

South Carolina  
**AFRICAN  
AMERICAN**  
History Calendar

2013

Presented by





# DEAR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS AND FRIENDS,

Each year, we at AT&T look forward to presenting the African American History Calendar, for it celebrates the lives and experiences of extraordinary South Carolinians and the pride we have in our great state. This year is no exception.

In the following pages, you will meet 13 men and women from the Upstate to the Lowcountry who have helped define who we are as South Carolinians. They represent a wide array of endeavors, including government and military service, education, performing and fine arts, business, community activism and athletics. Each has helped weave the fabric of South Carolina.

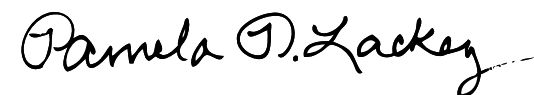
Like its predecessors, the 2013 African American History Calendar is dedicated to honoring the achievements of African Americans with South Carolina roots. Originally conceived as a tool to assist the State Department of Education in meeting the statutory requirement to include African American history in the curriculum, the Calendar has become a virtual Hall of Fame, combining recognition with education.

Each year, the Calendar is accessed online by thousands worldwide, spreading the benefits far beyond local classrooms and reflecting how advanced technology is reshaping our world. That's why AT&T continues to invest in bringing wireless broadband and other advanced services to South Carolina, opening doors to education, jobs and new opportunities.

Our community partners have been invaluable in the Calendar's success and we appreciate their continuing commitment and support in this 24th annual edition.

The 2013 African American History Calendar honorees are inspirations for us all. They recognized needs and opportunities, set lofty goals and committed themselves to achieving their dreams. Along the way, they overcame adversity, personified excellence and touched countless lives and communities. This Calendar is a celebration of their spirit, dedication and courage. It is also a tribute from a grateful State.

We hope you will enjoy and be moved by their stories, as we have been.



**Pamela P. Lackey**

President, AT&T South Carolina



# RESOURCES

Abraham, Henry J. and Perry, Barbara A.  
Freedom and the Court – Civil Rights and  
Liberties in the United States (1994)

Ayazi-Hashjin, Sherry  
Rap and Hip Hop:  
The Voice of a Generation (1999)

Baker, Augusta  
The Black Experience in Children's Books (1971)

Baker, Augusta and Greene, Ellin  
Storytelling: Art and Technique (1987)

Collier-Thomas, Bettye and Franklin, V.P.  
My Soul Is a Witness: A Chronology of the Civil  
Rights Era, 1954-1965 (2000)

Flanders, Julie  
The Story of Music: Gospel, Blues and Jazz (2001)

Gardner, Michael R.  
Harry Truman and Civil Rights:  
Moral Courage (2002)

Gates, Jr., Henry Louis  
African American Lives (2004)

Hopkinson, Deborah  
The Band of Angels (1999)

Igus, Toyomi  
I See the Rhythm (1998)

Joynson, Sandra E.  
Standing on Holy Ground (2003)

Kelley, Robin D. G.  
Freedom Dreams:  
The Black Radical Imagination (2003)

Marable, Manning  
Black Leadership in the 20th Century (1998)

McFadden, Grace Jordan  
The Oral Recollections of Black South Carolinians  
Videotape Series,  
University of South Carolina:  
Instructional Services Center (1980)

McGill, Alice  
In the Hollow of Your Hand: Slave Lullabies (2000)

New York Public Library – The Schomburg Center  
African American Desk Reference (2002)

Ochiai, Akiko  
Harvesting Freedom:  
African American Agrarianism in Civil War Era  
South Carolina (2004)

Painter, Nell Irvin  
Southern History: Across the Color Line (2001)

Payne, Charles M. and Green, Adam  
Time Longer Than Rope: A Century of African  
American Activism 1850-1950 (2003)

Rollins, Charlemae H.  
Christmas Gif': An Anthology of Christmas  
Poems, Songs, and Stories,  
Written By and About African-Americans (1993)

South Carolina Arts Commission  
South Carolina Shared Traditions:  
15 Years of the Jean Laney Harris Folk  
Heritage Awards (2002)

South Carolina Arts Commission  
Traditional Music from the South Carolina  
National Heritage Corridor (2002)  
To request a copy, contact Craig Stinson at  
CStinson@arts.state.sc.us

South Carolina ETV  
Gullah Traditions: Fa De Chillun (1994)  
Palmetto Special: Gullah Culture (1990)  
Tales from the Land of Gullah For Kids (1999)

Weatherford, Carole Boston  
The Sound That Jazz Makes (2000)

Williams, Juan  
This Far by Faith: Stories from  
the African American Experience (2003)

Williams, Sharon  
Imani's Music (2002)

Scan to learn more about our honorees.





# SENATOR RALPH ANDERSON

State Senator

The Honorable Ralph Anderson, a long-time public servant, began his career with the United States Postal Service in the Greenville Postal Office. He was a dedicated employee and he worked hard to become Postmaster Level 20 in Clemson, S.C., and Postmaster Level 21 in Greer, S.C., where he retired after 31 years of service. He honorably served his country in the U.S. Army as a Noncommissioned Officer.

Senator Anderson represented the citizens of District 7 in Greenville County with consistent integrity in the S.C. Senate for 16 years and 5 years of service in the S.C. House of Representatives, for a total of 21 years as a legislator.

One of Senator Anderson's most important pieces of legislation was S.1318, the Hospital Infections Disclosure Act, which has saved many lives and health care dollars in South Carolina, while improving the quality of life for the citizens of South Carolina.

He has worked hard to improve the quality of education in South Carolina. In 2011, he received the S.C. Education Association's Friend of Education Award. He also received the Southern Health Association Outstanding Legislator of the Year Award for his commitment to improving the quality of life as it relates to public health in South Carolina. He has rendered service to numerous worthy organizations including service as a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Greenville Civil Service Commission, and Greenville Branch NAACP, the Phyllis Wheatley Board of Directors, the Appalachian Council of Governments, Senior Action Greenville County, Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources, Community Planning Council, BB&T Greenville Regional Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees for St. Anthony's Catholic School in Greenville. He is a Third Degree Mason.

Senator Anderson is married to Geraldine Lewis Anderson and they have three children, Valerie, Ralph, and Joel, and ten grandchildren.



# JANUARY

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN

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Calendar

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Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>  Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863	2  William Lloyd Garrison began publishing <i>The Liberator</i> , an abolitionist newspaper, in 1831	3  Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was elected chairperson of the House Committee on Education and Labor in 1961	4  Grace Bumbry, opera singer, was born in 1937	5  Freedom Rides began in 1961
6  The World Slavery Convention opened in London, 1831  John Birks 'Dizzy' Gillespie, famed musician, died in 1993	7  Maria Anderson made her debut in the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955	8  Fannie M. Jackson, first African American woman college graduate in the US, born in 1836.  Butterfly McQueen, actress, born in 1911	9  Fisk University established in 1866	10  Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957	11  Charles W. Anderson becomes first African American member of the Kentucky Legislature in 1936	12  Dancer Martha Graham was born in 1854
13  Don Barksdale became the first African American person to play in an NBA All-Star Game in 1954	14  John Oliver Killens, novelist, was born in 1916	15  Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in 1929	16  Jefferson Franklin Long took an oath of office as first African American Congressman from Georgia, 1871	17  Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) born in 1942	18  Robert C. Weaver became first African American president cabinet member in 1966	19  Reggie Jackson, baseball player, was born in 1946
20  Barack Obama sworn in as the first African American President in 2009  Barbara Jordan, congresswoman, born in 1936	21 <b>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY</b>  William Bron Chapell, pioneer, was born in 1906	22  Nat Turner, leader of the Virginia slave revolt, was born in 1800	23  Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, pioneer in surgery, founded Provident Hospital in Chicago, IL, in 1889	24  Coach Clarence 'Big House' Gaines won record 800th college basketball game in 1990	25  Sojourner Truth addressed the first Black Women's Rights Convention, 1851	26  Bessie Coleman, first African American aviator, born in 1893  Angela Davis, activist, born in 1944
27  Leontyne Price, world-renowned opera singer, made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera House in 1961	28  Astronaut Ronald McNair died in Challenger explosion in 1986	29  Oprah Winfrey was born in 1954	30  William Wells Brown, novelist and dramatist, published first Black drama, <i>Leap to Freedom</i> , 1858	31  Jackie Robinson, first African American baseball player in the major leagues, was born in 1919		



