

# IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**FEBRUARY 2022**

- WHEREAS,** FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH WHICH HONORS AFRICAN AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNIZES THEIR SIGNIFICANT ROLES IN UNITED STATES HISTORY, AND HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST CELEBRATED CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTHS ON THE CALENDAR; AND
- WHEREAS,** CARTER G. WOODSON, KNOWN AS THE “FATHER OF BLACK HISTORY,” DEVELOPED BLACK HISTORY MONTH. WOODSON, WHO’S PARENTS WERE ENSLAVED, WAS AN AUTHOR, HISTORIAN AND THE SECOND AFRICAN AMERICAN TO EARN A PH.D. AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY. HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE AMERICAN EDUCATION SYSTEM OFFERED VERY LITTLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS AND FOUNDED THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF NEGRO LIFE AND HISTORY, NOW CALLED THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY; AND
- WHEREAS,** IN 1926, WOODSON PROPOSED A NATIONAL “NEGRO HISTORY WEEK,” WHICH WAS INTENDED TO SHOWCASE EVERYTHING STUDENTS LEARNED ABOUT BLACK HISTORY THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR. IN 1976, PRESIDENT GERALD FORD EXPANDED THE WEEK INTO BLACK HISTORY MONTH; AND
- WHEREAS,** SINCE 1928 THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY HAS PROVIDED A NATIONAL THEME FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH. THIS YEAR’S THEME IS “BLACK HEALTH AND WELLNESS”; AND
- WHEREAS,** DESPITE MANY SOCIETAL BARRIERS AFRICAN AMERICANS USED SELF-DETERMINATION TO PARTICIPATE WITHIN THE MEDICAL SCIENCES AND TO CREATE HEALTHCARE OPTIONS FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY; AND
- WHEREAS,** IN ADDITION TO THE EFFORTS OF MIDWIVES, DOULAS, AND NATURALISTS, AFRICAN AMERICANS PURSUED CONVENTIONAL MEDICAL EDUCATION EITHER AT UNIVERSITIES IN THE UNITED STATES THAT WOULD ACCEPT THEM, TRAINED AS APPRENTICES, OR TRAVELED TO EUROPE TO BECOME LICENSED; AND
- WHEREAS,** DR. JAMES DURHAM, WHO MANY CONSIDER THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN PHYSICIAN, TRAINED AS AN APPRENTICE UNDER TWO PHYSICIAN SLAVE OWNERS, BOUGHT HIS FREEDOM FROM SLAVERY, AND RAN A MEDICAL PRACTICE IN NEW ORLEANS TREATING VICTIMS OF THE YELLOW FEVER BREAKOUT IN THE LATE 1780’S. DR. JAMES MCCUNE SMITH EARNED HIS MEDICAL DEGREE IN SCOTLAND IN 1837 AND RETURNED TO RUN A TWENTY-FIVE YEAR MEDICAL PRACTICE IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK. IN 1864, DR. REBECCA CRUMPLER BECAME THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE TO EARN A MEDICAL DEGREE AND BEGAN A MEDICAL PRACTICE IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA TENDING TO THE HEALTH OF NEWLY FREED SLAVES; AND
- WHEREAS,** THROUGHOUT HISTORY AFRICAN AMERICANS HAVE BEEN CRUCIAL TO THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF THE NATION AND THE WORLD. TO NAME A FEW, DR. CHARLES DREW PIONEERED THE USE AND PRESERVATION OF BLOOD PLASMA; DR. DANIEL WILLIAMS PERFORMED THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL OPEN-HEART SURGERY; DR. SOLOMON FULLER PUBLISHED THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE; DR. PATRICIA BATH INVENTED THE LASERPHACO PROBE FOR THE TREATMENT OF CATARACTS; DR. BEN CARSON PIONEERED TECHNIQUES TO SEPARATE CONJOINED TWINS; AND DR. OTIS BOYKIN INVENTED A CONTROL UNIT TO REGULATE PACEMAKERS; AND
- WHEREAS,** TODAY ALMOST 900,000 AFRICAN AMERICANS FOSTER GOOD HEALTH AND FIGHT DISEASE AS HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS AND TECHNICIANS; AND
- THEREFORE,** JOSH LEVY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AND THE HOLLYWOOD CITY COMMISSION, HEREBY PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 2022, AS:

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

SIGNED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF  
FEBRUARY 2022, AT  
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

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MAYOR JOSH LEVY  
VICE MAYOR CARYL S. SHUHAM  
COMMISSIONER LINDA HILL ANDERSON  
COMMISSIONER TRACI L. CALLARI  
COMMISSIONER ADAM GRUBER  
COMMISSIONER KEVIN D. BIEDERMAN  
COMMISSIONER LINDA SHERWOOD

