

# black history month hidden figures

Black History Month Hidden Figures: Celebrating Unsung Heroes

**black history month hidden figures** often refers to the remarkable individuals whose contributions have been overlooked or underappreciated throughout history. While Black History Month is a time to honor the well-known trailblazers like Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Malcolm X, it's equally important to recognize those lesser-known pioneers who have shaped our world in profound ways. These hidden figures have left an indelible mark across science, arts, politics, and social justice, yet their stories remain largely untold. Exploring these narratives not only enriches our understanding of history but also inspires future generations to dream bigger and break barriers.

## Unveiling Black History Month Hidden Figures in Science and Technology

When people think about groundbreaking scientists and inventors, a handful of names usually come to mind. However, many Black innovators have contributed significantly to advancements in science and technology, often without receiving the recognition they deserve.

### Katherine Johnson: The Human Computer Behind NASA's Success

One of the most famous hidden figures is Katherine Johnson, a mathematician whose calculations were critical to NASA's space missions. Her work on trajectory analysis helped send astronauts into orbit and back safely during the early days of space exploration. Despite facing racial and gender discrimination, Johnson's brilliance and perseverance broke barriers, paving the way for future generations of Black women in STEM fields.

### Dr. Charles Drew: The Father of the Blood Bank

Dr. Charles Drew revolutionized medical science with his pioneering work in blood transfusion and storage. During World War II, he developed techniques to preserve blood plasma, which saved countless lives on the battlefield and beyond. Despite his monumental contributions, Drew's story is often overshadowed in medical history, making him a vital hidden figure to celebrate during Black History Month.

# **Creative Genius: Black History Month Hidden Figures in Arts and Culture**

The cultural landscape of America and the world has been shaped profoundly by Black artists, musicians, and writers whose influence is immeasurable yet sometimes underrecognized.

## **Augusta Savage: Sculptor and Educator Who Nurtured Harlem Renaissance Talent**

Augusta Savage was a talented sculptor and teacher who played a crucial role during the Harlem Renaissance. Her sculptures captured the strength and beauty of Black identity, while her mentorship inspired a new generation of Black artists. Despite limited resources and opportunities, Savage's legacy lives on through those she taught and the art she created.

## **Clifton Taulbert: Chronicler of African American Heritage**

As an author and storyteller, Clifton Taulbert has dedicated his life to preserving the history and culture of the African American community. His works emphasize the importance of family, community, and resilience, offering readers a deeper understanding of Black experiences in America. Taulbert's contributions highlight how storytelling can serve as a powerful tool for social change and cultural preservation.

## **The Impactful Activists: Unsung Heroes of Civil Rights and Social Justice**

While names like Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks dominate civil rights history, numerous other activists have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to advance equality and justice.

## **Bayard Rustin: The Strategist Behind the March on Washington**

Bayard Rustin was a master organizer and strategist whose behind-the-scenes efforts were vital to the success of the civil rights movement. He played a key role in planning the 1963 March on Washington, where Dr. King delivered his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. Despite his significant contributions, Rustin's open homosexuality and political views led

to his marginalization in mainstream narratives, making him a quintessential hidden figure of Black History Month.

## **Fannie Lou Hamer: Voice of the Mississippi Freedom Movement**

Fannie Lou Hamer was a fearless advocate for voting rights and racial equality in the Deep South during the 1960s. Her powerful speeches and grassroots organizing helped galvanize the civil rights movement on the ground level. Hamer's story exemplifies how courage and determination at the community level can influence national change, yet she remains less known outside activist circles.

## **Why Recognizing Black History Month Hidden Figures Matters**

Acknowledging these hidden figures is more than just filling gaps in history books; it's about honoring the full spectrum of Black excellence and resilience. Here's why it's essential:

- **Broadening Perspectives:** Learning about hidden figures challenges the dominant narratives and encourages a more inclusive understanding of history.
- **Inspiring Future Generations:** Stories of unsung heroes provide role models who demonstrate that success is possible despite obstacles.
- **Encouraging Equity in Recognition:** Highlighting diverse contributions helps combat systemic biases in how history is recorded and taught.