# FIRST LIEUTENANT LEROY BOWMAN

Tuskegee Airman  
and Educator

Leroy Bowman, an original Tuskegee Airman, is a native of Sumter, South Carolina. He attended public schools in Sumter and graduated from high school in 1940. 1st Lt. Bowman entered the United States Army in September 1941.

In December 1941, he was assigned to the 76th Coast Artillery Unit in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. With this unit, he traveled to Los Angeles, California and remained there until the unit embarked to the South Pacific. After being aboard the ship for four days, he was ordered off the ship and returned to shore where he remained on temporary assignment in Wilmington, California, until reporting for aviation cadet training at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama. There he received flight training in the PT-17, BT-13, and AT-6. On March 25, 1943, he graduated with Class 43-C as a second lieutenant and a single engine fighter pilot in the Army Air Corps. He is one of the 994 black military aviators who trained at an isolated and segregated training complex near the town of Tuskegee, Alabama, and at Tuskegee Institute.

As a fighter pilot in the 332nd Fighter Group (Red Tail Angels), 1st Lt. Bowman flew thirty-six combat missions against the German Luftwaffe, escorting American bombers to and from their targets.

After the war, 1st Lt. Bowman earned degrees from Morris College in Sumter and Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. Lt. Bowman worked as a teacher, a principal and as administrator for curriculum and attendance in the Union Free School District #9, Wyandanch Long Island, New York. He retired from the New York School System in 1986 and returned to Sumter.

On February 23, 2006 Tuskegee University, recognized 1st Lt. Bowman outstanding achievements by awarding him an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Public Service.

On March 29, 2007, then President George Bush presented the Congressional Gold Medal Award to the Original Tuskegee Airmen. 1st Lt. Bowman was among the 300 Original Tuskegee Airmen present to receive the Award in the Capitol Rotunda, Washington, DC.

On May 9, 2009 Morris College, recognized 1st Lt. Bowman contributions to society by awarding him an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Humane Letters.

He's married to the former Mildred Watson of Loris, SC. They have two adult children.




# FEBRUARY

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					1  Langston Hughes was born in 1902	2 <b>GROUNDHOG DAY</b>  Ernest E. Just, biologist, received the Spingarn Medal for pioneering research on fertilization and cell division, 1914
3  Geraldine McCullough won the Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture in 1965	4  Rosa Parks was born in 1913	5  Henry "Hank" Aaron, the home run king of major league baseball, was born in 1934	6  Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870	7  Eubie Blake, pianist, was born in 1883	8  Oprah Winfrey became the first African American woman to host a nationally syndicated talk show in 1986	9  In 1995 Bernard Harris became the first African American astronaut to take a spacewalk
10  Roberta Flack, singer, was born in 1940	11  Clifford Alexander, Jr., became the first African American Secretary of the Army in 1977	12 <b>MARDI GRAS</b>  Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809  Congress enacted the first fugitive slave law in 1793	13 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>  Joseph L. Searles became the first African American member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1970	14 <b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b>  Frederick Douglass was born in 1817	15  Henry Lewis was named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968	16  Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970
17  Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963	18 <b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b>  Author Toni Morrison (born Chloe Anthony Wofford) was born in 1931	19  William "Smokey" Robinson was born in 1940	20  Frederick Douglass died in 1895	21  Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965	22  George Washington was born in 1732  Julius Winfield "Dr. J" Erving was born in 1950	23  W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868
24  In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first African American woman to receive an M.D. degree	25  Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964	26  Singer "Fats" Domino was born in 1928	27  Marian Anderson, opera singer, was born in 1902	28  Hattie McDaniel became the first African American to win an Oscar for her role as Mammy in <i>Gone With The Wind</i> in 1940		



# GWENDOLYN BRADLEY

International Opera Singer

Little did Gwendolyn Bradley's grandparents know that their little granddaughter crying all day long next to them in the summer fields they tended would one day use that developing lung power to entertain thousands as she sang in opera theaters around the world. Her parents, public school educators, involved in the civil rights movement at the time, played a recording of Leontyne Price singing "We Shall Overcome." Imitating those tones, they knew she had a gift.

Ms. Bradley, of Bishopville, South Carolina, was recognized by her high school music teacher, in Hartsville, at an early age, to have a remarkable voice, and Ms. Bradley received voice lessons at Coker College. She received further classical training at North Carolina School of the Arts, (B. Mus.), Curtis School of Music in Philadelphia and the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia.

A finalist in the National Metropolitan Opera Competition, and as the youngest singer on the roster, she made her MET debut in 1981 as the Nightingale in "L'Enfant et les sortilèges." For nine seasons the coloratura soprano was heard in leading roles such as Gilda, in "Rigoletto", Blonchen in "Entführung", and Zerbinetta in "Ariadne". She also appeared as the mechanical doll Olympia in "Tales of Hoffman," which was aired on a PBS special broadcast. Renowned conductors such as James Levine, Riccardo Muti, Loren Maazel and Frübeck de Burgos helped to shape Ms. Bradley's talent into one that was in demand in America and Europe.

Performing on European stages, she found an artistic home at the Deutsche Oper Berlin, becoming one of their leading international stars. A versatile artist, Ms. Bradley's recitals were anticipated throughout Europe and United States, from New York's Carnegie Hall to Warsaw to Tokyo. *The New York Times* described her voice as having a "distinctly radiant timbre." Ms. Bradley was honored to perform in audience for Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain, and the queens of Spain and Sweden, always proud to claim South Carolina as her roots.

Ms. Bradley continues to share her knowledge and expertise with young artists. She teaches at Nyack College and the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, NY.





