

1. Phillis Wheatley 1st known African-American woman to publish a book, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, in 1773.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phillis_Wheatley#/media/File:Phillis_Wheatley_frontispiece.jpg
2. Thomas L. Jennings 1st African-American to hold a patent; he invented a dry-cleaning process in 1821.
 - a. <https://gentlemenstandard.com/2013/01/11/heritage-thomas-l-jennings/>
3. Sarah Jane Woodson Early Became the 1st African-American woman college instructor in 1858.
 - a. <http://www.womenhistoryblog.com/2015/03/sarah-jane-woodson-early.html>
4. Mary Jane Patterson In 1862, she was the 1st African-American woman to earn a B.A. (from Oberlin College).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Jane_Patterson#/media/File:10MaryPatterson1862.jpeg
5. Rebecca Lee Crumpler In 1864, she became the 1st African-American woman to earn an M.D.
 - a. https://rampages.us/katebogert/wp-content/uploads/sites/8975/2016/03/Rebecca_Lee_Crumpler.jpg
6. Ebenezer Don Carlos Bassett In 1869, he became the 1st African-American diplomat when he was appointed US. Ambassador in Haiti.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ebenezer_Bassett#/media/File:EbenezerBassett.jpg
7. Sissieretta Jones In June 1892, she became the 1st African-American to sing at Carnegie Hall.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matilda_Sissieretta_Joyner_Jones#/media/File:Sissieretta_Jones.jpg
8. Booker T. Washington An educator, author, orator, civil rights leader and advisor to presidents of the US; in 1940 he was the 1st black American featured on a postage stamp.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Booker_T._Washington#/media/File:Booker_T_Washington_retouched_flattened-crop.jpg
9. Bessie Coleman She was the 1st woman of African-American descent, and the 1st of Native American descent, to hold a pilot license; also 1st American to hold an international pilot license.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bessie_Coleman#/media/File:Bessie_Coleman,_First_African_American_Pilot_-_GPN-2004-00027.jpg
10. Frederick Douglass "Fritz" Pollard 1st African-American head coach in the NFL. In 1920, Pollard along with Bobby Marshall were the 1st two African-American NFL players.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fritz_Pollard#/media/File:Fritz_Pollard.jpg
11. Jane Bolin 1st African-American woman to graduate from Yale Law School; became 1st black woman to serve as a judge in the U.S. (NYC Domestic Relations Court in 1939).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jane_Bolin#/media/File:Jane_Bolin_1942.jpg
12. Hattie McDaniel In 1940 she was the 1st African-American to win an Academy Award (Best Supporting Actress, *Gone With the Wind*)

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hattie_McDaniel#/media/File:1941hattie.jpg
13. Jackie Robinson 1st African-American to play in MLB in the modern era; the Brooklyn Dodgers started him at 1st base on April 15, 1947.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackie_Robinson#/media/File:Jackie_Robinson,_Brooklyn_Dodgers,_1954.jpg
14. Marian Anderson One of the most celebrated singers of the 20th century, she sang before a crowd of more than 75,000 people and a radio audience in the millions from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1939; 1st African-American to perform with the Metropolitan Opera (1955).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marian_Anderson#/media/File:Marian_Anderson.jpg
15. Jerry Lawson A largely self-taught engineer who became a pioneer in electronic video entertainment; created the 1st home video game system with interchangeable game cartridges.
 - a. <http://www.onyxtruth.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Jerry-Lawson.jpg>
16. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Became 1st African-American general in U.S. Air Force in 1965; previously he commanded the World War II Tuskegee Airmen.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benjamin_O._Davis_Jr.#/media/File:Benjamindavis.jpg
17. Thurgood Marshall 1st African-American appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. (1967)
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thurgood_Marshall#/media/File:Thurgood-marshall-2.jpg
18. Shirley Chisholm 1st black woman elected to Congress (1968); 1st African-American to campaign for the U.S. presidency in a major political party (1972).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Chisholm#/media/File:Shirley_Chisholm.jpg
19. Aretha Franklin 1st woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (1987). One of the best-selling musical artists of all time; 8 Grammy Awards; Kennedy Center Honoree (1994), National Medal of Arts (1999), Presidential Medal of Freedom (2005). In 2009 she performed at President Obama's inauguration.