## **How to Celebrate Black History Month by Honoring Hidden Figures**

If you're looking to deepen your Black History Month observance, here are some meaningful ways to bring hidden figures into the spotlight:

### **Explore Books and Documentaries**

Seek out biographies, memoirs, and documentaries that focus on lesser-known Black pioneers. Titles like "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly or documentaries about

activists like Bayard Rustin offer rich insights into these remarkable lives.

## **Support Black-Owned Businesses and Artists**

Many contemporary Black creators and entrepreneurs draw inspiration from historical hidden figures. Supporting their work helps continue the legacy of innovation and cultural expression.

## **Engage in Community Discussions and Events**

Local libraries, schools, and cultural centers often host talks or exhibits featuring stories of Black history month hidden figures. Participating in these events can broaden your knowledge and foster community connection.

## **Incorporate Hidden Figures into Education**

Whether you're a teacher, parent, or lifelong learner, integrating the stories of overlooked Black figures into curriculums or personal study plans enriches the educational experience and promotes diversity.

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In celebrating Black History Month, shining a light on hidden figures invites us to recognize the depth and diversity of Black contributions. Their stories, though sometimes buried in the shadows of history, continue to inspire courage, creativity, and change. By learning about and honoring these individuals, we not only pay tribute to their legacies but also build a more inclusive and truthful picture of the past and present.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is Black History Month?**

Black History Month is an annual observance in February that celebrates the achievements and contributions of African Americans throughout history.

### **Who are the 'Hidden Figures' in Black History Month?**

The 'Hidden Figures' refer to African American women mathematicians and scientists whose contributions to NASA and the space race were largely unrecognized for many years.

## **Why are the 'Hidden Figures' important to Black History Month?**

The 'Hidden Figures' symbolize the overlooked achievements of African Americans, particularly women, in science and technology, highlighting the importance of recognizing diverse contributions to history.

## **Who were the main 'Hidden Figures' featured in the book and movie 'Hidden Figures'?**

The main figures are Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, African American women who made critical contributions to NASA's space missions.

## **What contributions did Katherine Johnson make as a 'Hidden Figure'?**

Katherine Johnson calculated trajectories, launch windows, and return paths for NASA missions, including John Glenn's orbital flight, ensuring mission success and astronaut safety.

## **How did Dorothy Vaughan contribute as a 'Hidden Figure'?**

Dorothy Vaughan was a mathematician and human computer who became NASA's first African American supervisor and taught herself and her team computer programming to adapt to technological changes.

## **What role did Mary Jackson play at NASA?**

Mary Jackson became NASA's first African American female engineer, working to improve spacecraft design and advocating for women and minorities in engineering careers.

## **How did the story of the 'Hidden Figures' impact public awareness during Black History Month?**

Their story brought attention to the significant but previously unrecognized contributions of African American women, inspiring education and celebration of diversity in STEM fields.

## **What lessons can be learned from the 'Hidden Figures' during Black History Month?**

The 'Hidden Figures' teach the importance of perseverance, breaking barriers, and recognizing the contributions of marginalized groups in shaping history and advancing society.

# How can schools incorporate the story of 'Hidden Figures' into Black History Month activities?

Schools can include lessons, documentaries, and discussions about the 'Hidden Figures,' highlighting their achievements and encouraging students to explore STEM careers and the history of civil rights.

## Additional Resources

Black History Month Hidden Figures: Unveiling the Untold Stories of Pioneering African Americans

**black history month hidden figures** represent a crucial yet often overlooked segment of African American heritage. While mainstream narratives tend to highlight well-known icons such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Harriet Tubman, countless other individuals have contributed profoundly to social, scientific, cultural, and political progress. These hidden figures not only shaped history but also laid foundational stones for future generations. As Black History Month invites reflection and education, it is imperative to delve deeper into these lesser-known stories to achieve a comprehensive understanding of African American impact.