# MARCH

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					1  Writer Ralph Ellison was born in 1914	2  NBA star, Karl "The Mailman" Malone was born in 1954
3  AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867	4  Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966	5  William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937	6  Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer, was born in 1934	7  Slavery abolished in New York in 1799	8  Pearl Bailey was born in 1918	9  Freedom's Journal founded in 1827
10 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS</b>  Jackie Robinson made his professional baseball debut with the Montreal Royals in 1946	11  Charlie Pride, country singer, was born in 1938	12  Nat King Cole was born in 1919	13  <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in 1852	14  Selma march began in 1965	15  Marcus Garvey, Black nationalist, arrived in America from Jamaica, 1916	16  Clifton Wharton is sworn in as ambassador to Norway in 1961
17 <b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b>  Harriet Tubman died in 1913	18  Lorraine Hansberry's play, <i>Raisin in the Sun</i> , opened on Broadway in 1959	19  James B. Parsons became the first Black chief judge of a federal court in 1975	20 <b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING</b>  Fannie Lou Hamer, activist, dies, 1977	21  Quincy Jones, composer and musician, was born in 1933	22  Los Angeles Sentinel founded by Leon H. Washington in 1933	23  Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972
24 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  Carole Gist was crowned first Black Miss USA in 1990	25 <b>PASSOVER BEGINS</b>  Garrett A. Morgan, scientist and inventor, was born in 1877	26  Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975	27  Dred Scott decision handed down by Supreme Court in 1857	28  First cadets graduate from flying school at Tuskegee Institute in 1942	29 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>  Senate refuses to seat P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana in 1876	30  15th Amendment was enacted in 1870
31 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>  Jack Johnson, first Black heavyweight champion, was born in 1878						

# MARIE BRAILEY and WILLIE VAN BRAILEY

Mother & Son  
Chair Caners

Marie Brailey and her son Willie Van Brailey, natives of Orangeburg, South Carolina, personified the art of chair caning. Living up to the slogan attached to them, "one craft, one family, 100 years," the Braileys worked at the craft of chair caning for more than 50 years each. They are the recipients of numerous awards, including the prestigious Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Award, an annual award given by the General Assembly to artists and advocates of traditional arts. Mr. Brailey received the award in 2011 and Mrs. Brailey received the award in 1997. The Braileys have also been recognized by a resolution from the Orangeburg County Council, a proclamation from Orangeburg City Council and from the city's Law Enforcement Division.

Mr. Brailey began caning in 1979 when his mother's eyesight began to fail. He helped her with unfinished projects and became the first male to work seriously in chair caning. Over the years, he has created nearly a dozen new geometric designs that have drawn the attention of collectors.

The Braileys' beautiful work is on display in the home of the mayor of Orangeburg and the President's house on the campus of South Carolina State University. Antique dealers throughout South Carolina are longtime customers and their work has been procured by dealers from Georgia, Virginia and North Carolina and as far away as Japan. Artistry by the Braileys has appeared in a motion picture. The work of Mrs. Marie Brailey and Mr. Willie Van Brailey will be on permanent display at the McKissick Museum on the campus of the University of South Carolina.

Mr. Brailey said that the ultimate achievement as an African American is to touch as many lives that cross all racial lines and to be selected and recognized as part of its rich history.






# APRIL

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	1 <b>APRIL FOOLS' DAY</b>  Hampton Institute opened in 1868	2  John Thompson became the first African American coach to win NCAA basketball tournament, 1984	3  Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, died in 1950	4  Maya Angelou, author and poet, was born in 1928	5  Colin Powell was born in 1937	6  Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909
7  Billie Holliday, blues singer, was born in 1917	8  Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974	9  Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866	10  Richard Allen was made Bishop of the AME Church in 1916	11  Spelman College was founded in 1881	12  Free African Society organized in 1787	13  Thomas Jefferson was born in 1743
14  The first abolition society in the U.S. was founded in Pennsylvania, 1775	15 <b>TAX DAY</b>  Jackie Robinson made his Major League debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947	16  Founding of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1960	17  Rev. Ralph David Abernathy died in 1990	18  Alex Haley won the Pulitzer Prize for <i>Roots</i> , 1977	19  Cheyney State College, one of the oldest Black colleges in the U.S., was founded in 1837	20  Harriet Tubman started working on the Underground Railroad, 1853
21  Pvt. Milton L. Olive, III, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1966	22 <b>EARTH DAY</b>  Charles Mingus, bassist, composer, pianist and bandleader, was born in 1922	23  Granville T. Woods, inventor of over 40 products, was born in 1856	24  The United Negro College Fund was established in 1944	25  Ella Fitzgerald, singer, was born in 1917	26  William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, died in 1984	27  Coretta Scott King, activist and wife of Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in 1927
28  Samuel L. Gravely became first African American admiral in the U.S. Navy in 1962	29  "Duke" Ellington, musician and composer, was born in 1899	30  Wallace Saunders wrote the song "Casey Jones" in 1900				

# WILLIAM H. CARSON, M.D.

Psychiatrist,  
Clinical Researcher, CEO

Dr. William H. Carson grew up in Columbia, South Carolina, inspired by his parents to succeed at whatever he chose to do.

"My parents raised my sister and me with limitless expectations," said Dr. Carson, whose parents were public school teachers. "My father gave me the best piece of advice when he said, 'You'll never know if you don't try.'"

While a grade school student in South Carolina's public school system, Carson developed a keen interest in science.

"My elementary school teachers were so influential," he remarked. "They instilled in me a desire to excel."

He shared his passion for science with Dr. C. E. Morgan, his family's physician, and he began to think about a career in medicine.

"Dr. Morgan knew I was a serious student and he told me that I would make a good doctor," Dr. Carson recalled.

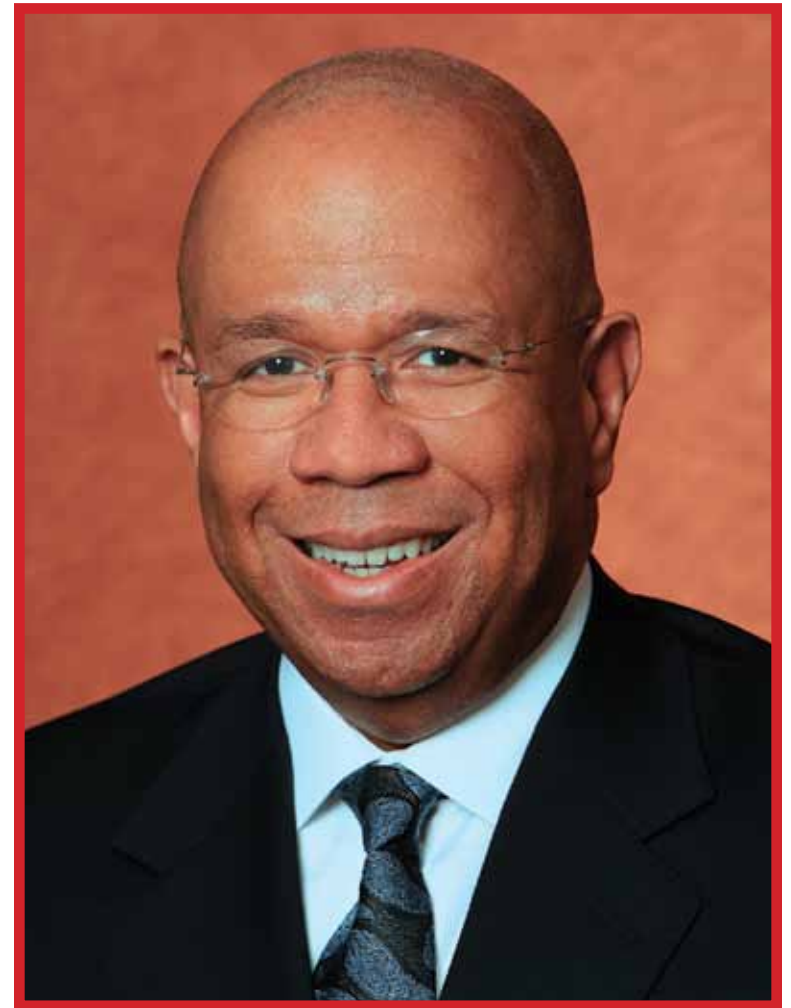
After graduating from A.C. Flora High School, he went on to receive his A.B. degree in history and science from Harvard University. Later, he earned his M.D. from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he received the Ivan Shalit Award as the Best Medical Student for Clinical Care.

