Missouri Recognizes

Black History Month

Dr. Alisa Warren, Executive Director
Missouri Commission on Human Rights
The Missouri Commission on Human Rights (MCHR) mission is to provide resolutions of discrimination complaints through enforcement of the Missouri Human Rights Act.
Dr. Carter G. Woodson is considered the founder of Black History Month in 1926.

Dr. Woodson said, "If a race had no recorded history, its achievements would be forgotten..."

The Mis-Education of the Negro
• The University of Oklahoma revoked a job offer stating that, although she was the best person for the job, "it would not be proper for a Black woman to supervise white employees."

• In spite of that blatant discrimination, she went on to teach at the University of Missouri for nearly 30 years.
A University of Missouri professor told this Black freshman student that she "wasn’t college material."

“Never be limited by other people’s limited imaginations.”

Dr. Mae Jemison, First African-American female Astronaut
Historic Black Missourians

1. Josephine Baker
2. Tom Bass
3. Lucile Bluford *
4. John W. “Blind” Boone
5. George Washington Carver *
6. Annie Knowles Fisher
7. Redd Foxx
8. Lloyd Gaines *
9. Gwen Giles
10. Langston Hughes
11. Jackie Joyner Kersee
12. Scott Joplin
13. Annie Turnbo Malone
14. Charlie Parker
15. Satchel Paige
16. Dred and Harriet Scott *
17. James Milton Turner
18. Margaret Bush Wilson

Note: This list is not all inclusive, merely a example of historic Black Missourians. The “*” Denotes historic Black Missourians included in this presentation.
Dred and Harriet Scott (1795-1858)

In 1846, Dred Scott and his wife Harriet filed suit for their freedom in the St. Louis Circuit Court.

Chief Justice Roger Taney, who announced that slaves were not citizens of the United States and therefore had no rights to sue in Federal courts: "... They had no rights which the white man was bound to respect."
Dred Scott

Putting pennies (face up of President Lincoln) on Scott's headstone has become a local tradition.

Lynne Jackson, Great-Great Granddaughter of Dred Scott, is President and Founder of the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation.
George Washington Carver (1864–1943)

Carver's work resulted in the creation of more than 300 products from peanuts, contributing greatly to the economic improvement of the rural South.
George Washington Carver

President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated $30,000 for the monument west of Diamond, Missouri.

President Theodore Roosevelt admired his work and sought his advice on agricultural matters.
Lloyd Gaines (1911 – Disappeared 1939)

After graduating from the historically Black Lincoln University in 1935, Lloyd Gaines applied for admission to the segregated University of Missouri School of Law—the only law school in Missouri.
This book uncovers this important step toward the broad acceptance of racial segregation as inherently unequal.
Dr. Lucile Bluford (1911-2003)

• A 1932 graduate of the University of Kansas with a major in journalism, Bluford applied to MU’s graduate journalism program in 1939.

• She was turned away from MU because of the color of her skin. Yet she persisted to become a civil rights activist and nationally-respected editor and publisher who was called the “Conscience of Kansas City.”
A half-century later, she was awarded an honorary doctorate in Humanities from the University of Missouri (MU).

The first African American woman to be appointed to the Missouri Commission on Human Rights in 1958.
MCHR Training

- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
- Disability Awareness
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Employment Discrimination Laws and Prevention
- Housing Discrimination Laws and Prevention
- Implicit Bias
- Investigating Discrimination Complaints
- Legal Updates
- Overview of the Missouri Human Rights Act
- Public Accommodations Discrimination Laws and Prevention
- Sexual Harassment Laws and Prevention
Resources

To Learn More...Click These Links:

Movies to Stream on Netflix for Black History Month:
https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/entertainment/g35349723/black-history-movies/

Good Reads:
https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/black-history-month

African American Inventors:
https://www.oprahmag.com/life/work-money/g30877473/african-american-inventors/
Q & A