## Understanding the Importance of Black History Month Hidden Figures

Black History Month serves as an annual reminder to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions of African Americans throughout history. However, popular discourse often focuses on a handful of prominent personalities, inadvertently sidelining numerous pivotal figures. The concept of "hidden figures" extends beyond mere obscurity; it reflects systemic issues such as racial discrimination, historical erasure, and limited access to mainstream platforms. Recognizing these individuals allows for a richer and more nuanced appreciation of Black history and its multifaceted dimensions.

The term "hidden figures" gained popular traction following the 2016 film of the same name, which highlighted African American women mathematicians at NASA whose work was critical during the space race. This example underscores a broader pattern: many Black men and women have made invaluable contributions in various fields, including science, arts, politics, and civil rights, yet remain largely absent from textbooks and public memory.

## Historical Context and Reasons for Overlooked Contributions

Several factors contribute to the invisibility of Black history month hidden figures. Systemic racism often led to the suppression or marginalization of African American

achievements. Historical documentation was frequently controlled by dominant social groups who prioritized Eurocentric narratives. Furthermore, socio-economic barriers limited educational and professional opportunities for Black individuals, restricting their visibility in influential arenas.

The consequences extend beyond historical record-keeping; they shape contemporary perceptions and cultural identity. By revisiting and amplifying these hidden figures, society challenges existing prejudices and fosters inclusivity. This approach is essential not only for honoring past contributions but also for inspiring future innovation and leadership among underrepresented communities.

## **Profiles of Notable Black History Month Hidden Figures**

Exploring specific examples of black history month hidden figures reveals a tapestry of innovation, resilience, and leadership. These individuals span diverse disciplines and time periods, illustrating the breadth of African American excellence.

### **Katherine Johnson: Mathematician and NASA Pioneer**

Before the popularization of her story in the film "Hidden Figures," Katherine Johnson's groundbreaking work was largely unrecognized. As a mathematician at NASA, Johnson calculated trajectories for the first American manned spaceflights, including John Glenn's orbital mission in 1962. Her precision and expertise were critical to mission success, especially when computational technology was in its infancy.

Johnson's story exemplifies how Black women faced dual barriers of race and gender in STEM fields. Despite this, her contributions helped shape the United States' position in the space race, underscoring the importance of acknowledging hidden figures within scientific history.

### **Bayard Rustin: Architect of the Civil Rights Movement**

Bayard Rustin played a pivotal role as an organizer and strategist behind many civil rights milestones, most notably the 1963 March on Washington. Despite his crucial involvement, Rustin's identity as a gay Black man led to his marginalization within the movement and public discourse.

Rustin's experience highlights how intersectionality influenced the visibility of Black history month hidden figures. His story challenges monolithic portrayals and enriches understanding of the complexities within social justice movements.

# **Claudette Colvin: The Precursor to Rosa Parks**

Often overshadowed by Rosa Parks, Claudette Colvin was a teenager who refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, nine months before Parks' historic act. Colvin's arrest and legal challenge laid groundwork for the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the broader civil rights struggle.

Colvin's case illustrates how many individuals contributed to social change in ways that remain underrepresented in popular memory. Recognizing such figures helps reframe narratives to be more inclusive and accurate.

## **Broader Implications of Highlighting Hidden Figures**

The deliberate focus on black history month hidden figures enriches educational curricula, media representation, and cultural understanding. It encourages critical examination of historical narratives and promotes diversity in role models. This shift has practical benefits, including fostering a sense of belonging among minority youth and challenging systemic inequalities.

## **Impact on Education and Curriculum Development**

Incorporating the stories of hidden figures into academic frameworks counters the traditional Eurocentric bias prevalent in many educational systems. Schools that integrate diverse Black historical narratives report increased student engagement and cultural competence. For example, including lesser-known figures like Mary McLeod Bethune, an educator and civil rights leader, broadens perspectives on leadership and activism.

## **Media Representation and Public Awareness**

Media plays a vital role in shaping public perceptions. Documentaries, films, and books that explore black history month hidden figures contribute to greater societal recognition. The success of projects like the "Hidden Figures" film and documentaries about Black inventors or artists demonstrates a growing appetite for diverse stories.

