



HISTORY MONTH

"At the March on Washington on Aug. 28, 1963, African Americans carried placards demanding equal rights, integrated schools, decent housing and an end to bias. Every February, the U.S. honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who have helped shape the nation." [npr.org](https://www.npr.org)

Starting out in 1926 as Negro History Week, it evolved into Black History Month in the 1960's, and was officially recognized by President Gerald R. Ford during the country's 1976 Bicentennial.

[Here's the story behind Black History Month – and why it's celebrated in February](https://www.npr.org/2022/02/01/1075623826/why-is-february-black-history-month)
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February was chosen as Black History Month, because of the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglas (who didn't know when his actual birthday was but came to celebrate his birth on February 14th).

You're going to ask me, "Why do we celebrate this at all?" So I'm going to answer this question before you have a chance to ask.

"In the United States, Heritage Months are periods within the year that are designated to celebrate and acknowledge various ethnic and marginalized groups. These are times not only to celebrate, but also to educate others on various groups' histories and contributions to American History." ([babson.edu](https://www.babson.edu))

That's not to say that history as we learned it in school isn't important, but I know my history books in school didn't include much about the ethnic and marginalized groups, and their contributions to this country's success.

I enjoy the opportunity to learn more than I knew before, especially about things with which I am not familiar.

In my studies, I came across this site that I want to share with you.

[Project Implicit](https://www.projectimplicit.net/) - This is a project out of Harvard University, and it's designed to help you see where you might have hidden biases. There are several tests to choose from if this is something that you are interested in. (<https://www.projectimplicit.net/>)

A couple of articles if you'd like to know more and have the time to read.

[Black History is American History](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/black-history-month-alveda-king)

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/black-history-month-alveda-king>

[Black History Month facts: 10 things you should know](https://www.foxnews.com/lifestyle/black-history-month-facts-10-things)

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[Black Wings](https://airandspace.si.edu/explore-and-learn/topics/blackwings/)

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Recently we lost Brigadier General Charles McGee, he was 102, and one of the last Tuskegee Airmen.

[BG Charles McGee](https://www.mymcmedia.org/tuskegee-airman-charles-mcgee-dies-at-102/?fbclid=IwAR3Wht7KVx9_h-D4r1Pq1erll_cmd5VouwW5D9l2d0gEf_xXpZb0kNHeQUY)

[https://www.mymcmedia.org/tuskegee-airman-charles-mcgee-dies-at-102/?fbclid=IwAR3Wht7KVx9_h-](https://www.mymcmedia.org/tuskegee-airman-charles-mcgee-dies-at-102/?fbclid=IwAR3Wht7KVx9_h-D4r1Pq1erll_cmd5VouwW5D9l2d0gEf_xXpZb0kNHeQUY)

[D4r1Pq1erll_cmd5VouwW5D9l2d0gEf_xXpZb0kNHeQUY](https://www.mymcmedia.org/tuskegee-airman-charles-mcgee-dies-at-102/?fbclid=IwAR3Wht7KVx9_h-D4r1Pq1erll_cmd5VouwW5D9l2d0gEf_xXpZb0kNHeQUY)

Additional notes:

The ARWG Diversity, Equity and Inclusion page went live this month: [ARWG DEI](https://arwg.cap.gov/about-cap/wing-departments/diversity-equity-and-inclusion)

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As part of the ARWG Diversity Action plan, we are looking for diversity representatives in every squadron. If you are interested, please discuss with your commander, and have him/her recommend you for this position.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message, if you have any questions don't hesitate to ask.