

Celebrates

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

"We are not makers of history, we are made by history"
- Martin Luther King, JR.



DANIEL HALE WILLIAMS



MADAM C.J. WALKER

INVENTORS



JACK JOHNSON



ERNEST JUST

DANIEL HALE WILLIAMS

January 18, 1856 – August 4, 1931

Mr. Williams was a pioneer of Open Heart Surgery. Performing his first open heart surgery on July 9, 1893 on a young black man by the name of James Cornish. At the time it was almost unheard of to perform an internal operation on the chest or abdomen due to the risk of infection. The surgery was a success and Cornish went on to live another 50 years. Williams's procedures would be used as standards for future internal surgeries.

GARRETT MORGAN

March 4, 1877 – July 27 1963

Mr. Morgan was a man of many inventions. Two that are still widely used today are the gas mask and the traffic light. Morgan originally created the gas mask to aid firemen on the job. It proved useful to not only firemen, but our soldiers during World War I. The gas mask helped the United States army save the lives of thousands of soldiers. The traffic light ensures the safety of people all around the world today.

ERNEST JUST

August 14, 1883 – October 27, 1941

Ernest Just received his Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Chicago in 1916. Just believed learning about the healthy cells and cell structures on marine animals and their eggs would hopefully help man understand and find cures for cellular irregularities and diseases such as sickle cell anemia and cancer. In 1915 at the age of 32, Just was awarded the first Spingarn Medal by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

GEORGE CRUM

1822 – 1904

George Crum invented something we all have had at least once. In 1853 Crum was the head chef at the Cary Moon's Lake House in Lake Saratoga, New York. One evening he intended to make french fries but his guests were complaining the potatoes were too thick. Crum sliced them very thin and deep fried them until they were crisp and added salt. The guests loved them! This is how potato chips were invented!

JACK JOHNSON

March 31, 1878 – June 10, 1946

Jack Johnson was a boxer who captured the "Colored Heavyweight Championship of the World" on February 3, 1903 in Los Angeles, California and became the World Heavyweight Champion in 1908. Johnson was imprisoned in 1912 when he was arrested for violation on the Mann Act, a law that prohibited Black men from traveling with white women. At the time he was travelling with his white girlfriend to another state. While in Leavenworth Federal Prison in Kansas, Johnson crafted a tool to help loosen and tighten devices. This tool is now known to us all as a wrench.

LONNIE JOHNSON

October 6, 1949 –

Lonnie Johnson's father taught him and his brother to repair household items, which sparked an interest in the boys to create their own toys. Johnson was very interested in science experiments, and they did not always go well. He accidentally burned part of the kitchen with a rocket launcher he created. He joined the Air Force and was stationed in Albuquerque. After he left the Air force he set out to create a pressurized water gun that was safe enough for children to play with. This is how he created the Super Soaker, first patented as the Power Drencher.

MADAM C.J. WALKER

December 23, 1867 – May 25, 1919

Walker moved around a lot as a child. She finally settled in St. Louis Missouri where she worked as a cook and housecleaner. Walker had lots of stress going on, before her move her husband was murdered. She was losing a lot of hair due to this. This is when she realized there were no hair products for African Americans. Walker claimed a big black man came to her in a dream and told her what ingredients she needed for her hair products. After creating it, it became popular amongst the other African American Women. Walker patented her product and was able to provide her daughter a college education.

PATRICIA BATH

November 4, 1942 –

When Patricia Bath was only 16 years old she worked in the field of cancer research under Dr. Robert Bernard and Rabbi Moses D. Tendler. During this time she formed many of her own theories on cancer growth and at the end of summer she presented her theory on cancer growth based off a mathematical equation. Dr. Bernard was so impressed with her research he used it to present a joint scientific research paper he presented at a conference in Washington, D.C. Due to the publicity about her work Bath was awarded the 1960 Merit award. Bath went on to continue her career in research, focusing on Cataracts. Bath invented the "Laserphaco Probe", a device that worked as a laser and two tubes. This device is used for irrigation and aspiration during Cataracts surgery.

MARK DEAN

March 2, 1957 –

Mark Dean graduated at the top of his class with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Tennessee in 1979. Deana was joined IBM as an engineer in 1980. Along with his colleague Dennis Moeller, he developed the Industry Standard Architecture (ISA) systems bus, a component that allowed multiple peripheral devices like modems and printers to be connected to a PC. Dean would go on to own three of the original nine patents that all PCs are based upon, including the Color Graphics Adapter.

MEREDITH GOURDINE

September 26, 1929 – November 20, 1998

Meredith Gourdine's father believed in the value of education, telling his son "If you don't want to be a laborer all your life, stay in school". Meredith did as his father said and excelled in academics and athletics. Gourdine went to college at Cornell University, graduation with a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Physics in 1953. In 1964, Gourdine borrowed \$200,000 from family and friends to open his own research laboratory. Gourdine Laboratories worked on Electrogasdynamics, the generation of energy from molecules under high pressure. Their research led to the invention of the Incineraid system, which was used to disperse smoke from burning buildings by negatively charging smoke and causing the airborne particles to fall to the ground. This resulted in cleaner air.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
ON BLACK HISTORY VISIT
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Central New Mexico Community College