However, media representation also presents challenges. Simplification or dramatization can sometimes obscure factual accuracy. Therefore, a balanced approach that respects complexity while engaging audiences is necessary.

## **Challenges and Opportunities in Researching**

# Hidden Figures

Uncovering black history month hidden figures involves navigating incomplete archives, oral histories, and systemic biases. Researchers face obstacles such as scarce documentation, lost records, and the need for community engagement to reconstruct stories.

Despite these challenges, advancements in digital archiving, oral history projects, and interdisciplinary scholarship offer promising avenues. Collaborative efforts between historians, educators, and cultural institutions continue to expand access to these vital narratives.

- **Challenges:** Limited primary sources, historical erasure, and institutional neglect.
- **Opportunities:** Technological tools for digital preservation, community-based research, and inclusive historiography.

## Role of Institutions and Community Organizations

Museums, libraries, and advocacy groups play instrumental roles in preserving and promoting hidden figures. Institutions such as the National Museum of African American History and Culture actively curate exhibitions highlighting underrepresented stories. Community organizations often facilitate oral history projects, ensuring that personal and familial experiences contribute to the historical record.

These collaborative efforts ensure that black history month hidden figures receive deserved recognition and that their legacies inspire ongoing social progress.

Throughout Black History Month, the deliberate act of shining a light on these hidden figures fosters a more comprehensive and truthful understanding of American history. It challenges society to rethink who is celebrated and why, urging a move beyond tokenism toward genuine inclusivity and respect for the breadth of African American contributions.

## Black History Month Hidden Figures

**black history month hidden figures: Kreativität** Melanie Raabe, 2020-11-02 Kreativität ist eine Lebenseinstellung Kreativität macht glücklich – und sie hilft uns dabei, die Herausforderungen des Lebens zu meistern, im Großen wie im Kleinen. Melanie Raabe, SPIEGEL-Bestsellerautorin und selbst lange auf der Suche nach ihrem „ganz persönlichen Ding“, erklärt in diesem Buch, weshalb wir alle kreativ sind und wie wir die Inspiration finden, um auf das zu stoßen, was uns im Innersten ausmacht und weiterbringt. Dabei geht es um Mut und Beharrlichkeit, Leichtigkeit und Durchhaltevermögen, um Originalität und Schnapsideen, um Produktivität und Prokrastination, ums Scheitern und vor allem: ums Weitermachen, auch wenn ein rauer Wind bläst. Denn Kreativität ist

mehr als der gelegentliche Geistesblitz. Kreativität ist eine Lebenseinstellung.

**black history month hidden figures: The 1960s on Film** Jim Willis, Mark Miller, 2021-10-11  
The 1960s on Film tells the narrative of the 1960s through the lens of the movie camera, analyzing 10 films that focus on the people, events, and issues of the decade. Films create both an impression of and – at times for younger audiences – a primary definition of events, people, and issues of an era. The 1960s on Film examines the 1960s as the decade was presented in ten films that focused on that decade. This book analyzes both what the films have to say about the era and how close they come to accurately depicting it. For example, films such as Mississippi Burning and Selma tell the story of racial conflict and hope for reconciliation in the 1960s. Other films such as The Right Stuff and Hidden Figures show the deep fascination America had at that time with the burgeoning space program and NASA, while Easy Rider analyzes the role of rock music and drugs among young people of the decade. The Deer Hunter studies the controversies surrounding the war in Vietnam.

**black history month hidden figures: Black History Is All Our History** Salli Penni, 2024-07-31  
In celebration of Black History Month, this engaging book from award-winning barrister Dr Sally Penni MBE shines a spotlight on a number of notable Black Britons (plus a handful of world figures) and their achievements. From well-known figures such as Lewis Hamilton to lesser-known yet equally amazing individuals (such as Walter Tull, considered the UK's first professional black footballer) the book fascinates and informs in equal measure. This quick-read biographical anthology is a great reminder of the diversity of both British and world history, and is a perfect either as a pick-up, put-down book, or as a captivating binge read. From black Romans to black Tudors and black soldiers... Black History is All Our History!

