



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Advisory Activity from the BHS
Civil Rights Team

DIRECTIONS: Celebrate Women's History Month by featuring one of these profiles each day with your Advisory. Ask students what they notice or wonder about each woman.

Egyptian queen

CLEOPATRA



Cleopatra VII Philopator was an Egyptian Queen and the last pharaoh of Ancient Egypt. Cleopatra was a member of the Greek-speaking, Ptolemaic dynasty, who ruled Egypt. Cleopatra aligned herself with Julius Caesar to regain the throne.

American poet

EMILY DICKINSON



Emily Dickinson was a reclusive American poet. Unrecognized in her own time, Dickinson is known posthumously for her innovative use of form and syntax.

1830 – 1886

Novelist

JANE AUSTEN



Jane Austen was an English novelist known primarily for her six major novels, which critique and comment upon the British landed gentry at the end of the 18th century. She explored the dependence of women on marriage in the pursuit of favourable social and economic security.



Maya Angelou

*** WRITER, POET, AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST ***

APRIL 4, 1928 - MAY 28, 2014

Maya Angelou, born Marguerite Annie Johnson, is best known for her widely-read autobiography "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," published in 1969. She published six other autobiographical books since, the final volume released in 2002. She was a prolific poet and her poems were often about the experience of African-American women, the human spirit, and social justice for all.

*** DID YOU KNOW? ***

- As an activist, she helped organize and produce historic fund raising events for civil rights struggles in the 50s and 60s. Struggles of African-Americans were also reflected in her prolific writing career.
- As an author, her work extended to writing for film, television, and theater. Influenced by African-American oral traditions, performed her poetry thorough public readings, audio recordings, and documentaries.
- Her name was coined by her older brother Bailey Jr. He was trying to call her "my sister" when she was a baby, but ended up saying "maya sister" instead.

Physicist and chemist

MARIE CURIE



Marie Curie was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, in Physics, and with her later win, in Chemistry, she became the first person to claim Nobel honors twice. Her efforts led to the discovery of polonium and radium.

1867 – 1934

English writer

VIRGINIA WOOLF



Adeline Virginia Woolf was an English writer, considered one of the most important modernist 20th century authors and also a pioneer in the use of stream of consciousness as a narrative device.

1882 – 1941

Mathematician

ADA LOVELACE



English mathematician Ada Lovelace, the daughter of poet Lord Byron, has been called "the first computer programmer" for writing an algorithm for a computing machine in the mid-1800s.

1815 – 1852

Oprah Winfrey

MEDIA MOGUL • ACTRESS • PHILANTROPIST

BORN JANUARY 29, 1954

Oprah Gail Winfrey had her career breakthrough when she hosted an underperforming morning talk show in 1984. She turned the ratings around in a year and the show was renamed The Oprah Winfrey Show, later known as "Oprah" like its host. It was broadcasted nationally the following year and ran for 25 seasons. This paved the way for Oprah's media empire, which made her the first black female billionaire in 2003.

Did you know?

Oprah played Sofia in the 1985 film adaptation of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Winning Novel, "The Color Purple." She earned an Oscar and a Golden Globe nomination for her supporting role.

Oprah's Angel Network supports charities and provides grants worldwide. This public charity aims to inspire people to make a difference in the lives of underserved women and children.

A woman of many firsts, Oprah is the first woman to own and produce her own show. She is also the first Black woman to earn a Cecile B. DeMille Award.



<https://www.oprahmag.com/entertainment/g28220373/oprah-winfrey-facts>

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Oprah-Winfrey>

Founder of Nursing

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE



Florence Nightingale was a trailblazing figure in nursing who greatly affected 19th and 20th-century policies around proper medical care. She was known for her night rounds to aid the wounded.

1820 – 1910

Political activist

HARRIET TUBMAN



Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and made some 13 missions to rescue 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, using the Underground Railroad.

