



The Diary of our Black Ancestors



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# Introduction

To me, Black History is a diary for African people. They need to know that their ancestors fought very hard for the rights and opportunities that we have today. That that the opportunities we have today should not be taken for granted.

But it also shows the beauty and creativity our ancestors had during those times. How they provided valuable insights into their world and how it all relates to today.

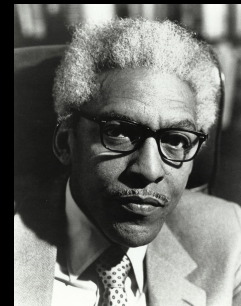
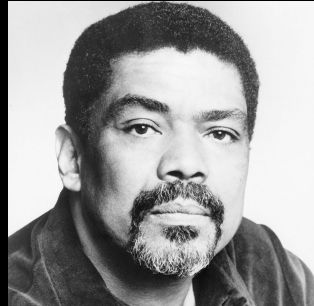
Today we will be looking at twelve people who made a difference in the world.

Always remember Black History serves as an important reminder of the ongoing journey towards equality and justice.

Here they are!!!



AYOUBI LOHOU — COURTESY OF THE STEVENS COLLEGE ARCHIVE



Shirley Chisholm

# Personal info

Parents: Ruby Seale and Charles Christopher St. Hill

DOB: November 30th, 1924

Place Born: Brooklyn New York

Siblings: three sisters

Marital status: widowed

Spouse: Arthur Hardwick Jr. (married 1977; died 1986)

Children: no children



Education: Education: Teachers College, Columbia University (1952), Brooklyn College (1946), Columbia University

# Societal contributions

- First African American woman in Congress (1968)
- the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States from One of the two major political parties (1972).
- Founder of the National Women's Political Caucus
- Supported the Equal Rights Amendment
- Legalized abortions throughout her congressional career, which lasted from 1969 to 1983.
- She wrote the autobiographical works *Unbought and Unbossed* (1970) and *The Good Fight* (1973).
- She held the position of Purington Professor at Mount Holyoke College (1983–87) and was a visiting scholar at Spelman College (1985).
- In 1993 she was invited by Pres. Bill Clinton to serve as ambassador to Jamaica but declined because of poor health.
- She supported spending increases for education, health care and other social services.
- She advocated on behalf of women and underserved minorities.
- She served as director of the Hamilton-Madison Child Care Center from 1953 to 1959 as an educational consultant to New York City's Bureau of Child Welfare from 1959 to 1964.
- She became one of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1969.

Jane Bolin



# Personal info

Parents: Gaius C. Bolin, Matilda Ingram Emery

DOB: April 11, 1908

Place Born: Poughkeepsie (New York)

Siblings: Gaius Charles Bolin Jr.

Marital status: Married twice

Spouse: Walter P. Offutt Jr.

Children: Yorke Bolin Mizelle

Education: Yale law school







# Personal info

Parents: Charlie Jemison, Dorothy Green

DOB: October 17, 1956

Place Born: Decatur AL

Siblings: Ada Jemison Bullock, Charles Jemison

Marital status: single

Spouse: none

Children: none

Education: Cornell





Bessie Coleman

# Personal info

Parents: Susan Coleman, George Coleman

DOB: Jan 26, 1892

Place Born: Atlanta, TX

Siblings: Twelve brothers and sisters

Marital status: married

Spouse: Claude Glenn

Children: none

Education: Langston university



# Contributions to society

She challenged the barriers of racial discrimination and refused to participate in segregated events.

She planned to open an aviation school to teach other Black Americans to fly and become an active part of the growing aviation industry.

Making history as the first African American woman to earn a pilot's license.

Bessie Coleman performed as the first African American woman to fly public in 1922.

She refused to perform before segregated audiences in the South.

Speaking at schools and churches, she encouraged blacks' interest in aviation. first woman to get an international pilot's license.

Modeling a pathway for women and people of color in aviation and her challenges to Jim Crow practices.

She toured the country giving flight lessons and performing in flight shows, and she encouraged African Americans and women to learn how to fly.



Audre Lorde

# Personal info

Parents: Linda Gertrude Belmar Lorde, Frederick Byron Lorde

DOB: Feb 18, 1934

Place Born: Harlem NY

Siblings: Three sisters

Marital status: Divorced

Spouse: Edwin Rollins

Children: Elizabeth and Jonathan

Education: Columbia university







# Personal Info

Parents: Fannie Burroughs Height, James Edward Height

DOB: March 24, 1912

Place Born: Richmond VA

Siblings: Anthanette Aldridge

Marital status: single

Spouse: none

Children: none

Education: NYU Steinhardt





Ronald McNair

# Personal info

Parents: Carl McNair, Pearl McNair

DOB: October 21, 1950

Place Born: Lake City SC

Siblings: Carl S. McNair jr, Eric McNair jr.