Today, Dr. Carson can reflect on a highly accomplished career. As a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry at the Medical University of South Carolina, he taught emerging physicians and cared for patients with mental illness. As a clinical researcher, he led the development of ABILIFY®, a drug that has helped millions who live with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depressive disorder. And as a CEO since 2010, he heads Otsuka Pharmaceutical Development & Commercialization, Inc., a leader in the global clinical development of healthcare products.

Dr. Carson said gaining approval for ABILIFY makes him most proud. "ABILIFY has benefited so many more patients than I could have cared for as an individual psychiatrist," he said.

He calls South Carolina "home," and a springboard for a life well lived.

"I have led exactly the life I thought I would have," Dr. Carson said, "and yet, a life I could never have dreamed of."






# MAY

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN

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			1  Howard University in Washington, D.C. opened in 1867	2 <b>NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER</b>  Elijah McCoy, inventor and holder of more than fifty patents, was born in 1844	3  James Brown, Godfather of Soul, was born in 1933  Sugar Ray Robinson, boxing champion, was born in 1920	4  Freedom Rides began in 1961
5 <b>CINCO DE MAYO</b>  Gwendolyn Brooks became the first black Pulitzer Prize winner for Annie Allen in 1950	6  Civil Rights Act signed by President Eisenhower in 1960	7  J.R. Winters patented the fire escape, 1878	8  Rev. Henry McNeal died in 1915	9  Slaves in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina were freed, 1862	10  P.B.S. Pinchback, first black state governor, was born in 1837	11  Dancer Martha Graham was born in 1854
12 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>  Robert Smalls seized Confederate warship in 1862	13  Boxer Joe Louis was born in 1914	14  In 1804, a slave known only as "York" accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition	15  Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, founded at Indiana University, was incorporated in 1911	16  Sammy Davis Jr. died in 1990	17  Brown vs. Board of Education made "Separate But Equal" in public schools unconstitutional in 1954	18 <b>ARMED FORCES DAY</b>  Reggie Jackson, baseball player, was born in 1946
19  Malcolm X was born in 1925	20  Robert N.C. Nix was elected to U.S. Congress in 1958	21  Lowell W. Perry was confirmed as chairman of the Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in 1975	22  Claude McKay, poet, died in 1948	23  Bob Marley, reggae legend, died in 1981	24  Hal McRae was named manager of the Kansas City Royals in 1991	25  Madame. C.J. Walker, entrepreneur, died in 1919
26  Althea Gibson won the French Open, becoming the first black tennis player to win a major tennis title, 1956	27 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>  Louis Gossett Jr., actor, was born in 1936	28  Eliza Ann Gardner, Underground Railroad conductor, was born in 1831	29  Thomas Bradley was elected mayor of Los Angeles in 1973	30  Countee Cullen, poet, was born in 1903	31  NAACP held first conference (as the National Negro Committee) in 1909	

# NIKKY FINNEY

Poet

Celebrated poet Nikky Finney was born in Conway, South Carolina, the daughter of an attorney and teacher, both civil rights activists. Ms. Finney's fourth book of poetry, *Head Off & Split*, was awarded the 2011 National Book Award for poetry.

An alumna of Talladega College and Atlanta University, Ms. Finney is the Guy Davenport Endowed Professor in English and Creative Writing at the University of Kentucky. Ms. Finney is also on the faculty at Cave Canem, the prestigious Black Poetry organization founded in 1996 and located in New York City, and a founding member of the Afrilachian Poets, "the coal black African voices of Appalachia," as she says. During the academic year 2007-2008, Ms. Finney was Grace Hazard Conkling Writer-in-Residence at Smith.

Ms. Finney's poems have been described as powerful and warm, like her southern roots, and provide glimpses into the human adventures of birth, death, family, violence, sexuality, and relationship, exploring the soul of human community. Novelist Walter Mosely said of Ms. Finney's work, "She has flung me into an afterbirth of stars and made my stiff bones as loose as jelly."

Ms. Finney has authored four books of poetry: *Head Off & Split* (2011); *The World Is Round* (2003); *Rice* (1995); and *On Wings Made of Gauze* (1985). She has also authored the collection of stories, *Heartwood* (1997) and edited *The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South* (2007).

Exploring characters as diverse as Jacques Cousteau and Saartjie Baartman (the so-called Hottentot Venus), young women defined by violence and old women killing time in a thrift store, Ms. Finney "takes a leapfrog hop of the extraordinary over the commonplace," writes *Black Issues Book Review*, as in the poem "Coda," which examines the intimate landscape of her close-knit family.

Caribbean poet Lorna Goodison wrote of Ms. Finney, "(She) calls us to consider and value again the blessings found in community, the strong bonds of family and the transcendent and inexplicable ways of the spirit."





# JUNE

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2  T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928	3  Wesley A. Brown became the first Black graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy in 1949	4  Arna Bontemps, writer and educator, died in 1973	5  In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded his doctorate from Boston University	6  Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942	7  Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks was born in 1917	8  Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953
9  Meta-Vaux Warick Fuller, sculptor, was born in 1877	10  Hattie McDaniel, first Black person to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress in Gone With The Wind, 1940), was born in 1898	11  Hazel Dorothy Scott, classical pianist and singer, was born in 1920	12  Medger Evers, civil rights activist, was assassinated in 1963	13  Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967	14  <b>FLAG DAY</b>	15  Errol Garner, singer and musician, was born in 1923
16  <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>  Denmark Vesey led slave rebellion in South Carolina in 1822	17  Thomas Ezekiel Miller, congressman, was born in 1849	18  Nannie Burroughs founded National Training School for Women, 1909	19  <b>JUNETEENTH</b>  African American Independence Day, lauds the end of slavery in the United States	20  Dr. Lloyd A. Hall, pioneer in food chemistry, was born in 1894	21  <b>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER</b>  Arthur Ashe, tennis champion, led UCLA to NCAA tennis championship, 1965	22  Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937
23  Track star Wilma Rudolph was born in 1909	24  John R. Lynch became first African American to preside over deliberations of a national party in 1884	25  Joe Louis defeated Primo Carnera at Yankee Stadium in 1935	26  James Weldon Johnson died in 1938	27  Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet and novelist, was born in 1872	28  Organization for Afro-American Unity founded in 1964	29  James Van Der Zee, photographer, was born in Lenox, MA in 1886
30  Lena Horne, actress, vocalist and activist, was born in 1917						

# VINCE FORD

## Healthcare Executive and Community Leader

Vince Ford is not a person content to sit on the sidelines. Instead, he has devoted his life to creating opportunities that make a difference in his fellow man and his community.

Born in Columbia, South Carolina, Mr. Ford attended Richland County Public Schools, excelling in academics and community service. Realizing education is the foundation of one's future, Mr. Ford earned a bachelor's degree from Benedict College and a master's degree from South Carolina State University.

In 1997, the state's largest health system invited Mr. Ford to establish and head the Office of Community Health intended to meet the unmet health needs of the community's uninsured and medically underserved populations in Columbia. Today, Mr. Ford is the senior vice president for Community Health Services at Palmetto Health. This office delivers much-needed cancer, dental, maternal-child health, teen health, and vision services to thousands of people in the Midlands of South Carolina.

