



# HAITIAN STAR



Published by the Haitian Cultural Club

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February 2010

*This issue is dedicated to the victims, survivors, and volunteers of the January 2010 earthquake. You will never be forgotten.*

## From the Editor

By Claire Cohen

Thank you for reading the academic year's fourth issue of the Haitian Star newsletter. We hope to make this a publication that you will find informative and entertaining.

This is *your* newsletter and we welcome your input and contributions. We look forward to your news, art, poetry, recipes, opinion pieces, as well as all other contributions, as well as your assistance in producing the newsletter and your input as to what you would like it to include. We also invite you to join the Facebook group HCC Newsletter Committee.

If you have any contributions, questions, or comments, please email them to [cwc.hcc@gmail.com](mailto:cwc.hcc@gmail.com) or post them to the Newsletter Committee Facebook group.

## 7.0 Magnitude Earthquake Devastates Haiti

By Claire Cohen

On January 11, 2010, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake devastated Port-au-Prince, Haiti and the surrounding areas. The devastation to the capital and most populous area occurred less than two years after the devastating 2008 hurricane season. Even before these natural disasters, poverty and impact of trade embargoes had made for extremely difficult conditions in this beautiful and culturally rich Caribbean nation, the world's first Black republic. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and suffers from serious erosion caused by deforestation necessitated by the use of wood for cooking and heat. Transportation, communication, and other infrastructure is very bad under the best of circumstances and many Haitians cannot afford to build homes to the standard commonplace in many other countries. The earthquake and its aftershocks flattened the president's palace, the cathedral, hospitals, schools, the main prison and whole neighborhoods. Among the dead was the Roman Catholic archbishop of Port-au-Prince.

The health of earthquake survivors was of immediate concern and importance. Medical experts say disasters such as an earthquake generally do not lead to new outbreaks of infectious diseases, but they do tend to worsen existing health problems. Those in the affected area likely will face an increased risk of dengue fever, malaria and measles - diseases that have historically been a problem in Haiti. Some of the biggest immediate health threats include respiratory disease from inhaling dust from collapsed buildings and diarrhea from drinking contaminated water. With hospitals and clinics severely damaged, Haiti will also face risks of secondary infections. People seeking medical attention for broken bones and other injuries may not be able to get the help they need and may develop complications. Dead bodies piled on the streets typically don't pose a public health risk but do exact a psychological toll.

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# HAITIAN CULTURE



## Haitian Metal Art

from [www.haitimetalart.com](http://www.haitimetalart.com)

### About Haitian Metal Art

The art of Haiti is known worldwide. One of the unique forms of art is the Haitian steel drum art. Metal drums, once used for transporting oil or other products are purchased near the port in the capitol city of Port au Prince. They are brought to the neighboring town of Croix-des-Bouquets by handcart or on top of a taxi to the metal artists' workshop. Croix-des-Bouquets is the center of the Haitian metalwork movement. When driving through the streets, one hears the sounds coming from the homes of various artists as they pound on the drums, creating their art.

### The History of Haitian Metal Art

This particular art form was born in Haiti in the early 1950's by a blacksmith named Georges Liautaud. In his small shop, he made and repaired tools and created metal crosses for the graves in the Croix-des-Bouquets cemetery. It was at the encouragement of an American teacher, DeWitt Peters, who in 1944 opened the Le Centre d'Art in Port-au-Prince, that Georges Liautaud expanded into the creation of decorative metal sculptures. A few talented men apprenticed under him, and this tradition has continued. A particular metal artist will have assistants, who, as they mature in the art, will branch out and begin expressing themselves with their own designs.



### The Creation of Haitian Metal Art

Using these recycled 55-gallon oil drums, the artist first removes both round ends of the drum and places these inside the cylinder along with dried banana or sugar cane leaves. He sets this on fire, to burn off any paint or residue. When cooled down, the artist then cuts the round drum from top to bottom. The flattening process involves one of the artist's helpers climbing inside the drum and using all his weight - pushing with his feet, legs, arms and shoulders to open it up. It is then pounded into a flattened "metal canvas" of approximately 3" x 6". The design is drawn onto the metal sheet with chalk and then the real art work begins. Using a hammer, chisel, and various hand-crafted tools, the shape is cut and the various decorative patterns are pounded into the metal, creating a unique and treasured piece of art. The finished design is signed by the artist and coated with a protective finish. Each metal art sculpture is very labor intense and unique. Because of the intricate designs within each piece no two pieces are exactly alike.