**black history month hidden figures: Focus On: 100 Most Popular Drama Films Based on Actual Events** Wikipedia contributors,

**black history month hidden figures: *Reclaiming the Black Past*** Pero G. Dagbovie, 2018-11-13  
The past and future of Black history In this information-overloaded twenty-first century, it seems impossible to fully discern or explain how we know about the past. But two things are certain. Whether we are conscious of it or not, we all think historically on a routine basis. And our perceptions of history, including African American history, have not necessarily been shaped by professional historians. In this wide-reaching and timely book, Pero Gaglo Dagbovie argues that public knowledge and understanding of black history, including its historical icons, has been shaped by institutions and individuals outside academic ivory towers. Drawing on a range of compelling examples, Dagbovie explores how, in the twenty-first century, African American history is regarded, depicted, and juggled by diverse and contesting interpreters—from museum curators to filmmakers, entertainers, politicians, journalists, and bloggers. Underscoring the ubiquitous nature of African-American history in contemporary American thought and culture, each chapter unpacks how black history has been represented and remembered primarily during the “Age of Obama,” the so-called era of “post-racial” American society. Reclaiming the Black Past is Dagbovie's contribution to expanding how we understand African American history during the new millennium.

**black history month hidden figures: Educating African American Students** Gloria Swindler Boutte, 2022-07-12 This straightforward and reader-friendly text provides strategies for P-12 educators who are interested in ensuring the cultural and academic excellence of African American students. It presents a careful balance of published scholarship, a framework for culturally relevant teaching, and research-based cases of teachers who excel at teaching Black children. Examples from multi-ethnic teachers across P-12 grades and content areas (e.g., ELA, science, mathematics, social studies, arts) are presented so that others can extrapolate in their respective educational settings. This book explains Black culture, anti-Black racism, African Diaspora Literacy, African American Language, and pro-Black and actionable steps that educators can adopt and implement. Examples of culturally relevant family and community involvement are provided. As with the previous edition, readers will appreciate a multitude of resources. After reading this book, educators will view educating African American students as exhilarating and rewarding and Black students will flourish.

**black history month hidden figures: Black and Great** Rene Germain, 2022-05-12 An

inspiring read from start to finish. It is not often you get to read a compilation of experiences and insight from such a diverse variety of Black British talent, who have all excelled in their chosen field. The wisdom shared in the book will be invaluable for budding scientists, politicians, sportspeople, bankers and entertainers alike. - Selina Flavius, author and founder of Black Girl Finance Featuring interviews and letters from some of the UK's leading Black voices in their respective fields - including Beverley Knight MBE, Trevor Nelson MBE, Gina Yashere, Christine Ohuruogu MBE, Ronke Lawal, Kayode Ewumi, Kwame Kwei-Armah OBE, JB Gill, Tangy Morgan, Alexandra Burke, Professor Patricia Daley (the first Black woman to be appointed a lecturer at the University of Oxford) and Ashley Walters - Black and Great is essential reading for Black professionals ready to make their mark in the working world and beyond! Black and Great not only highlights the specific challenges Black people face in the working world, but provides readers with honest and practical advice to thrive and carve out the career of their dreams, whilst embracing their Blackness. The book will share the career journeys of over 20 successful Black British professionals and entrepreneurs from TV & film, sport, media, law, medicine and finance through open letters and interviews, providing advice, support and encouragement to Black students and professionals starting out in their working lives. From personal branding to salary negotiation and overcoming Imposter Syndrome, this candid and inspirational book reveals their highs and lows, how they bounced back from failure, plus the best and worst advice they have received over the years.