Prior to joining Palmetto Health, Mr. Ford served as the executive director for the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands and the James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell Foundation. While with the South Carolina Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Mr. Ford's drug and alcohol school intervention program received the Outstanding Student Assistance Program Award from the National Association of Student Assistance Programs and Professions.

Since 1992, Mr. Ford has served on the Richland County School District One School Board, holding a variety of positions, including board chair. He was named Outstanding School Board Member for the Sixth Congressional District and All-State School Board Member by the South Carolina School Boards Association. Mr. Ford also serves on the Benedict College Board of Trustees and the University of South Carolina African American Community Advisory Board.

Mr. Ford has received numerous awards and recognition for his distinguished service. Most recently, the March of Dimes honored him with its National Volunteer Award, the Elaine Whitelaw Volunteer Service Award, for his significant contributions to preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. The Columbia Housing Authority honored Mr. Ford on its Wall of Fame, which recognizes African Americans whose efforts have improved the lives of others.

Mr. Ford is a life member of the NAACP and serves as chairperson on the State Education and the Columbia Branch Education committees and received the President's Education Award.





# JULY

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  Carl Lewis, athlete, was born in 1961	2  Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed.  Thurgood Marshall was born in 1908	3  First African American baseball player in the major leagues, Jackie Robinson, was named to Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962	4 <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b>  Tuskegee Institute established in 1881	5  Arthur Ashe won the men's Wimbledon singles championship in 1975	6  Althea Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957
7  Margaret Walker, writer, was born in 1915	8  Venus Williams wins Wimbledon in 2000	9  Francis L. Cardozo installed as S.C.'s Secretary of State in 1868	10  Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, was born in 1875	11  Civil rights activist W.E.B. Dubois founded the Niagara Movement in 1905	12  Bill Cosby, entertainer, was born in 1937	13  Continental Congress excluded slavery from Northwest Territory in 1787
14  George Washington Carver National Monument dedicated in Joplin, MO in 1951	15  Pompey Lamb, noted spy, aids the American Revolutionary War effort, 1779	16  V. A. Johnson, first Black female to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court, was born in 1882	17  Billie Holliday, singer, died in 1959	18  Lemuel Hayes, first Black Congregationalist minister, was born in 1753	19  Patricia R. Harris named Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare in 1979	20  First U.S. victory in Korea was won by African American troops in the 24th Infantry Regiment, in 1950
21  The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868	22  Abraham Lincoln read the first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet in 1861	23  Louis Tompkins Wright, physician, was born in 1924	24  Mary Church Terrell, educator, died in 1954	25  Garrett T. Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescued six people from a gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1916	26  President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948	27  Inventor A.P. Abourne was awarded patent for refining coconut oil in 1880
28  The 14th Amendment was adopted in 1868	29  The first National Convention of Black Women was held in Boston in 1895	30  Adam Clayton Powell Jr., activist and politician, was elected congressman from Harlem in 1945	31  Whitney Young, an executive director of the National Urban League, was born in 1921			

# ANGELA L. WALKER FRANKLIN, Ph.D. College President

Angela L. Walker Franklin, Ph.D., who became Des Moines University's 15th president on March 1, 2011, is a native of McCormick, South Carolina. She has worked in higher education for more than 20 years.

Dr. Franklin is the first African-American and the first female to lead the Des Moines University, a 100-year-old institution whose mission is to develop distinctive health care professionals who are committed to patient-centered health promotion, the application of evidenced based practice, the discovery of knowledge, and the provision of competent and compassionate health care.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology at Furman University and a doctorate in clinical psychology at Emory University. She began her academic career in 1986 as an assistant professor of psychiatry at Morehouse School of Medicine. Her responsibilities expanded to nearly every aspect of the school, from recruiting and counseling to strategic planning, budgeting, accreditation and information technology. Dr. Franklin held several positions at the school, including vice dean, associate vice president for academic and student affairs, associate dean for student affairs and curriculum, assistant dean for admissions and student affairs and director of counseling services.

Then Morehouse School of Medicine President and former U.S. Health & Human Services Secretary Dr. Louis Sullivan encouraged Dr. Franklin to attend the prestigious American Council on Education Fellowship Program in 2001-2002, where she became one of 32 ACE Fellows.

In 2007, Dr. Franklin was named executive vice president and provost at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, where she oversaw academic and administrative departments for three schools within the college. She served as acting president during the summer of 2009 and held a professorship in Meharry's department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences. She was also instrumental in landing an \$18 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest grant in Meharry's history.

Dr. Franklin is in her fourth term on the board of trustees of Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina.






# AUGUST

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Whitney Young named executive director of the National Urban League in 1961 Benjamin E. Mays was born in 1895	<b>2</b> James Baldwin, writer, was born in 1924	<b>3</b> The Congress of African Peoples convention was held in Atlanta in 1970
<b>4</b> "Long" John Woodruff won an Olympic gold medal in the 800-meter run in 1936	<b>5</b> Edwin Moses and Evelyn Ashford won gold medals in Olympic track & field in 1984	<b>6</b> Voting Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1965	<b>7</b> Ralph J. Bunche, diplomat and first African American winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, was born in 1904	<b>8</b> Matthew A. Henson, explorer and first to reach the North Pole, was born in 1865	<b>9</b> Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936	<b>10</b> Clarence C. White, composer and violinist, died in 1880
<b>11</b> Thaddeus Stevens, abolitionist, died in 1868	<b>12</b> Frederick Douglass' home in Washington D.C. was declared a national shrine in 1922	<b>13</b> Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper was founded in 1892	<b>14</b> Ernest Everett Just, scientist, was born in 1883	<b>15</b> Liberia established by freed American slaves in 1824	<b>16</b> Louis Lomax, author, was born in 1922	<b>17</b> Marcus Garvey was born in 1887
<b>18</b> The first African American admitted to the University of Mississippi, James Meredith, graduated in 1963	<b>19</b> Benjamin Banneker published his first Almanac in 1791	<b>20</b> Richard Allen chaired the first National Negro Convention in Philadelphia in 1830	<b>21</b> William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, was born in 1904	<b>22</b> John Lee Hooker, blues singer and guitarist, was born in 1917	<b>23</b> National Negro Business League founded in 1900	<b>24</b> Edith Sampson was appointed first African American delegate to the United Nations by Harry S. Truman, in 1950
<b>25</b> Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized in 1925	<b>26</b> William Dawson elected Black Democratic Party vice-presidential candidate in 1943	<b>27</b> W.E.B. DuBois died in 1963	<b>28</b> March on Washington in 1963	<b>29</b> Charlie "Bird" Parker, jazz musician, was born in Kansas City in 1920	<b>30</b> Lt. Col. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. became the first African American astronaut in space in 1983	<b>31</b> Eldridge Cleaver was born in 1935

# LORENZO LEVON KIRKLAND

Professional  
NFL Football Player

Former National Football League linebacker Lorenzo Levon Kirkland was born in Lamar, South Carolina. He was a second-round draft choice of the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 1992 NFL Draft, and played nine seasons with the Steelers, and one each for the Seattle Seahawks and the Philadelphia Eagles.