**EACH ONE.  
REACH ONE**

**Ways to help others  
here and in Haiti**

**FAVACA**

**from [www.favaca.org](http://www.favaca.org)**

## **Introduction**

The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas, Inc. (FAVACA), is a private not for profit organization formed in 1982 by Florida Governor (now former U.S. Senator) Bob Graham. FAVACA's Florida International Volunteer Corps is the only program of its kind in the country and enjoys statutory authority in Florida. A state appropriation, approved annually since 1986, provides a funding base for an estimated 200 volunteer missions to Latin America and the Caribbean this year. Its aim is, through training and technical assistance, to improve environmental, social and economic conditions in the region. Volunteers are top experts in their fields and are thus able to impart invaluable knowledge and information to their international counterparts.

FAVACA establishes sustainable partnerships between non-governmental organizations, universities, government agencies and businesses in Florida and the Caribbean and Latin America. In response to requests from partner organizations throughout the region, FAVACA has conducted more than 2,500 technical assistance and training volunteer missions reaching approximately 50,000 individuals in 30 countries over the past 25 years. These activities also help to mitigate threats to Florida's agriculture, health, and the environment before they reach critical proportions.

## **How You Can Help FAVACA Help Haiti**

In response to the earthquake in Haiti, FAVACA has reached out to its partners to find out what their direct needs are and how FAVACA could best provide assistance. FAVACA is committed to long term recovery beyond the immediate needs provided by relief efforts. A wide range of volunteer expertise will be needed. Click on the "Volunteer" button on their website at [www.favaca.org](http://www.favaca.org) or send your contact information and a résumé or bio-sketch outlining your skills and fields of expertise. FAVACA will enter your information into their Skills-Bank and should they receive a request for skills such as yours, they will contact you.

To continue to provide assistance to Haiti in both the short and long term, FAVACA is looking for donations which will be going directly to the relief effort. Donations can be made by visiting their website and clicking on the "Donate" button. FAVACA is diligently working toward re-establishing communication with our local partners. The donations will be used to defray the cost of FAVACA's relief and recovery efforts.

## **Contact Information**

FAVACA - Tallahassee Office  
1310 N. Paul Russell Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Phone: (850)410-3100, Fax: (850)922-4849  
Email: [favaca@favaca.org](mailto:favaca@favaca.org)  
Website: [www.favaca.org](http://www.favaca.org)





**EACH ONE.  
REACH ONE**

**Ways to help others  
here and in Haiti**

## **Agencies Accepting Earthquake Relief Donations**

### **Donate on the Web or Via Text Message**

There are many options to donate to earthquake relief on the web and, in some cases, via text message. Here's a list of some of the many trusted organizations. All of them will accept credit card donations through online forms or, when noted via text.

- ★ The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas, Inc. (FAVACA) has provided money and technical assistance for emergency room medical equipment, psycho-social assistance for children, and volunteer management. <http://www.favaca.org/>
- ★ The American Red Cross has pledged an initial \$1 million to Haitian earthquake relief, and is soliciting donations through its website at <http://www.redcross.org> or via text "Haiti" to 90999 to donate \$10.
- ★ AmeriCares has pledged \$5 million to Haitian quake relief, and is soliciting donations to a general emergency disaster relief fund to help it accomplish that. You can donate through its website <http://www.americares.org/> or via text "Americares" to 25383 to donate \$10.
- ★ CARE is sending relief workers into the city of Port-au-Prince and needs funds to support its efforts. Suggested donations range from \$50 to \$1,000, but you can name your own one-time or monthly amount if you prefer. <http://www.care.org/>
- ★ Catholic Relief Services has an office in Haiti. The organization is accepting donations of any amount. <http://crs.org/>
- ★ UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, is accepting one-time and monthly donations. You can donate through its website <http://www.unicefusa.org/> or via text "UNICEF" to 20222 to donate \$10.
- ★ Direct Relief International has committed up to \$1 million in aid through two on-the-ground partners, and is sending containers of medical material aid. <http://www.directrelief.org/EmergencyResponse/2010/EarthquakeHaiti.aspx>
- ★ Oxfam has people on the ground to deal with the crisis, including getting clean water to victims of the quake. You can donate through its website <http://www.oxfam.org/> or via text "Oxfam" to 25383 to donate \$10.
- ★ Yele Haiti is sponsored by prominent Haitian-born musician Wyclef Jean. You can donate through its website <http://www.yele.org/> or via text "Yele" to 501501 to donate \$5 or "Haiti" to the same number to donate \$10.
- ★ Google Support Disaster Relief is a website Google has updated to respond to the crisis. Google has promised \$1 million in support, but the site is also an easy place to donate money to either UNICEF or CARE. It also provides hospital addresses and links to sources for news on the situation. <http://www.google.com/relief/haitiearthquake/>
- ★ Doctors Without Borders (MSF) received Nobel Peace Prize 1999, 87% of donations used to fund operations, 1% to management. <http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>
- ★ Clinton Bush Haiti Fund is soliciting donations through its website at <http://clintonbushhaitifund.org/> or via text "QUAKE" to 20222 to donate \$10.
- ★ The American Jewish World Service has set up the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund to respond to the crisis by supporting a network of organizations it works with. You can donate through its website <http://ajws.org/> or via text "AJWS" to 25383 to donate \$10.



