



Dear campus colleagues,

Thank you for choosing to present the **CME “Bulletin Board in a Bag”**: **Black History Month** in your area this **February!**

In this packet, and any attached documents, you will find everything you need to ***begin*** a great bulletin board. The information presented in this packet was gathered from student staff at CME from personal research unless stated otherwise. Past and future BBBs are posted on our Publications website:

[www.du.edu/cme/resources/publications.html](http://www.du.edu/cme/resources/publications.html)

### **How to use**

We’ve provided several flyer-sized pages of information, intended to get your board *started*.

For the most part, the Board is just print and post ready. Color is obviously most eye-catching, but most of the graphics should be fine in black and white/grayscale if necessary. We strongly suggest researching and adding additional information that would be of most interest to your particular audience (relevant communities in home states/nations, campus/community activities that appeal to majors and hobbies); this can help expand the board and improve its impact.

If available at the time of publication, we’ve also included information about relevant campus/ community events that you can post as well. You can always check our online calendar (lower right corner of [www.du.edu/cme](http://www.du.edu/cme)), the relevant Joint Council student organization ([www.du.edu/cme/programs-services/joint-council.html](http://www.du.edu/cme/programs-services/joint-council.html)) and/or other sources to see what events and resources you can add to your Board. And, consider attending one/some of these events too!

### **Feedback**

If you use the board, to help us know where our boards have been, and how audiences have responded to them, please email us ([igr@du.edu](mailto:igr@du.edu)) any/all of the following:

- Your name, hall and floor where the board is posted
- A photo or two of the board up on your floor
- A brief description of any reaction/feedback the board generated on your floor community,
- And any feedback you have about this board or ideas for other Inclusive Excellence-related identities/issues/observances we could provide for the future. (And in the unfortunate event there’s any defacement or other negative reaction to the board, please follow your hall’s reporting procedures, and let us know.)

THANKS for sharing this important, and interesting, info with your audiences!

Sincerely,

Center for Multicultural Excellence

[www.du.edu/cme](http://www.du.edu/cme)

facebook.com/DUCME

BLACKEN

HISTORY

WOMEN



# When did Black History originate?

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by black Americans and other peoples of African descent. Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.



## What are some major advances in The Civil Rights Movement?

**MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT** → Martin Luther King Jr. organized this bus boycott of 1955, which began a chain reaction of similar boycotts throughout the South. In 1956, the Supreme Court voted to end segregated busing.

**THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON** → On August 28, 1963, more than 200,000 Americans gathered in Washington, D.C., for a political rally known as the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Organized by a number of civil rights and religious groups, the event was designed to shed light on the political and social challenges African Americans continued to face across the country. The march, which became a key moment in the growing struggle for civil rights in the United States, culminated in Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, a spirited call for racial justice and equality.

[www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-movement](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-movement)





# Is The Civil Rights Movement Over?



Despite the civil rights gains of the 1960s, racial discrimination and repression remained a significant factor in American life. Even after President Johnson declared a war on poverty and King initiated a Poor People's Campaign in 1968, the distribution of the nation's wealth and income moved toward greater inequality during the 1970s and 1980s. Civil rights advocates acknowledged that desegregation had not brought significant improvements in the lives of poor blacks, but they were divided over the future direction of black advancement efforts. To a large degree, moreover, many of the civil rights efforts of the 1970s and 1980s were devoted to defending previous gains or strengthening enforcement mechanisms.

The modern African-American civil rights movement, like similar movements earlier, had transformed American democracy. It also served as a model for other group advancement and group pride efforts involving women, students, Chicanos, gays and lesbians, the elderly, and many others. Continuing controversies regarding affirmative action programs and compensatory remedies for historically rooted patterns of discrimination were aspects of more fundamental, ongoing debates about the boundaries of individual freedom, the role of government, and alternative concepts of social justice.

# What is The Black Lives Matter Movement?

Black Lives Matter is a chapter-based national organization working for the validity of Black life. We are working to (re)build the Black liberation movement.

**This is Not a Moment, but a Movement.**

#BlackLivesMatter was created in 2012 after Trayvon Martin's murderer, George Zimmerman, was acquitted for his crime, and dead 17-year old Trayvon was post-humously placed on trial for his own murder. Rooted in the experiences of Black people in this country who actively resist our dehumanization, #BlackLivesMatter is a call to action and a response to the virulent anti-Black racism that permeates our society. Black Lives Matter is a unique contribution that goes beyond extrajudicial killings of Black people by police and vigilantes.