Marital status: Married

Spouse: Cheryl B. Moore

Children: Joy Cheray McNair, Reginald Ervin McNair



Education: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, B.S. physics 1971 North Carolina A and T state college, PHD. Physics 1976 Massachusetts institute of technology



# Contributions to society

Ronald McNair was nationally recognized for his work in laser physics and was one of the thirty-five applicants selected by NASA from a pool of ten thousand. I

n 1984, McNair became the second African-American to make a flight into space.

He was a mission specialist on the space shuttle Challenger.

McNair first mission on the Challenger was a success, landing February 11, 1984.

a Presidential Scholar, Ford Foundation Fellow, and Omega Psi Phi Scholar of the Year

He had a sixth degree belt in karate and was an accomplished saxophonist.

McNair would counsel young people to persevere, to be prepared, and to believe in themselves

Dr. McNair received an honorary doctorate of Laws from North Carolina A&T State University in 1978 McNair was named Distinguished National Scientist by the National Society of Black Professional Engineers (1979). He also received the Friend Of Freedom Award (1981). He was presented an honorary doctorate of Science from Morris College in 1980, and an honorary doctorate of science from the University of South Carolina in 1984.

Alvin Ailey

# Personal info

Parents: Lula Elizabeth Ailey, Alvin Ailey Sr

DOB: January 5, 1931,

Place Born: Roger's TX

Siblings: none

Marital status: single

Spouse: none

Children: none

Education: Los Angeles City College







# Personal info

Parents: Unclear

DOB: November 30, 1912

Place Born: Fort Scott, KS

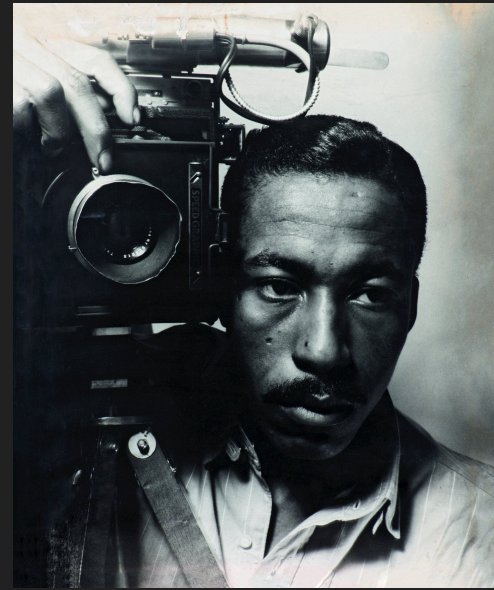
Siblings: 14 siblings

Marital status: Divorced

Spouse: Sally Alvis

Children: Gordon, Jr., David, Leslie, and Toni (Parks-Parsons)