# MEDIA NEWS



## Audio

## Video

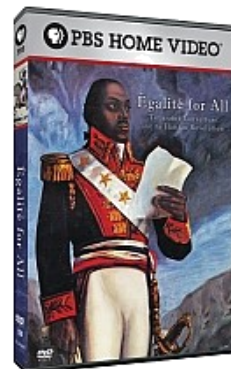
**Check out the new T-Vice single "Nou Pap Lage", dedicated to the earthquake victims, at [www.vice2k.com](http://www.vice2k.com) Download it @ [www.vice2k.com/noupaplage.mp3](http://www.vice2k.com/noupaplage.mp3)**

**Answers to the Black History Month Quiz on Page 12**

1. The Tuskegee Airman, 2. Leon Howard Sullivan, 3. Abraham Lincoln, 4. Satchel Paige, 5. Gordon Parks, 6. Paul Lawrence Dunbar, 7. 1934, 8. Wilt Chamberlain, 9. U.S. Navy, 10. Hair styling process for African American women, 11. Althea Gibson (Florida A&M University), 12. Clarence Thomas, 13. The Five Heartbeats, 14. A. Philip Randolph, 15. Debi Thomas, 16. [you provide], 17. Katherine

### **PBS Special "Egalite for All: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the Haitian Revolution" Available on DVD**

"Egalite for All: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the Haitian Revolution", produced by the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) in 2009, is available on a single 60-minute DVD. It features reenactments of many phases of L'Ouverture's life and the Haitian Revolution. Among the many commentators is Edwidge Danticat. It can be purchased from the PBS online store at [www.shoppbs.org](http://www.shoppbs.org) for \$24.99 plus shipping and handling. Search on the site for Item No.: EGAL601. It is also available for loan from Netflix. It is not currently available from the Leon County Public Library. Below is the "blurb" from the Netflix website:



"This fascinating documentary explores a unique uprising at the turn of the 19th century: the Haitian Revolution, led by former slave Gen. Toussaint Louverture, which proved to be the only successful slave insurrection in world history. The remarkable event led to the establishment of the first black republic and provided inspiration for anti-slavery movements in the United States and all around the world."



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## The History of Black History Month

from **cnn.com**

February marks the beginning of Black History Month, a federally recognized, nation-wide celebration that provides the opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the significant roles that African Americans have played in the shaping of U.S. history. But how did this celebration come to be - and why does it take place in February ?

*We should emphasize not Negro History, but the Negro in history. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, race hate, and religious prejudice.* - Dr. Carter G. Woodson (1875-1950) on founding Negro History Week, 1926

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, considered to be a pioneer in the study of African American history, is given much of the credit for Black History Month. The son of former slaves, Woodson spent his childhood working in coal-mines and quarries. He received his education during the four-month term that was customary for black schools at the time. At 19, having taught himself English fundamentals and arithmetic, Woodson entered high school, where he completed a four-year curriculum in two years. He went on to receive his Masters degree in history from the University of Chicago, and he eventually earned a PhD from Harvard.



Disturbed that history textbooks largely ignored America's black population, Woodson took on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history. To do this, Woodson established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. He also founded the group's widely respected publication, the *Journal of Negro History*. In 1926, he developed Negro History Week. Woodson believed that “the achievements of the Negro properly set forth will crown him as a factor in early human progress and a maker of modern civilization.”

In 1976, Negro History Week expanded into Black History Month. The month is also sometimes referred to as African American Heritage Month.