Kirkland is a Clemson University alumnus and was inducted into the University's All-Centennial team in 1996. He was inducted into the University's Hall of Fame in 2001. After retiring from the NFL, Kirkland returned to Clemson and earned his sociology degree in 2004. He also worked for Clemson coordinating minority recruitment in admissions for the University. Kirkland was inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008 and is an educational speaker for the National Collegiate Scouting Association.

During his days in the NFL, Kirkland was known for his speed and agility even though he was 6-1 and weighed between 275 and 300 lbs. He became a starter inside linebacker for Pittsburgh in his second season and was recognized as one of the top players in that position in the league.

Kirkland's performance during the 1996 season earned him his first trip to the Pro Bowl and All-Pro honors. He had four interceptions that season, a high number for an inside linebacker, to go along with four sacks and 114 tackles.

Kirkland also made the Pro Bowl after the 1997 season, with a career-high and team-leading 126 tackles and career-high five sacks, as the Steelers went to the AFC Championship game.

In 2001, Kirkland went to the Seattle Seahawks where he became a leader on the defense and had over 100 tackles. The next year he played his final season for the Eagles, becoming the veteran leader of a defense that ranked seventh in the league and advanced to the NFC Championship game before losing to the Buccaneers.

Kirkland worked as a linebacker coach at Woodmont High School in Greenville, South Carolina, until November 2011, when he was named the head coach for Greenville's Shannon Forest Christian School.






# SEPTEMBER

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> General Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. named Commander-in-Chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975	<b>2</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> Frank Robinson, professional baseball player, named MVP of the American League, 1966	<b>3</b> Charles Houston, NAACP leader, was born in 1895	<b>4</b> <b>ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS</b> Louis Latimer, inventor and engineer, was born in 1848	<b>5</b> George Washington Murray was elected to Congress from South Carolina in 1895	<b>6</b> The National Black Convention met in Cleveland in 1848	<b>7</b> Integration in public schools began in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore in 1954
<b>8</b> <b>GRANDPARENT'S DAY</b> Althea Gibson became the first African American athlete to win a U.S. national tennis championship in 1957	<b>9</b> Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915	<b>10</b> Mordecai Johnson, first Black president of Howard University, died in 1976	<b>11</b> <b>PATRIOT DAY</b> "Duke" Ellington won Spingarn Medal for his musical achievements in 1959	<b>12</b> Jackie Robinson, first Black baseball player in the major leagues, was named National League Rookie of the Year in 1947	<b>13</b> <b>YOM KIPPUR BEGINS</b> Alain L. Locke, philosopher and first Black Rhodes Scholar, was born in 1886	<b>14</b> U.S. Cabinet member Constance Baker Motley was born in 1921
<b>15</b> Dr. Mae Jemison became first African American female astronaut in space in 1992	<b>16</b> Claude A. Barnett, founder of the Associated Negro Press, was born in 1889	<b>17</b> <b>CONSTITUTION DAY</b> United States Constitution signed in 1787	<b>18</b> Booker T. Washington delivered "Atlanta Compromise" address in 1895	<b>19</b> Atlanta University was founded in 1865	<b>20</b> First episode of The Cosby Show aired in 1984	<b>21</b> F.W. Leslie, inventor, patented the envelope seal in 1891
<b>22</b> <b>FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN</b> Ralph Bunch awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950	<b>23</b> John Coltrane, innovative and famed jazz musician, was born in 1926	<b>24</b> Nine African American students integrated Little Rock High School in 1957	<b>25</b> Barbara W. Hancock became the first African American woman named a White House fellow, 1974	<b>26</b> Bessie Smith, blues singer, died in 1937	<b>27</b> <i>The Memphis Blues</i> by W.C. Handy was published in 1912	<b>28</b> <i>Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World</i> published in 1929
<b>29</b> Hugh Mulzac, first African American captain of a U.S. merchant ship, launched with the 'Booker T. Washington' in 1942	<b>30</b> Johnny Mathis, singer, was born in 1935					

# OTTO NEALS

## Painter, Sculptor and Printmaker

Otto Neals was born in Lake City, South Carolina in 1930 to Gus and Della Neals. Before he was five years old, his family left the South and settled in Brooklyn, New York, where he still lives. All of Mr. Neals' schooling was in Brooklyn, where he studied commercial art at George Westinghouse Vocational High School.

Mr. Neals describes himself as a self-taught artist although he studied briefly at the Brooklyn Museum Art School with Isaac Soyer and printmaking at the Bob Blackburn Printmaking Workshop with Krishna Reddy, Mohammed Khalil and Roberto DeLomanica. He was introduced to stone carving by sculptor Vivian Schuyler Key, who presented him with his first set of stone carving tools.

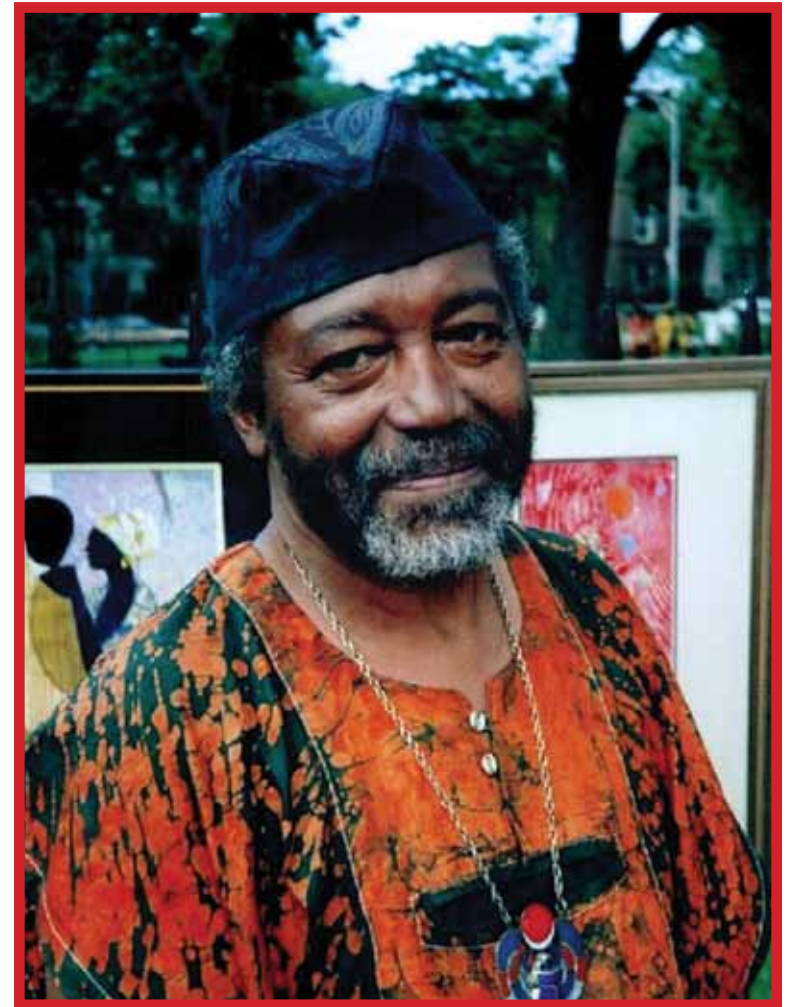
The Prospect Park Alliance and Ezra Jack Keats Foundation commissioned him in 1995 to create a bronze sculpture entitled "Peter and Willie", based on the works of author and illustrator Keats. For this work, which is located in the "Imagination Playground" in Prospect Park, Mr. Neals was presented with the New York City Arts Commission's "Award for Excellence in Design".

