guide.

<https://www.visitrochester.com/things-to-do/history/african-american-heritage/>

SUPPORT:

Black owned Businesses in the Rochester Area.

<https://www.bobrochester.co>

Influential Black Americans

Malik Evans - He is a politician and banker who is now the 71st Mayor of Rochester, New York. He previously served on the Rochester City Council and is a former Board of Education President for the Rochester City School District.

Samra Brouk - Politician and Rochester native, she represents the 55th district of the New York State Senate.

Garth Fagan - Choreographer, Educator, Founder & Artistic Director of Garth Fagan Dance. He is known around the world for his groundbreaking choreography of Broadway's The Lion King, Garth Fagan is widely acknowledged as one of the most dynamic and original artists working in the field today.

Assemblyman David F. Gantt - A long-time political figure in Rochester and Albany, Gantt was the first Black man from Monroe County to be elected to hold state office.

Karen Bailey Turner - First Black individual to be sworn in as a Monroe County Court judge.

Victor J. Glover, Jr. - First Black astronaut to live and work at the International Space Station for an extended stay.

Amanda Gorman - Youngest inaugural poet in U.S. history.

Tina Sloan Green - She was the first African American to play for the United States women's national field hockey team from 1969 to 1973. She was also a women's lacrosse head coach of the Temple Owls from 1975 to 1992.

Cynthia "Cynt" Marshall - First Black woman CEO in the NBA.

Melody Hobson - First Black woman to serve as chair of Starbucks board.

Sydney Barber - U.S. Naval Academy's first Black female brigade commander.

Jesse Collins - First Black executive producer of the Super Bowl halftime show.

Nia DaCosta - First Black woman to direct a Marvel film.

Jason Wright - First Black president of a National Football League team.

Kellie McNair - First Black Principal at Cobbles and in the Penfield Central School District.

Looking to try something new?

Watch your email for the Cobbles Comment featuring a list of Black owned restaurants in the Rochester area!

DIG DEEPER



Watch: Family Movie Night Celebrating Black Leaders on PBS Kids. February 4th at 7pm



Watch: WXXI Black history and Programming



Visit: Strong Museum of Play Black History Month Programming



Read: Children's Books with Strong Black Characters



Explore: BrainPOP Resources for Black History Month



wxxi.org

Image from Xavier Riddle episode "I am Thurgood Marshall"