



## **African American/Black Heritage Month February 2021**

When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention has never been to dictate or limit the exploration of the Black experience, but to bring to the public's attention important developments that merit emphasis.

For those interested in the study of identity and ideology, an exploration of ASALH's (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) Black History themes is itself instructive. Over the years, the themes reflect changes in how people of African descent in the United States have viewed themselves, the influence of social movements on racial ideologies, and the aspirations of the black community.

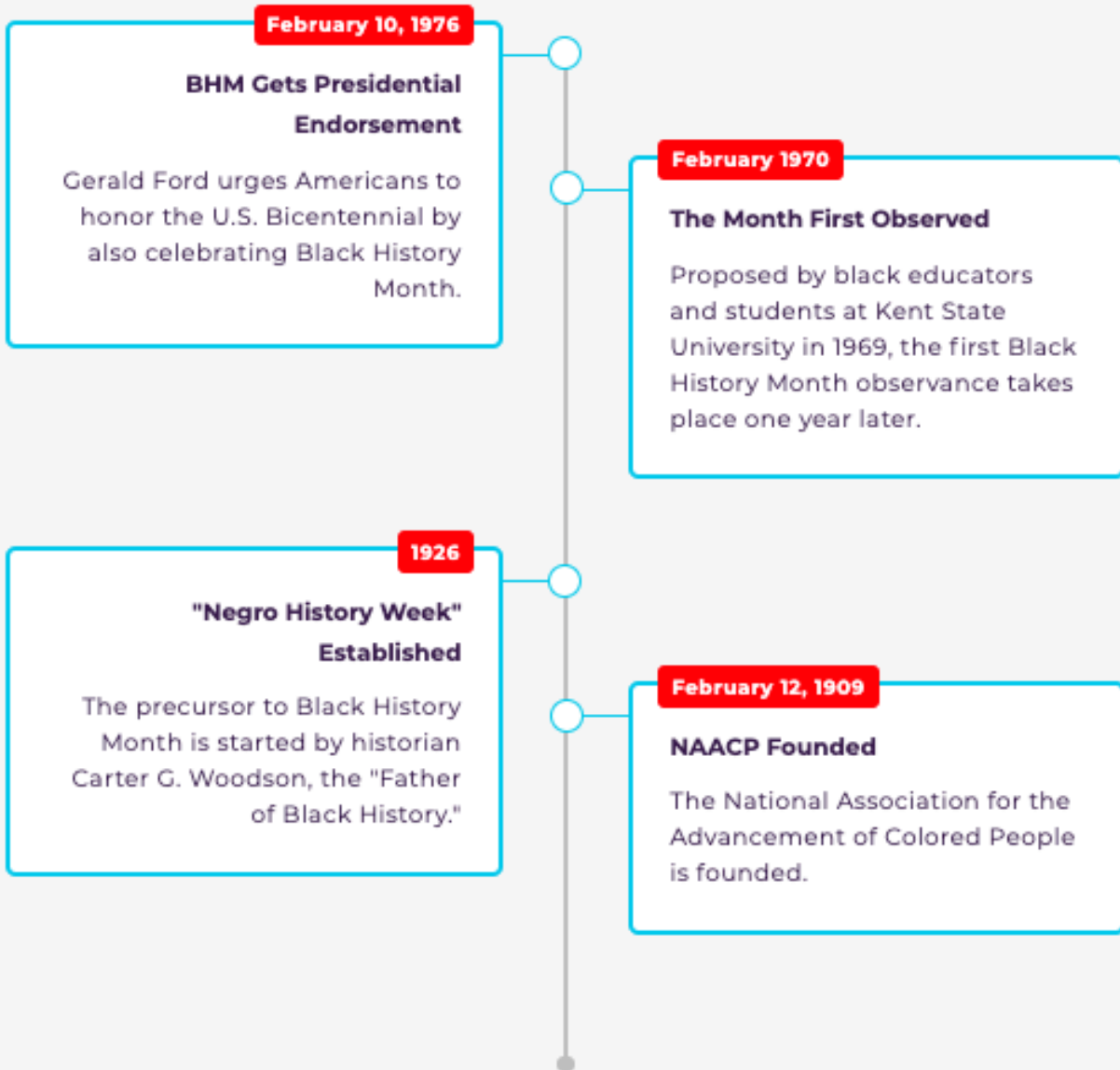
The changes notwithstanding, the list reveals an overarching continuity in ASALH—our dedication to exploring historical issues of importance to people of African descent and race relations in America.