Other commissions include 10 bronze plaques for the "Harlem Walk of Fame," a bronze sculpture for the Brooklyn Children's Center, a 20-foot mural for Kings County Hospital and recently a bronze portrait of the late Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton for the City University of New York.

Besides travelling to Africa several times, Mr. Neals has made more than a dozen trips to St. Helena Island, South Carolina, for the Heritage Festival. He has been featured in several publications including *Black Artists of the New Generation* by Elton Fax, *The New York Times* and *Ebony Magazine*.

Neals' art work has been exhibited at the Columbia Museum of Art, the Huntsville Museum of Art, The Ghana National Museum, The Library of Congress, The Smithsonian Institution, and the collections of Congressman John Lewis, jazz musician Randy Weston, actor/singer Harry Belafonte and Oprah Winfrey.

About his art, Neals said, "My talent as an artist comes directly from my ancestors. I am merely a receiver, an instrument for receiving some of the energies that permeate our entire universe and I give thanks for having been chosen to absorb those artistic forces."






# OCTOBER

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN

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		<b>1</b>  Colin Powell was appointed first African American chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1989	<b>2</b>  Thurgood Marshall was sworn in, becoming the first African American Supreme Court Justice in 1967	<b>3</b>  Nat King Cole was the first Black performer to host his own television show in 1956	<b>4</b>  National Black Convention met in Syracuse, N.Y. in 1864	<b>5</b>  Congresswoman Yvonne Burke was born in 1932
<b>6</b>  Fisk Jubilee Singers began national tour in 1871	<b>7</b>  Toni Morrison became first African American to win Nobel Prize in literature	<b>8</b>  Jesse Jackson was born in 1941	<b>9</b>  O.B. Clare patented the rail trestle in 1888	<b>10</b>  Singer Ben Vereen was born in 1946	<b>11</b>  A. Miles patented the elevator in 1887	<b>12</b>  Richard ("Dick") Gregory was born in 1932
<b>13</b>  Arna W. Bontemps, noted poet, was born in 1902	<b>14</b> <b>COLUMBUS DAY</b>  Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1964	<b>15</b>  Clarence Thomas confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992	<b>16</b>  John Brown led attack on Harper's Ferry in 1859	<b>17</b>  Capital Savings Bank opened in Washington, D.C. in 1888	<b>18</b>  Novelist Terry McMillan was born in 1951	<b>19</b>  The U.S. Navy was opened to African American women in 1944
<b>20</b>  John Merrick organized North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1898	<b>21</b>  "Dizzy" Gillespie was born in Cheraw, S.C. in 1917	<b>22</b>  Clarence S. Green became the first African American certified in neurological surgery	<b>23</b>  The NAACP petitioned the United Nations about racial injustice in 1947	<b>24</b>  Jackie Robinson died in 1972	<b>25</b>  Benjamin O. Davis became the first African American general in the U.S. Army in 1940	<b>26</b>  Inventor T. Marshall patented the fire extinguisher in 1872
<b>27</b>  D. B. Downing, inventor, patented his street letter box in 1891	<b>28</b>  Founder of The Underground Railroad, Levi Coffin, was born in 1798	<b>29</b>  The Supreme Court ordered end to segregation in schools "at once" in 1969	<b>30</b>  Richard Arrington was elected the first Black mayor of Birmingham, Ala., in 1979	<b>31</b> <b>HALLOWEEN</b>  Ethel Waters, actress and singer, was born in 1900		

# LUTHER SEABROOK, Ph.D. Educator

Dr. Luther W. Seabrook, a Charleston, South Carolina native, has devoted his entire working life ensuring that all children receive the best possible education provided by the best teachers and educational resources.

After serving as a teacher and administrator in the New York City public school system, Dr. Seabrook was afforded the opportunity to create his own school in Roxbury, Massachusetts. The concept he created in 1968, which is implemented today, provided that the parents of the school controlled who was hired and fired and the implementation of the curriculum. The Highland Park Free School was such a success that it was featured in *Boston Magazine* and *Social Policy* and highlighted twice on the CBS program "Look Up and Live."

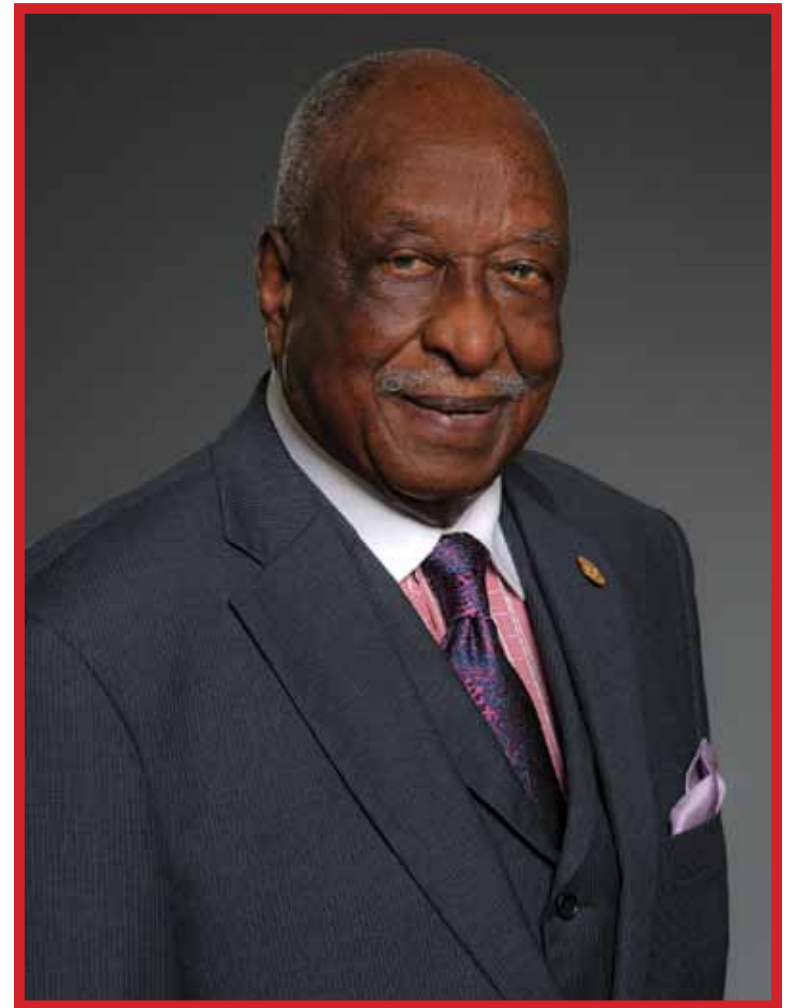
After serving as principal at the Highland Park Free School, Dr. Seabrook was appointed principal of I.S. 44, which was considered a dysfunctional school in New York. Dr. Seabrook turned the school into a center of educational excellence, drawing children from public and private schools around the city. Dr. Seabrook's work at I.S. 44 was featured in the books "*Does Anybody Give a Damn*" by Nat Hentoff and "*Urban Education: The Hope Factor*" by Woodbury, et. al.

After I.S. 44, Dr. Seabrook was appointed the superintendent of schools in Harlem, a position from which he retired. His success in Harlem was the subject of an article in the *New York Post*, in which he was called "the man who saved the schools of Harlem."