1820 – 1913

Saint

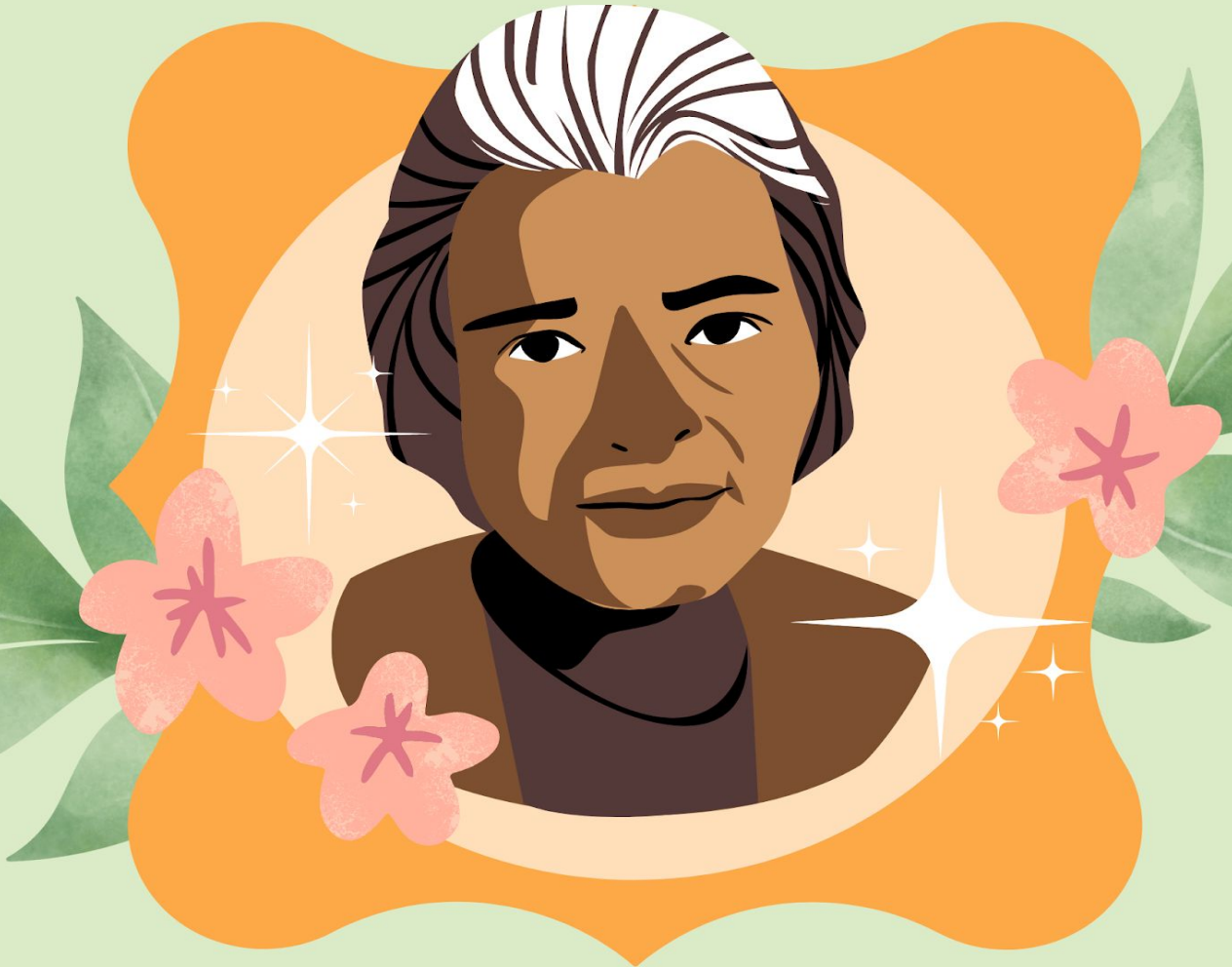
JOAN OF ARC



Martyr, saint and military leader Joan of Arc, acting under divine guidance, led the French army to victory over the English during the Hundred Years' War.

ROSA PARKS

(1913 - 2005)



ROSA PARKS WAS ON HER WAY HOME ON DEC. 1, 1955 WHEN SHE WAS ASKED TO GET UP AND MOVE FROM THE FRONT TO THE BACK OF THE BUS WITH THE OTHER AFRICAN-AMERICANS. BUT SHE SAID NO.

This refusal led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott, one of the largest social movements in American history. She was jailed and she lost her job. But her courageous actions eventually led to the integration of public transportation in Montgomery Alabama.

NORWOOD, ARLISHA. "ROSA PARKS." NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM, 2017. WWW.WOMENSHISTORY.ORG/EDUCATION-RESOURCES/BIOGRAPHIES/ROSA-PARKS.

Former queen

QUEEN VICTORIA



Queen Victoria was queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 1837 to 1901 — the second-longest reign of any British monarch.

1819 – 1901

Shoshone interpreter

SACAGAWEA



Sacagawea was a Lemhi Shoshone woman who, at age 16, met and helped the Lewis and Clark Expedition in achieving their chartered mission objectives by exploring the Louisiana Territory.

Women's rights activist

SUSAN ANTHONY



Susan B. Anthony was a suffragist, abolitionist, author and speaker who was the president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Born into a Quaker family and committed to social equality, she collected anti-slavery petitions at the age of 17.

1820 – 1906

HISTORICAL PERSON IN FOCUS



SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

Politician and activist

November 30, 1924 — January 1, 2005

Shirley Chisholm was born to immigrant parents. Her mother Ruby Seale was from Barbados, and her father Charles St. Hill was from Guyana. She studied both in Barbados and the United States.

Shirley Chisholm ran for Congress in 1968 and won. She was the first Black woman to hold this position. Shirley Chisholm represented New York's 12th congressional district for 7 terms.

Shirley Chisholm is the first Black woman to run for United States President. She ran under the Democratic party in 1972.

She was a nursery school teacher while taking up her Masters degree in elementary education. She was also an educational consultant and active in her community.

She was later voted to the New York State legislature. She advocated women's rights, rights of people of color, and education.