### **Theme 2021 - *The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity.***

The black family has been a topic of study in many disciplines—history, literature, the visual arts and film studies, sociology, anthropology, and social policy. Its **representation, identity, and diversity** have been revered, stereotyped, and vilified from the days of slavery to our own time. The black family knows no single location, since family reunions and genetic-ancestry searches testify to the spread of family members across states, nations, and continents. Not only are individual black families diasporic, but Africa and the diaspora itself have been long portrayed as the black family at large. While the role of the black family has been described by some as a microcosm of the entire race, its complexity as the “foundation” of African American life and history can be seen in numerous debates over how to represent its meaning and typicality from a historical perspective—as slave or free, as patriarchal or matriarchal/matrifocal, as single-headed or dual-headed household, as extended or nuclear, as fictive kin or blood lineage, as legal or common law, and as black or interracial, etc. Variation appears, as well, in discussions on the nature and impact of parenting, childhood, marriage, gender norms, sexuality, and incarceration. The family offers a rich tapestry of images for exploring the African American past and present.

<https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/>

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH TIMELINE



## 5 SUPER INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BLACK AMERICAN HISTORY

### 1. Rosa Parks wasn't the first

Claudette Colvin, a 15-year-old girl, refused to move to the back of a bus nine months before Parks did.

### 2. MLK improvised his most famous speech

Although he had prepared notes, Martin Luther King Jr. improvised much of his "I Have A Dream" speech.

### 3. Esther came before Betty

The iconic cartoon character Betty Boop was modeled after a Harlem jazz singer named Esther Jones.

### 4. There were black senators in the 19th century

The first black U.S. senator was Hiram Revels, who took office in 1870.

### 5. Satchel Paige was baseball's first black hall-of-famer

Pitcher Satchel Paige was the first black player to be inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame.

<https://nationaltoday.com/black-history-month/>

## Resources

- Podcasts
  - [Teaching to Thrive](#)
  - [Floodlines](#)
  - [Intersectionality Matters!](#)
  - [Irresistible](#)
  - [Momentum](#)
  - [NYC Healing Collective](#)
  - [1619](#)
  - [Speaking of Racism](#)
  - [Still Processing](#)
  - [Throughline](#)
  - [Too Dope Teachers and a Mic](#)
  - [Women at Work](#)
- Read
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> How BLM Is Changing What Students Learn During Black History Month
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> A Guide to Equity and Antiracism For Educators
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> Affirming Black Lives Without Inducing Trauma
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> Antiracist Work in Schools: Are You In It For The Long Haul?
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> 5 Ways to Avoid Whitewashing the Civil Rights Movement
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> Black LGBTQ+ History: Teachers Need To Do A Better Job
  - <[ARTICLE](#)> Do's and Don'ts of Teaching Black History
  - <[BOOK](#)> We Want to Do More Than Survive
  - <[GUIDE](#)> ATN's Guide for Racial Justice and Abolitionist SEL
- Watch
  - <[WEBINAR](#)> Teach The Black Freedom Struggle
  - <[TED Talk](#)> How To Raise A Black Son In America
  - <[TED Talk](#)> The Danger of Silence
  - <[TED Talk](#)> The Racial Politics of Time
  - <[TED Talk](#)> The Urgency of Intersectionality
  - <[TED Talk](#)> We Need to Talk About Injustice
- Do/Act/Explore
  - <[PRACTICE](#)> Becoming An Anti-Racist Educator
- Lesson Resources
  - <[LITERACY](#)> Cultivating Genius: An Equity Framework for Culturally and Historically Responsive Literacy
  - <[LESSON PLAN](#)> Teaching Hard History From The Beginning
  - <[TEACHING TOLERANCE](#)> 34 Black History Lesson Plans
  - <[TEACHING RESOURCES](#)> What Does Antiracism Mean in My Content?

- [The Arts](#)
- [Early Childhood](#)
- [Elementary](#)
- [World Language](#)
- [Literacy](#)
- [Health/PE/Sports](#)
- [Math](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Counseling](#)
- [Social Studies](#)
- [SPED](#)

\*Gratitude to the [Abolitionist Teaching Network](#) for curating most of these resources