

Month	AT&T African American History Calendar Honoree	Main Ideas/Choreographers/Dances	Activities	SDE Monthly Theme	Main Ideas/Choreographers/Dances	Activities
January	Bertie Bowman	Swinging Pathways Partnering	Create a dance incorporating swinging, pathways, partnering	Inventors/Inventions	Sound Suits Cage/Cunningham, Graham/Copeland Collaboration Pointe Shoes/Marie Taglioni Loie Fuller	Look at sound suits. Create your own sound suit or work with a visual artist to design a sound suit. Choreograph a dance in your sound suit.
February	Bobby D. Gist	Housing		Black History	Alvin Ailey Bill T. Jones Judith Jamison Josephine Baker Donald McKayle	
March	Dorothy Golden Harrison	Water, movement of water (trickle, flow, rush, pour, drip), water currents Paul Taylor's "Airs" (air currents)	Create a dance based on water movement. Create a dance based on water currents/patterns. Identify movement qualities that evoke the feelings/moods of water. Create a dance using them. Look at Paul Taylor's "Airs" and discuss patterns of air currents. How is that similar to water currents?	Women in History	Forerunners of Modern Dance	Look at the Forerunners of Modern Dance. Why were they women? How did this dovetail into the women's movement?
April	Esau Jenkins	Busses: Traffic Patterns	Improvise based on traffic patterns, roles of types of transportation, etc. Create a dance (choreographed or a structured improvisation) based on traffic patterns.	Financial Literacy	Careers	Look at the salaries of professional dancers. Compare by dance genre. Discuss why some genres are paid more and society's influence on wage. Discuss how dancers live if only paid for part of the year or by the show. Create a budget as if you are a professional dancer. Brainstorm careers in dance. Compare/contrast salaries for these careers. Discuss why some are higher/lower. Create a budget for one.
May	Donella Brown Wilson	History of Waverly Community and City of Columbia "Myrtle and Gertrude, Two Old Friends" (M. Brim) "Revelation" (Ailey)	Create a dance using text as inspiration and/or accompaniment Create an oral history piece	Memorial Day/Patriotic Accomplishment	Ballanchine's "Stars and Stripes"	View entire/clips from iconic American ballets/dances/productions. What is the "American" dance style? View "Stars and Stripes." Ballanchine was a defector from Russia. Discuss defectors. Ballanchine was known for creating abstract ballets. Do you think there is a message in this ballet? How do you think Ballanchine's experience as a defector influenced his choices in this ballet?
June	Jeff Livingston	Books Testing Investment		Summer Fun		
July	Dr. Louis B. Lynn	Landscaping Agriculture Patterns	Create a dance based on agriculture, plant life cycle, growing.			

		Twyla Tharp and Yvonne Rainer's installations/dances outside	Create a dance using patterns. Look at a landscape plot. Create a dance utilizing the visuals. Create a dance for a specific landscape. Look at Post Modern dancers for inspiration.			
August	Beatrice Taylor McKnight	Segregation vs. Desegregation (Standing Apart vs. Mixing In)	Create a dance based on parts/whole. Create a dance regarding the feelings of being "separate" vs. the feelings of being "part of."			
September	Jasper Salmond	"Think Global, Act Local" Caring, sharing, giving back Poverty				
October	Yelberton R. Watkins	Legislation		Hispanic Heritage	Nacho Duato Fernando Bujones Alicia Alonso Jose Greco (flamenco, Ballets y Bailes de Espanza) Jose Limon Edward Villella Miami City Ballet	
November	Helen Nelson Grant, Anthony Grant			American Indican Heritage	American Indian Dance Origins of Dance Jiri Killian	Teach students simple American Indian dances (e.g., the "Roller Coaster") and dance steps. Discuss common movements, movement qualities. Discuss the origin of dance and how dance is used to tell a story. Have students choreograph a dance to explain an unexplainable event, ensure luck in a task, give thanks, etc. Discuss the sacredness of American Indian Dance, including audience response, performance quality (e.g., if a feather is dropped, it is disgraceful), etc. Discuss the "Americanization" of American Indican Dance, especially in "Wild West" shows. Discuss changing ethnic and folk dances for the stage and compromising dance quality for profits.
December	Maurice Williams	Social dances of the 1950s and 60s	Learn popular dances of the 1950s and 1960s Look at movement qualities of 1950s and 60s, discuss social influences on dance and how movement reflects society	Holidays Around The World	Ethnic/Folk Dance	Learn ethnic dances used in Hanukkah (Hora, Hava Nagila), Kwanzaa (West African Dance), Christmas (circle)

General Resource Links:
[Dance Biographies](#)