Education: Saint Paul Central High



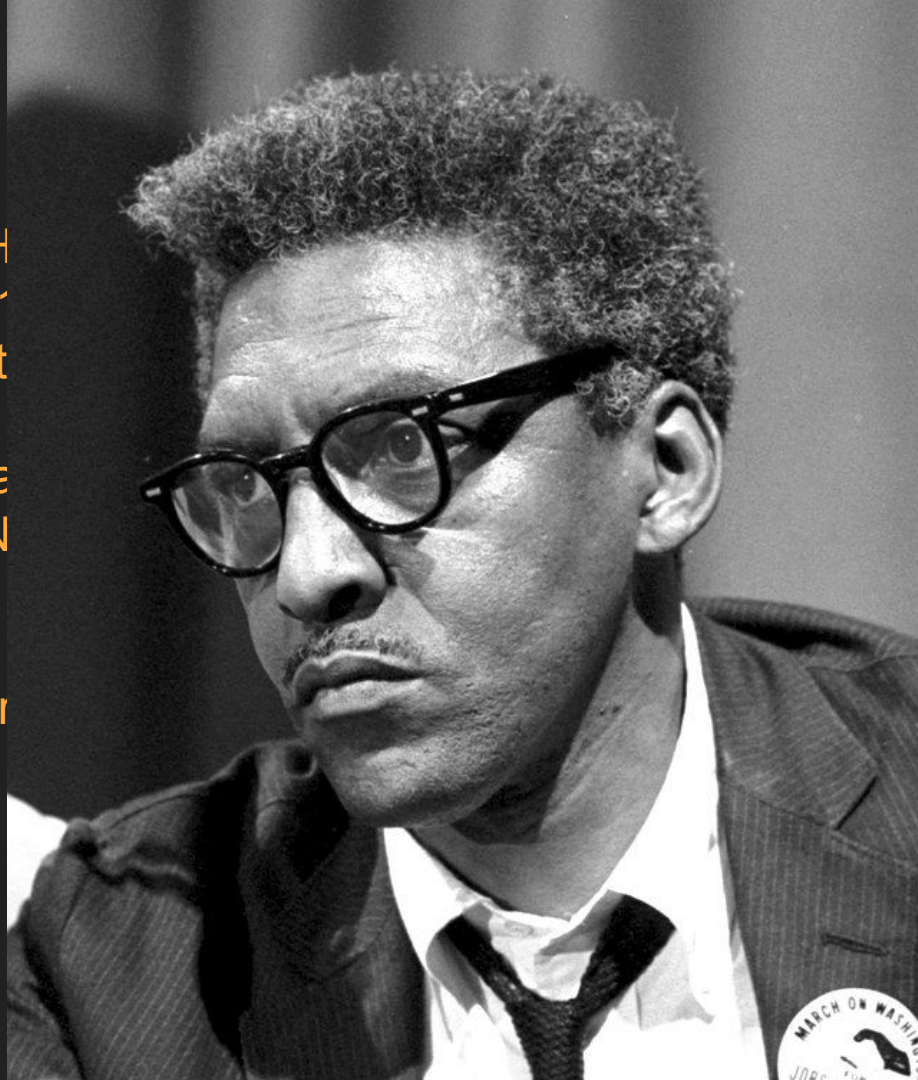


Bayard Rustin



Parents: Archie H  
DOB: March 17, 1941  
Place Born: West  
Siblings: none  
Marital status: ma  
Spouse: Walter N  
Children: none

Education: Wilber



# Contributions to society

Bayard Rustin made significant contributions to the civil rights movement in the United States.

He was a key organizer of the historic March on Washington in 1963, where Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

Rustin was a strong advocate for nonviolent protest and played a crucial role in organizing various civil rights campaigns and demonstrations.

He also worked tirelessly for social justice, fighting against discrimination and advocating for equal rights for all.

Rustin's contributions to the civil rights movement continue to inspire and shape our society today. Bayard Rustin was an influential figure in the civil rights movement.

He played a crucial role in organizing the historic March on Washington in 1963, where Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech.

Rustin's commitment to nonviolent protest and his tireless efforts for social justice have left a lasting impact on the fight for equality.

His contributions continue to inspire and shape the world we live in today.

Arna Bontemps

# Personal info

Parents:Paul Bismark Bontemps

DOB:October 13, 1902

Place Born:LA

Siblings:sister

Marital status:married

Spouse:Alberta Johnson

Children:6

Education:University of Chicago



# Contributions to society

Arna Bontemps was an influential African American writer and poet.

He was known for his works that explored the African American experience and addressed issues of race and identity.

Bontemps contributed greatly to the Harlem Renaissance, a cultural movement in the 1920s and 1930s that celebrated African American art, literature, and music.

Some of his notable works include the novel "Black Thunder" and the poetry collection "The Ballad of the Brown Girl."

Bontemps' writings continue to be celebrated for their powerful portrayal of African American life and their contribution to American literature.

Arna Bontemps made several significant contributions to African American literature and the Harlem Renaissance.

His works captured the experiences and struggles of African Americans, addressing themes of race, identity, and social injustice.

Carter Woodson

# Personal info

Parents: Anne Eliza Riddle Woodson, James Henry Woodson

DOB: December 19, 1875

Place Born: New canton VA

Siblings: Bessie Woodson Yancey

Marital status: single

Spouse: none

Children: none

Education: Harvard



## Contributions to society

He is the author of more than twenty books.

In 1915, he created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History while he worked as a teacher during Jim Crow American history who first opened the long-neglected field of Black studies to scholars and popularized the field in schools and colleges across the United States.

In 1919–20 Woodson was dean of the College of Liberal Arts and head of the graduate faculty at Howard University, in Washington, D.C., and he was dean at West Virginia State College from 1920 to 1922.

he also founded and became president of Associated Publishers, a publishing company that produced books on Black life and culture