**black history month hidden figures: Black Women Shattering Stereotypes** Kay Siebler, 2021-04-21 Black Women Shattering Stereotypes: A Streaming Revolution focuses on the work, voices, and perspectives of Black women in popular film and television. Kay Siebler argues that within the past five years, in response to the digital age and the number of racist stereotypes being purported in dominant culture, Black women creators are making entertainment media that fights back against these racist and sexist narratives and celebrates the realities of being Black and being a woman in today's world. When Black women are behind the camera, writing, directing, and producing, Siebler finds, the representations of Black women change dramatically in empowering and important ways. Focusing on films and series produced since 2015 that are made by, for, and about Black women, Siebler analyzes the portrayals of Black women and their culture in *Bessie*, *Self Made*, *Hidden Figures*, *Harriet*, *Insecure*, *Being Mary Jane*, *Twenties*, and *Chewing Gum*, among others. Siebler intertwines these analyses with in-depth interviews with over one hundred Black women throughout the book, offering a variety of perspectives across the broad spectrum of demographics that are—and are not—being represented in mainstream media.

**black history month hidden figures: Teaching Beautiful Brilliant Black Girls** Omobolade Delano-Oriaran, Marguerite W. Penick, Shemariah J. Arki, Ali Michael, Orinthia Swindell, Eddie Moore Jr., 2021-03-27 Be a part of the radical transformation to honor and respect Beautiful Brilliant Black Girls! This book is a collective call to action for educational justice and fairness for all Black Girls - Beautiful, Brilliant. This edited volume focuses on transforming how Black Girls are understood, respected, and taught. Editors and authors intentionally present the harrowing experiences Black Girls endure and provide readers with an understanding of Black Girls' beauty, talents, and brilliance. This book calls willing and knowledgeable educators to disrupt and transform their learning spaces by presenting: Detailed chapters rooted in scholarship, lived experiences, and practice Activities, recommendations, shorter personal narratives, and poetry honoring Black Girls Resources centering Black female protagonists Companion videos illustrating first-hand experiences of Black Girls and women Tools in authentically connecting with Black Girls so they can do more than survive - they can thrive.

**black history month hidden figures: Black American History For Dummies** Ronda Racha Penrice, 2021-05-18 Go deeper than the Black History you may think you know! Black American History For Dummies reveals the terrors and struggles and celebrates the triumphs of Black Americans. This handy book goes way beyond what you may have studied in school, digging into the complexities and the intrigues that make up Black America. From slavery and the Civil Rights movement to Black Wall Street, Juneteenth, redlining, and Black Lives Matter, this book offers an

accessible resource for understanding the facts and events critical to Black history in America. The history of Black Americans is the history of Americans; Americans dance to Black music, read Black literature, watch Black movies, and whether they know it or not reap the benefits of the vibrant political, athletic, and sociological contributions of Black Americans. With this book, you can dive into history, culture, and beyond. See how far there's yet to go in the approach to studying Black American culture and ending racism. Get the authoritative story on the growth and evolution of Black America from slavery, Reconstruction, Jim Crow, the Civil Rights era through to today. Discover the Black artists, musicians, athletes, and leaders who have made the United States what it is. Develop a fuller understanding of concerns about police brutality and other front-and-center race issues. Find out how every aspect of American life connects to Black history. *Black American History For Dummies* is for anyone who needs to learn or re-learn the true history about Black Americans.

**black history month hidden figures: *100 Black Women Who Shaped America*** Glenn L. Starks, 2024-06-27 This introductory text explores the lives of 100 Black women and their unique and meaningful legacies upon the history, society, and culture of the USA. Today, the names and remarkable achievements of Black women such as Maya Angelou, Serena Williams, Michelle Obama, and Oprah Winfrey are well known to many Americans. Yet throughout American history, many lesser-known Black women like them have made invaluable contributions to sports, science, the arts, medicine, politics, and civil rights. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, who published the first newspaper written for and by African American women, championed the cause of women's suffrage. Matilda Sissieretta Jones, whose father was an enslaved person, toured Europe and performed at the White House in front of four different presidents as one of the great sopranos of her generation. Augusta Savage, overcoming racism and sexism, became one of the most celebrated sculptors in history. This book serves as an important reminder that the story of America cannot be told without the Black women who, with strength and determination, have always pushed America forward even when others held them back.

**black history month hidden figures: *Black History Month UK Primary School Pack*** DK, 2021-08-05 This fantastic resource pack contains what you need to teach your class in Black History Month. The pack includes four biographies of famous Black men and women and DK's Timelines from Black History to explore other significant and inspiring Black individuals, with lesson plans for KS1 and KS2 English, with drama activities, writing frames, comprehension activities, timelines, and more! Support your teaching of this important topic with our Black History Month (UK) pack.