Relocating to his native Charleston, Dr. Seabrook continued creating institutions of academic excellence and served as superintendent of schools in the St. Paul's district in Charleston County. He later took a position as the senior executive assistant for curriculum and instruction at the S.C. Department of Education.

Dr. Seabrook is a longtime community activist. He organized the NAACP chapter at Florida N&I College; served as vice chairperson of Harlem CORE; organized a Freedom School in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; served as interim director of the Trident Urban League; and chaired the board of trustees of the Community Service Society.

Dr. Seabrook received his undergraduate degree from West Virginia State University, his master's degree in education from Columbia University and his doctorate in educational administration from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He is a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the NAACP, the West Virginia State University Alumni Association and the National Alliance of Black School Educators.





# NOVEMBER

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1 ALL SAINTS' DAY</b>  First issue of <i>Ebony</i> published in 1945  First issue of <i>Crisis</i> published in 1910	<b>2</b>  President Ronald Reagan signed law designating the third Monday in January Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983
<b>3 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS</b>  South Carolina State College was established in 1896	<b>4</b>  T. Elkins patented the refrigerating apparatus in 1879	<b>5 ELECTION DAY</b>  Walter E. Washington elected Mayor of Washington, D.C. in 1974	<b>6</b>  Absalom Jones, minister, was born in 1746	<b>7</b>  David Dinkins elected first Black Mayor of New York City in 1989	<b>8</b>  Edward W. Brooke was elected first Black U.S. Senator (R- Mass.) in 85 years in 1966	<b>9</b>  Benjamin Banneker, surveyor, was born in 1731
<b>10</b>  Andrew Hatcher was named associate press secretary to President John F. Kennedy, becoming the first Black press secretary in 1960	<b>11 VETERAN'S DAY</b>  Nat Turner, leader of a Virginia slave revolt, was hanged in 1831	<b>12</b>  In 1775, General George Washington issued an order, later rescinded, which forbade recruiting officers to enlist Blacks	<b>13</b>  Dwight Gooden won baseball's Cy Young Award in 1985	<b>14</b>  Booker T. Washington died in 1915	<b>15</b>  In 1979, the Nobel Prize in economics was awarded to Professor Arthur Lewis of Princeton	<b>16</b>  "Father of the Blues," W.C. Handy, was born in Florence, Ala. in 1873
<b>17</b>  Omega Psi Phi was founded on the campus of Howard University in 1911	<b>18</b>  Abolitionist and orator Sojourner Truth was born in 1787	<b>19</b>  Roy Campanella was named the National League MVP for the second time in 1953	<b>20</b>  Garrett T. Morgan patented the traffic signal in 1923	<b>21</b>  Shaw University was founded in 1865	<b>22</b>  Alrutheus A. Taylor, teacher and historian, was born in 1893	<b>23</b>  J.L. Love put patents on the pencil sharpener in 1897
<b>24</b>  Scott Joplin, composer, born in 1868	<b>25</b>  Luther "Bill" Robinson, dancer, died in 1949	<b>26</b>  Sojourner Truth, evangelist, died in 1883	<b>27 HANUKKAH BEGINS</b>  Richard Wright, author, died in 1960	<b>28 THANKSGIVING DAY</b>  Ernie Davis became the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy in 1961	<b>29</b>  Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was born in 1908	<b>30</b>  Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was born in 1924

# CSM GAIL M. WILLIAMS

## Distinguished Military Leader

Command Sergeant Major Gail M. Williams, a native of Timmonsville, South Carolina, has had a distinguished military career of 34 years with the South Carolina Army National Guard. CSM Williams entered the Guard in 1978. She was the first female to be promoted to the rank of first sergeant and the first African American sergeant major.

In 2003, CSM Williams reached another historical milestone when she became the first female in the South Carolina Army National Guard promoted to the highest enlisted rank — Command Sergeant Major. At the time, she was one of a half dozen Guard Soldiers to attain the rank.

At the time of her promotion, CSM Williams told the press of her experiences as a woman in the Guard. "As females sometimes we have to really show what we can do, and I don't mind doing that. There's a lot of other females that are capable of doing their jobs, and all that they entail, and that females are capable of being the soldiers that we need to be."

CSM Williams has studied business administration and human resource management and training and development at Limestone College. A registered radiological technologist at Moncrief Army Community Hospital at Fort Jackson, she is a dedicated member of Macedonia Holiness Church in Cartersville, South Carolina. She is a member of the committee for Providence Heart and Soul Race for Women and Red Dress Ambassador.

CSM Williams is the first female to hold the rank in the 228 Signal Brigade, Spartanburg, South Carolina. She was mobilized to Fort Jackson as the command sergeant major for Task Force Northern Regional Medical Command, Operation Enduring Freedom.

Among her numerous awards and decorations, CSM Williams has received the Meritorious Service Medal with Five Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.






# DECEMBER

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus in 1955	<b>2</b>  Historian Charles Wesley was born in 1891	<b>3</b>  First issue of <i>North Star</i> newspaper published in 1847	<b>4</b>  American Anti-Slavery Society organized in 1833	<b>5</b> <b>HANUKKAH ENDS</b>  Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, founded National Council of Negro Women, 1935	<b>6</b>  In 1971 Lewis Franklin Powell was confirmed as U.S. Supreme Court justice	<b>7</b> <b>PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY</b>  Lester Granger was named executive director of the National Urban League in 1941
<b>8</b>  Entertainer Sammy Davis, Jr. was born in 1925	<b>9</b>  Entertainer Redd Foxx was born in 1925	<b>10</b>  Ralph J. Bunche became the first Black person awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1950	<b>11</b>  P.B.S. Pinchback became the first African American governor of an American state, Louisiana, in 1872	<b>12</b>  Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.) first African American elected to Congress in 1870	<b>13</b>  First Black women complete officer training for the WAVES, 1944	<b>14</b>  Congressman John Langston was born in 1829
<b>15</b>  Maggie Lena Walker, banker, died in 1934	<b>16</b>  Andrew Young of Georgia named ambassador and chief delegate to the United Nations in 1976	<b>17</b>  Noble Sissle, lyricist and bandleader, died in 1975	<b>18</b>  The 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865	<b>19</b>  Carter G. Woodson, historian, was born	<b>20</b>  South Carolina seceded from the Union in 1860	<b>21</b> <b>FIRST DAY OF WINTER</b>  Motown Records established in 1959 by Berry Gordy, Jr.
<b>22</b>  Historian, and author of <i>Destruction of Black Civilization</i> , Dr. Chancellor Williams was born in 1898	<b>23</b>  Alice H. Parker patented the gas heating furnace in 1919	<b>24</b>  Irwin C. Mollison, first African American Judge of the Customs Court, was born in 1898	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>  In 1971 Rev. Jesse Jackson organized Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity)	<b>26</b> <b>KWANZAA BEGINS</b>  In 1924, DeFord Bailey, Sr. became the first African American to perform on the Grand Ole Opry	<b>27</b>  Pioneer of blood plasma research, Dr. Charles Richard Drew, established a blood bank in New York City in 1941	<b>28</b>  Earl "Fatha" Hines, famed jazz musician and father of modern jazz piano, was born in 1905
<b>29</b>  Thomas Bradley was born in 1917	<b>30</b>  Blues composer and singer Bo Diddley born in 1928	<b>31</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>  Odetta Felious Gordon, folk singer and activist, was born in 1930				



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**We congratulate the 2013 SC African American History Calendar honorees, and we are proud to connect people with their world. Always.**

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