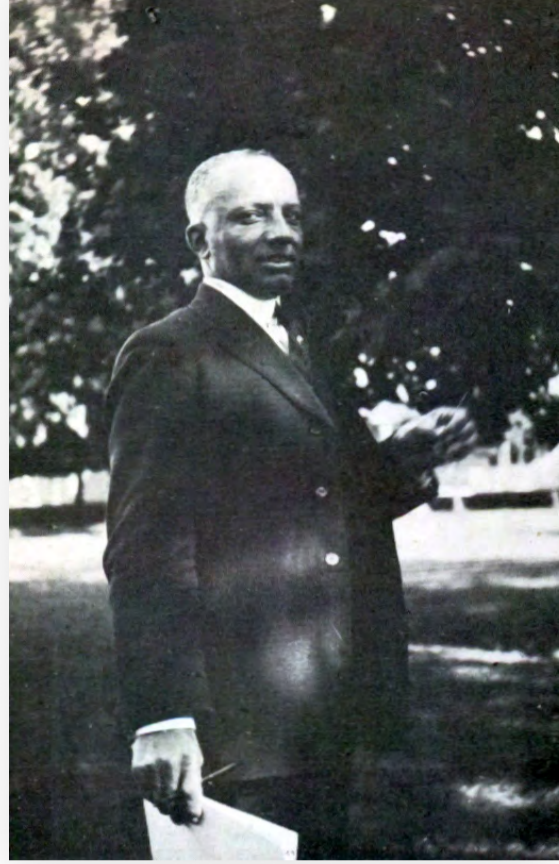


Black History Month

As part of our passionate commitment to building an inclusive future for our communities, The Adecco Group proudly celebrates the contributions, achievements, heritage and culture of African Americans during Black History Month and throughout the year.

To foster a culture of belonging and purpose, we're offering this downloadable resource on our Diversity and Inclusion resource page. Here, you can learn more about the origins of Black History Month, as well as ways to appreciate Black music, literature and entrepreneurship during this month and beyond.

Black History Month: How It Started



What started out as one week dedicated to the contributions and celebration of African American's by Carter G. Woodson in 1926, expanded into one month starting in 1976. Woodson chose the month of February because it housed the birthdays of two men -Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln- who greatly influenced the history of the Black American culture.

For more information on the observance of Black History Month (also known as National African American History Month), please refer to the links provided below:

- [Origins of Black History Month](#)
- [African American History Month](#)
- [The Continuing Importance of Black History Month](#)

The Black American Music Experience

African American influence permeates every facet of our lives and culture throughout history, and music is no exception. Much of the struggle and triumph from Black Americans has been continuously chronicled through music. We present this curated playlist of artists, from sacred music to hip hop and rap, who have made a long-lasting impression throughout different genres and periods in history.

Feel free to add them to your preferred listening venue to get a taste of the musical influences and impact that has transcended time.



- 1 "Lift Every Voice and Sing": Melinda Doolittle
- 2 "Mary, Don't You Weep": Aretha Franklin
- 3 "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child": Paul Robeson
- 4 "The Fox": Odetta
- 5 "Freedom Highway": Rhiannon Giddens
- 6 "Three O'Clock Blues": B.B. King
- 7 "Been Here Before": Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
- 8 "Dream A Little Dream of Me": Ella Fitzgerald, Count Basie
- 9 "I Know You Know": Esperanza Spalding
- 10 "Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud": James Brown
- 11 "Thriller": Michael Jackson
- 12 "Black Parade": Beyoncé
- 13 "Glory: Common": John Legend
- 14 "Tutti Frutti": Little Richard
- 15 "Are You Gonna Go My Way": Lenny Kravitz

Black Americans in Literature

African American writers and thinkers have written countless books, novels, plays, poems and essays, many of which have become unforgettable testaments to Black perspectives and resilience through the decades. From examining the institution of slavery to the intricacies of navigating life as a Black individual, this list recounts many moments of the Black experience.



James Baldwin, photographed by Carl Van Vechten, 1955



President Barack Obama presenting Maya Angelou with the Presidential Medal of Freedom



Zora Neale Hurston

- 1 **Notes of a Native Son:** James Baldwin
- 2 **Song of Solomon:** Toni Morrison
- 3 **Homegoing:** Yaa Gyasi
- 4 **Their Eyes Were Watching God:** Zora Neale Hurston
- 5 **Brown Girl, Brownstones:** Paule Marshall
- 6 **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings:** Maya Angelou
- 7 **Between the World and Me:** Ta-Nehisi Coates
- 8 **Kindred:** Octavia Butler
- 9 **The Hate U Give:** Angie Thomas
- 10 **Citizen: An American Lyric:** Claudia Rankine
- 11 **The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness:** Michelle Alexander
- 12 **Not Without Laughter:** Langston Hughes
- 13 **Children of Blood and Bone:** Tomi Adeyemi
- 14 **The Light of the World: A Memoir:** Elisabeth Alexander
- 15 **What I Know For Sure:** Oprah Winfrey

Black Owned Businesses

One way to support the Black community during Black History Month is to shop Black-owned businesses. Your support creates lasting change and can help offset the devastating economic impact of the pandemic. We have included a list of companies and databases below to encourage you to shop Black:

Marketplaces & Platforms

- [WeBuyBlack](#)
- [Support Black Owned](#)
- [Official Black Wall Street](#)

Clothing & Accessories

- [Coco and Breezy](#)
- [Local European](#)
- [Zou Xou](#)

Beauty

- [Briogeo](#)
- [Curlbox](#)
- [Lauren Napier Beauty](#)

Fitness

- [Black Girls Run](#)
- [Ailey Extension](#)
- [Body Space Fitness](#)