 - a. <https://hips.hearstapps.com/ell.h-cdn.co/assets/16/14/1460063295-aretha-franklin-elle-.png>
20. Colin Powell Retired four-star general in the U.S. Army. National Security Advisor (1987–1989); Commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command (1989). In 1989 he became the 1st, and so far the only, African-American to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff; 1st African-American U.S. Secretary of State (2001-2005).
 - a. <https://render.fineartamerica.com/images/rendered/default/print/6.250/8.000/break/images-medium-5/general-colin-powell-war-is-hell-store.jpg>
21. Mae Jemison In 1992, she became the 1st African-American woman astronaut when she went into orbit aboard the Space Shuttle *Endeavour*.
 - a. <https://cfmedicine.nlm.nih.gov/static/img/portraits/168.jpg>
22. Toni Morrison Novelist, essayist, editor, teacher, and professor emeritus at Princeton University; 1st African-American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature (1993).
 - a. http://affif-sitepublic-media-prod.s3-website-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/film_film/0001/38/thumb_37259_film_film_384x485.jpeg

23. Barack Obama President of the U.S. (2009-2017); Nobel Peace Prize awardee (2009); lawyer, community organizer, and former U.S. Senator for Illinois.
 - a. http://voicesfilm.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/IMG_5815.jpg
24. Carla Hayden 1st woman and the 1st African-American Librarian of Congress (2016).
 - a. <http://capitolfile-magazine.com/get/files/image/galleries/Carla-Hayden.jpg>
25. Patrisse Khan-Cullors Artist, organizer, Fulbright scholar, co-founder of Black Lives Matter, founder of Dignity and Power Now, and Sydney Peace Prize awardee.
 - a. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/51b89491e4b03168d3436df5/t/59837d8ab8a79ba81fca07be/1501789603023/>
26. Alicia Garza Organizer, writer, public speaker, the Special Projects Director for the National Domestic Workers Alliance, and co-founder of Black Lives Matter.
 - a. <https://blacklivesmatter.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Alicia.jpg>
27. Opal Tometi Writer, strategist, community organizer, co-founder of Black Lives Matter, and Executive Director of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration.
 - a. https://cdn-images-1.medium.com/max/600/1*3vMtuWiCjA44cgW_BBOs6w.jpeg
28. Colin Kaepernick NFL quarterback who protested systemic racial injustice by kneeling during the national anthem. His action inspired many; GQ's 2017 Man of the Year.
 - a. https://media.gq.com/photos/5a01ff9f71c0c55a92ce8620/master/w_800/Colin-Kaepernick-Man-of-the-Year-1217-GQ-FECK01-02.jpg
29. Oprah Winfrey After working for years as a talk show host, actress, producer, and media mogul, in 2003 she became the 1st female African-American billionaire in the world. Chairwoman, CEO, and CCO of the Oprah Winfrey Network; active, generous philanthropist.
 - a. https://pbs.twimg.com/profile_images/771885422834098176/c5_Nj8j4_400x400.jpg
30. Rosa Parks In 1955, refused to give up her seat on the bus and sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott. She was an icon and activist in the Civil Rights Movement.