**black history month hidden figures: *Redefining Geek*** Cassidy Puckett, 2022-04-20 After six years teaching technology classes to first-generation, low-income middle-school students in Oakland, California, Cassidy Puckett has seen firsthand that being good with technology is not something people are born with—it's something they learn. In *Redefining Geek*, she overturns the stereotypes around the digitally savvy and identifies the habits that can help everyone cultivate their inner geek. -- Through her solid research and her experiences with working with diverse student learners, Puckett does an exemplary job in helping readers understand and rethink what it means to be technologically competent... This knowledge and her guidance—coupled with a thorough examination of how our biases can further exacerbate the digital divide— is beneficial in designing tech curriculum and programs that are more inclusive and supportive to the diverse communities that they are serving. A must-read for any professional seeking to improve and advance technology education. -- Susanne Tedrick, author of *Women of Color in Tech*

**black history month hidden figures: *The Humanity Archive*** Jermaine Fowler, 2023-02-28 This sweeping survey of Black history shows how Black humanity has been erased and how its recovery can save the humanity of us all. Using history as a foundation, *The Humanity Archive* uses storytelling techniques to make history come alive and uncover the truth behind America's whitewashed history. The *Humanity Archive* focuses on the overlooked narratives in the pages of the past. Challenging dominant perspectives, author Jermaine Fowler goes outside the textbooks to find recognizably human stories. Connecting current issues with the heroic struggles of those who have come before us, Fowler brings hidden history to light. Praise for *The Humanity Archive*: From the

African Slave Trade to Seneca Village to Biddy Mason and more, The Humanity Archive is a very enriching read on the history of Blackness around the world. I was hooked by Fowler's storytelling and would recommend others who want to pore over a book that outlines critical moments in history—without putting you to sleep. — Philip Lewis, Senior Editor, HuffPost Fowler sees historical storytelling and the sharing of knowledge as a vocation and a means of fostering empathy and understanding between cultures. A deft storyteller with a sonorous voice, Fowler's passion for his material is palpable as he unfurls the hidden histories. — Vanity Fair Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Jermaine Fowler is a storyteller and self-proclaimed intellectual adventurer who spent his youth seeking knowledge on the shelves of his local free public library. Between research and lecturing, he is the host of the top-rated history podcast, The Humanity Archive, praised as a must-listen by Vanity Fair. Challenging dominant perspectives, Fowler goes outside the textbooks to find recognizably human stories. Connecting current issues with the heroic struggles of those who've come before us, he brings hidden history to light and makes it powerfully relevant.

**black history month hidden figures: Pro-Blackness in Early Childhood Education** Gloria Swindler Boutte, Jarvis J. Jackson, Saudah N. Collins, Janice R. Baines, Anthony Broughton, George Lee Johnson, 2024 This book provides evidence-based curriculum examples, pedagogies, and resources; demonstrates how teachers can achieve Pro-Black teaching while also addressing curricular standards; and explains the benefit of Pro-Black teaching for all children--

**black history month hidden figures: *Black Culture, Inc.*** Patricia A. Banks, 2022-04-19 A surprising and fascinating look at how Black culture has been leveraged by corporate America. Open the brochure for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and you'll see logos for corporations like American Express. Visit the website for the Apollo Theater, and you'll notice acknowledgments to corporations like Coca Cola and Citibank. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, owe their very existence to large corporate donations from companies like General Motors. And while we can easily make sense of the need for such funding to keep cultural spaces afloat, less obvious are the reasons that corporations give to them. In *Black Culture, Inc.*, Patricia A. Banks interrogates the notion that such giving is completely altruistic, and argues for a deeper understanding of the hidden transactions being conducted that render corporate America dependent on Black culture. Drawing on a range of sources, such as public relations and advertising texts on corporate cultural patronage and observations at sponsored cultural events, Banks argues that Black cultural patronage profits firms by signaling that they value diversity, equity, and inclusion. By functioning in this manner, support of Black cultural initiatives affords these companies something called diversity capital, an increasingly valuable commodity in today's business landscape. While this does not necessarily detract from the social good that cultural patronage does, it reveals its secret cost: ethnic community support may serve to obscure an otherwise poor track record with social justice. Banks deftly weaves innovative theory with detailed observations and a discerning critical gaze at the various agendas infiltrating memorials, museums, and music festivals meant to celebrate Black culture. At a time when accusations of discriminatory practices are met with immediate legal and social condemnation, the insights offered here are urgent and necessary.