[www.blacklivesmatter.com](http://www.blacklivesmatter.com)



# Who are some influential Black people?



“If you are silent  
about your pain,  
they’ll kill you and  
say you enjoyed it.”  
-Zora Neale Hurston



# Zora Neal Hurston

**Zora Neale Hurston** (January 7, 1891 – January 28, 1960) was an American novelist, short story writer, folklorist, and anthropologist. Of Hurston's four novels and more than 50 published short stories, plays, and essays, she is best known for her 1937 novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.

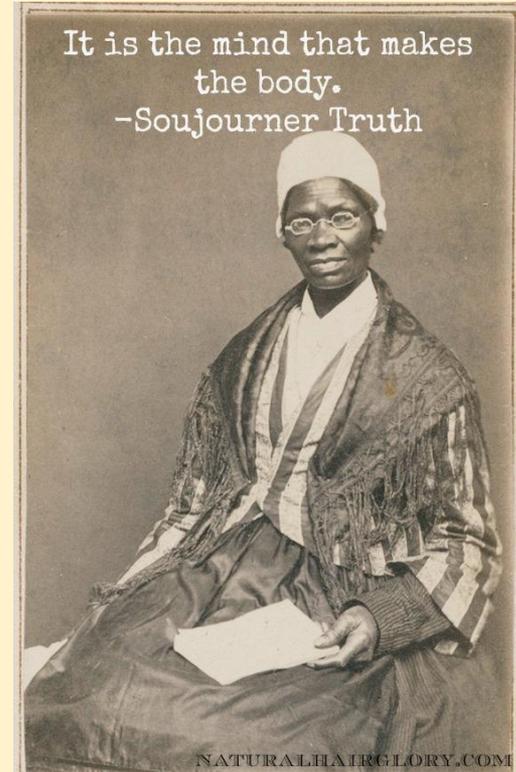


*"Sometimes, I feel discriminated against, but it does not make me angry. It merely astonishes me. How can any deny themselves the pleasure of my company? It's beyond me."*

**Zora Neale Hurston**

# Sojourner Truth:

Sojourner Truth was a prominent abolitionist and women's rights activist. Born a slave in New York State, she had at least three of her children sold away from her. After escaping slavery, Truth embraced evangelical religion and became involved in moral reform and abolitionist work. She collected supplies for black regiments during the Civil War and immersed herself in advocating for freedpeople during the Reconstruction period. Truth was a powerful and impassioned speaker whose legacy of feminism and racial equality still resonates today. She is perhaps best known for her stirring "Ain't I a Woman?" speech, delivered at a women's convention in Ohio in 1851.



# Rosa Parks:

By refusing to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus in 1955, black seamstress Rosa Parks (1913-2005) helped initiate the civil rights movement in the United States. The leaders of the local black community organized a bus boycott that began the day Parks was convicted of violating the segregation laws. Led by a young Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the boycott lasted more than a year—during which Parks not coincidentally lost her job—and ended only when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that bus segregation was unconstitutional. Over the next half-century, Parks became a nationally recognized symbol of dignity and strength in the struggle to end entrenched racial segregation.



“ Each person must live their **life as a model for others.** ”