 - a. <https://imagesvc.timeincapp.com/v3/mm/image?url=https%3A%2F%2Fimages.hellogiggles.com%2Fuploads%2F2017%2F12%2F01084927%2Frosap.jpg&w=700&q=85>
31. Martin Luther King, Jr. Minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the Civil Rights Movement; promoted tactics of nonviolence and civil disobedience. Nobel Peace Prize awardee (1964).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther_King_Jr./media/File:Martin_Luther_King,_Jr..jpg
32. Malcolm X Muslim minister and human rights activist.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_X#/media/File:Malcolm_X_NYWTS_2a.jpg
33. Harriet Tubman Abolitionist, humanitarian, and armed scout and spy for U.S.Army during the American Civil War. She ferried ~70 people from slavery to freedom using the Underground Railroad.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harriet_Tubman#/media/File:Harriet_Tubman_by_Squyer,_NPG._c1885.jpg
34. Sojourner Truth Abolitionist and women's rights activist.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sojourner_Truth#/media/File:Sojourner_truth_c1870.jpg
35. Frederick Douglass After escaping from slavery, he became a social reformer, orator, writer, and statesman; national leader of the abolitionist movement and women's suffrage supporter.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frederick_Douglass#/media/File:Frederick_Douglass_portrait.jpg
36. Ida B. Wells Journalist, newspaper editor, suffragist, sociologist, feminist, and an early leader in the Civil Rights Movement. One of the founders of the NAACP in 1909.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida_B._Wells#/media/File:Mary_Garrity_-_Ida_B._Wells-Barnett_-_Google_Art_Project_-_restoration_crop.jpg
37. Muhammad Ali A boxer and activist and one of the most significant and celebrated sports figures of the 20th century.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_Ali#/media/File:Muhammad_Ali_NYWT_S.jpg
38. Maya Angelou Poet, memoirist, actress, and civil rights activist, perhaps best known for her childhood memoir, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.
 - a. <https://ssl.c.photoshelter.com/img-get/I0000FWwm295aVvY/s/750/750/MayaAngelou-j.jpg>
39. Mary McLeod Bethune Educator, civil rights activist, adviser to five U.S. presidents; the "First Lady of the Struggle" served as president of the National Association of Colored Women and founded the National Council of Negro Women in 1935.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_McLeod_Bethune#/media/File:Bethune42h.jpg
40. Katherine Johnson Physicist and mathematician who helped launch 1st use of digital electronic computers at NASA; her story featured in the 2016 movie, *Hidden Figures*. She was also one of 3 black students chosen to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools.
 - a. <https://www.nasa.gov/content/katherine-johnson-biography>
41. Stevie Wonder Musician, singer, songwriter, record producer, and multi-instrumentalist, he is considered one of the most critically and commercially successful musical performers of the late 20th century.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stevie_Wonder#/media/File:Stevie_Wonder_1973.JPG
42. Simone Biles The most decorated American gymnast ever; won nineteen Olympic and World Championship medals.
 - a. <https://b3674b1ba09a81779b75-4c0f28ce8c5ebf5ab1bb8f6139b99ff5.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/edit-8970-BW.jpg>
43. Michael Jackson The "King of Pop" was a best-selling African-American singer, songwriter, and dancer.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Jackson#/media/File:Michael_Jackson_in_1988.jpg
44. Beyoncé One of the world's best-selling singers, songwriters, dancer, and actresses. Winner of 22 Grammy Awards and is the most nominated woman in the award's history.

- a. http://thegentlewoman.co.uk/files/profiles/beyonce/beyonce_five.jpg
- 45. Venus Williams One of the greatest tennis players of all time, and was the 1st African-American woman ranked number one in the world.
 - a. http://www.stylistsasylum.com/images/full/women_49.jpg
- 46. Serena Williams One of the greatest tennis players of all time; holds the most Grand Slam titles in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles combined amongst active players.
 - a. <https://timedotcom.files.wordpress.com/2014/04/serena-williams-time-100-feat.jpg?quality=85&w=814>
- 47. Tarana Burke Civil rights activist who started the #MeToo movement in 2006.
 - a. https://78.media.tumblr.com/fd4bafefe5c6831e3c9aee5bcc73d34c/tumblr_p27psdGSy71s5kpeto1_500.jpg
- 48. Carter G. Woodson Historian, author, journalist and the founder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (1915).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carter_G._Woodson#/media/File:Carter_G_Woodson_portrait.jpg