**black history month hidden figures: *Let's Talk Race*** Fern L. Johnson, Marlene G. Fine, 2023-05-16 Real conversations about racism need to start now *Let's Talk Race* confronts why white people struggle to talk about race, why we need to own this problem, and how we can learn to do the work ourselves and stop expecting Black people to do it for us. Written by two specialists in race relations and parents of two adopted African American sons, the book provides unique insights and practical guidance, richly illustrated with personal examples, anecdotes, research findings, and prompts for personal reflection and conversations about race. Coverage includes: Seeing the varied forms of racism How we normalize and privilege whiteness Essential and often unknown elements of Black history that inform the present Racial disparities in education, health, criminal justice, and wealth Understanding racially-linked cultural differences How to find conversational partners and create safe spaces for conversations Conversational do's and don'ts. *Let's Talk Race* is for all white

people who want to face the challenges of talking about race and working towards justice and equity.

**black history month hidden figures: Beyond February** Dawnavyn James, 2023-10-11 Dawnavyn James believes Black history shouldn't be relegated to the month of February. In her groundbreaking book, *Beyond February: Teaching Black History Any Day, Every Day, and All Year Long*, K-3, she provides a practical guide for elementary educators who seek to teach history in truthful and meaningful ways that help young students understand the past, the present, and the world around them. Drawing on her experiences as a classroom teacher and a Black history researcher, James illustrates the big and small ways that we can center Black history in our everyday teaching and learning practices across the curriculum using read-alouds, music, historical documents, art, and so much more. Inside this book you'll find: Essential ideas that guide our teaching of Black history Powerful People Sets: groups of Black historical figures organized by theme with resources for both teacher and student learning Book collections and lessons featuring nearly 100 children's books Strategies and tips for adapting and disrupting curriculum in order to center Black history Ideas for celebrating Black History Month in ways that go beyond February FAQ's to help you navigate the ins and outs of teaching Black history in the elementary classroom With *Beyond February*, you'll have the tools to teach Black history all year long!

**black history month hidden figures: Nuances of Blackness in the Canadian Academy** Awad Ibrahim, Tamari Kitossa, Malinda S. Smith, Handel Kashope Wright, 2022-02-02 The essays in *Nuances of Blackness in the Canadian Academy* make visible the submerged stories of Black life in academia. They offer fresh historical, social, and cultural insights into what it means to teach, learn, research, and work while Black. In daring to shift from margin to centre, the book's contributors confront two overlapping themes. First, they resist a singular construction of Blackness that masks the nuances and multiplicity of what it means to be and experience the academy as Black people. Second, they challenge the stubborn durability of anti-Black tropes, the dehumanization of Blackness, persistent deficit ideologies, and the tyranny of low expectations that permeate the dominant idea of Blackness in the white colonial imagination. Operating at the intersections of discourse and experience, contributors reflect on how Blackness shapes academic pathways, ignites complicated and often difficult conversations, and reimagines Black pasts, presents, and futures. This unique collection contributes to the articulation of more nuanced understandings of the ways in which Blackness is made, unmade, and remade in the academy and the implications for interrelated dynamics across and within post-secondary education, Black communities in Canada, and global Black diasporas.

**black history month hidden figures: African-American Holidays, Festivals, and Celebrations, 2nd Ed.** James Chambers, 2019-09-01 Presents more than 100 diverse holidays and festivals observed by Americans of African descent, exploring their history, customs, and symbols. Also includes a chronology, bibliography, and index.

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