

# John Bluford, III

John Bluford, III is a native South Carolinian and a trailblazer in hospital and health care administration as one of only a few African-American hospital chief executive officers nationally. Bluford is President and CEO of Truman Medical Centers (TMC) based in Kansas City, Missouri. Truman Medical Center is a two-hospital, non-profit, multi-specialty academic medical center and teaching affiliate of the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Medicine. TMC operates a stand-alone behavioral health unit and a level-one trauma center, has 4,000 employees and generates over \$400 million in annual revenues. In 2005, the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) ranked the TMC system as one of the Top Five Academic Medical Centers in the country.

Bluford has received numerous awards throughout his more than three decades career in hospital and health system administration including: Kansas City Urban League Difference Maker (2006); Modern Healthcare Magazine's 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare (2006); NAACP Special Achievement Award (2004) and Missouri Hospital Association Visionary Leadership Award (2003). He will be granted the Missouri Hospital Association Distinguished Career Award in November 2009, and was recently designated chair-elect of 5000-member American Hospital Association.

Active in civic engagement and community service wherever he works, Bluford is a member of the Board of Trustees, Morehouse College School of Medicine, Past Chair of the Board of Trustees of the National Association of Public Hospitals and Board member of H&R Block Bank and DeCare International.

Bluford is a 1967 graduate of C. A. Johnson High School in Columbia, South Carolina. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Fisk University in 1971 and an MBA in Management from Northwestern University in 1975. In 1981 Bluford received additional training through Harvard University's Executive Program in Health System Management. Bluford is a lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Archon of Theta Boulé, Kansas City, Missouri. Bluford is married and has two children. In his free time Bluford enjoys jazz music and plays tennis competitively.



*A trailblazer in  
hospital and health care  
administration.*

# March

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



## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>  Writer Ralph Ellison was born in 1914	<b>2</b>  NBA star, Karl "The Mailman" Malone was born in 1954.	<b>3</b>  AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867.	<b>4</b>  Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966.	<b>5</b>  William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937.	<b>6</b>  Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer, was born in 1934.
<b>7</b>  Slavery abolished in New York in 1799.	<b>8</b>  Pearl Bailey was born in 1918.	<b>9</b>  'Freedom's Journal' founded in 1827.	<b>10</b>  Jackie Robinson made his professional baseball debut with the Montreal Royals in 1946.	<b>11</b>  Charlie Pride, country singer, was born in 1938.	<b>12</b>  Andrew Young was born in 1932. Nat King Cole was born in 1919.	<b>13</b>  'Uncle Tom's Cabin' by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in 1852.
<b>14</b> <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>  Selma march began in 1965.	<b>15</b>  Marcus Garvey, Black nationalist, arrived in America from Jamaica, 1916.	<b>16</b>  Clifton Wharton is sworn in as ambassador to Norway in 1961.	<b>17</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>  Harriet Tubman died in 1913.	<b>18</b>  Lorraine Hansberry play, "Raisin in the Sun", opened on Broadway in 1959.	<b>19</b>  Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.	<b>20</b> <b>First Day of Spring</b>  Fannie Lou Hamer, activist, dies, 1977.
<b>21</b>  Quincy Jones, composer and musician, was born in 1933.	<b>22</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>  'Los Angeles Sentinel' founded by Leon H. Washington in 1933.	<b>23</b>  Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972.	<b>24</b>  Carole Gist was crowned first Black Miss USA in 1990.	<b>25</b>  Garrett A. Morgan, scientist and inventor, was born in 1877.	<b>26</b>  Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.	<b>27</b>  Dred Scott decision handed down by Supreme Court in 1857.
<b>28</b>  First cadets graduated from flying school at Tuskegee Institute in 1942.	<b>29</b>  Senate refuses to seat P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana in 1876.	<b>30</b>  15th Amendment was enacted in 1870.	<b>31</b>  Jack Johnson, first Black heavyweight champion was born in 1878.			