– Rosa Parks

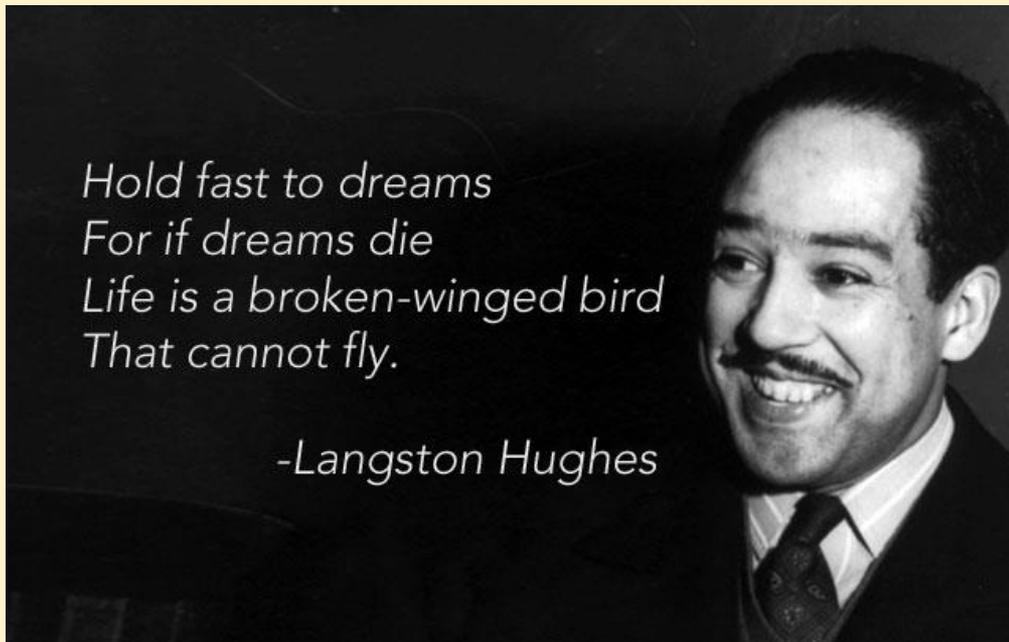
# Langston Hughes:

## **James Mercer Langston Hughes**

(February 1, 1902 – May 22, 1967) was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, and columnist from Joplin, Missouri.

He was one of the earliest innovators of the then-new literary art form called jazz poetry. Hughes is best known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance. He famously wrote about the period that "the negro was in vogue", which was later paraphrased as "when Harlem was in vogue."

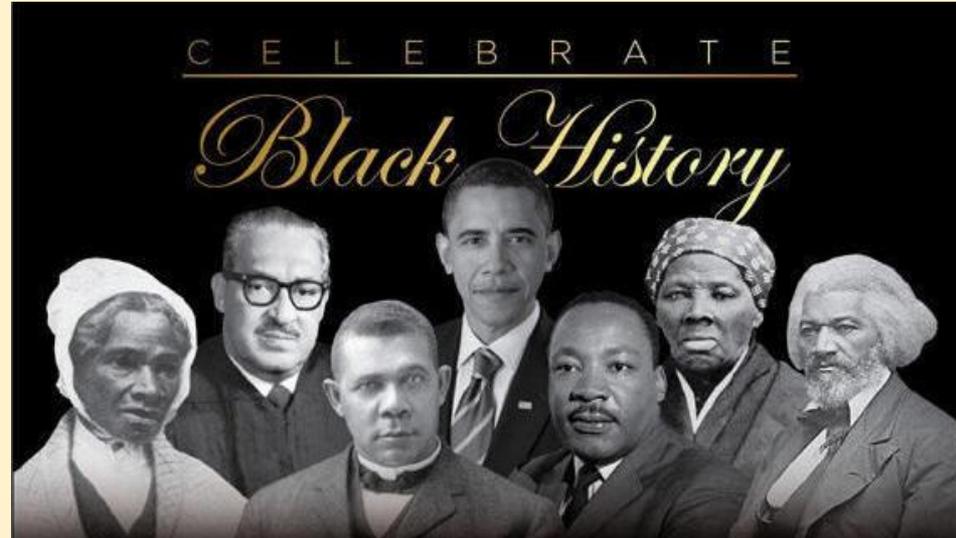
[www.biography.com/people/langston-hughes-9346313](http://www.biography.com/people/langston-hughes-9346313)



# Let's Celebrate Black History!!!

Black History Month celebrates the accomplishments of the Black community and is a constant reminder of the progress that we are making as a society. It is also a reminder of all that still needs to be done; all the obstacles that are at times in the way of progress that still need to be overcome. Although our reality is sometimes a discouraging one as seen in these racial disparities in incarceration rates, the sky's the limit for how much more change we can implement in our society.

[www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month)



# How can I contribute at DU?

## **DU Black Student Alliance (BSA)**

BSA meets Thursdays at 6:30PM in the JMAC classroom

The University of Denver's Black Student Alliance is an organization dedicated to promoting cultural awareness and solidarity on campus. One of the organization's main focuses is to foster the personal development of the membership, and to encourage them to become active community contributors. Another goal is to provide a stable support system that the members can rely on. By building opportunities for internal and external collaborations, the Black Student Alliance has been able to make significant strides towards fulfilling its mission.

[www.facebook.com/groups/DUBSA/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/DUBSA/)

