

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month honors the impact African Americans have made on U.S. history

## How it Began

It began as "Negro History Week," created in 1926 by **Carter G Woodson**, a noted African American historian, scholar, teacher, and publisher.

## February

It was chosen to coincide with **Frederick Douglass'** and **Abraham Lincoln's** birthdays.

## Representation Matters

In the 1940s, African American communities began increasing their efforts to expand the study of black history in schools.

During the Civil Rights Movement in the South, certain schools added black history into the curriculum with the hopes of advancing social change.



The idea to turn the week into a month first came from the Black Student Union at Kent State University. It did not become a month long celebration until 1976.