Woodson chose the second week of February for the celebration because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population: Frederick Douglass (February 14), an escaped slave who became one of the foremost black abolitionists and civil rights leaders in the nation, and President Abraham Lincoln (February 12), who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which abolished slavery in America's confederate states.

Because of his work, Dr. Woodson has been called the “Father of Black History.”

# FLORIDA BLACK HISTORY

## Black Political Firsts in Florida

from [www.floridablackhistory.com](http://www.floridablackhistory.com)

### Judicial

**Henry L. Adams**, 1979, appointed by Governor Bob Graham. First African-American ever appointed to the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court bench. 1993, appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as a United States District Court Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

**Marva L. Crenshaw**, 13th Judicial Circuit Judge, 2000, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American woman to serve as Circuit Court judge for the 13th Judicial Circuit Court.

**Melvia Green**, Dade County Circuit Judge, 1989. First African-American female circuit judge.

**Hubert L. Grimes**, Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge, 1999, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American to serve as circuit court judge for the seventh circuit.

**Joseph W. Hatchett**, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit, appointed by President Jimmy Carter. First African American since Reconstruction to serve on Florida's Supreme Court (1975 - 1979). First African-American elected to remain on the court; first African-American elected to public office in a statewide election in the South.

**James E.C. Perry**, 18th Judicial Circuit Court Judge, 2000, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American ever appointed to the 18th Circuit Court bench.

**Leander J. Shaw, Jr.**, appointed to Florida Supreme Court in 1983, retained by statewide vote. First African-American judge to become Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, for a two-year term (1990 - 92).

**Lawson E. Thomas**, Judge, Miami Police Court, 1950. First African-American judge in the south since Reconstruction.

**Peggy Ann Quince**, Justice, Florida Supreme Court, 1998. First African-American woman appointed to the Florida Supreme Court, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush and the late Governor Lawton Chiles. Quince was also the first African-American female to be appointed to one of the district courts of appeal in 1993 by Governor Lawton Chiles to the Second District Court of Appeal.

**Leah Aleice Simms**, Dade County Judge. First African-American woman judge in Florida, appointed by Governor Bob Graham in 1981.

**Sandra Edwards-Stephens**, 5th Judicial Circuit Court judge, 2000, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American ever appointed to the 5th Circuit Court bench.

**Thomas E. Stringer, Sr.**, Second District Court of Appeal Judge, 1999, appointed to the Second District Court of Appeals by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American graduate of the Stetson University College of Law in 1974.

**Joyce H. Williams**, Escambia County Court Judge, 2005, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American woman to serve as a County Court judge in the 1st Judicial Court.

**Karla Foreman Wright**, Polk County Court Judge, 2000, appointed by Governor Jeb Bush. First African-American woman to serve on the Polk County bench.

**Nikki Ann Clark**, The first African-American and the first woman to serve on Florida's Second Judicial Circuit in Tallahassee.

*(Continued on Page 11)*

# FLORIDA BLACK HISTORY

## Black Political Firsts in Florida

from [www.floridablackhistory.com](http://www.floridablackhistory.com)

*(Continued From Page 10)*

### Legislative

**Joe Lang Kershaw**, civics teacher. First African-American since Reconstruction elected to the Florida Legislature. Served as a Democratic House member from Dade County for 14 years (1968 - 1982). His most famous issue was "Axe the Cane Pole Tax," which succeeded in reversing a state tax on cane pole fishing, a popular form of African American recreation and food supply.

**Gwen Sawyer Cherry**, Miami Democrat. First African-American woman ever to serve in the Florida House of Representatives, elected in 1970. A Florida A&M cum laude graduate in law, she was killed in a car accident in 1979 in Tallahassee.

**Carrie P. Meek**, Miami Democrat. First African-American woman ever elected to the Florida Senate and the first black to serve since Reconstruction. She was elected in 1979 to succeed Mrs. Cherry. A former track star at Florida A&M, Sen. Meek is noted for her humanitarian causes.

**Dr. Arnett E. Girardeau**, dentist and Jacksonville Democrat. First African-American man elected to the Florida Senate in 1982. He defeated three whites and another African-American in winning his first term.

### Executive

**Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs** (1827-1879). First African-American to serve on the Florida Cabinet when he was chosen as Secretary of State in 1868 by Governor Harrison Reed. As superintendent of public instruction in

**Black History is Everyone's History  
Make Every Month Black History Month**

## Famous African-Americans from the Tallahassee Area

- ❖ **Wally Amos** — founder of the "Famous Amos" chocolate chip cookie brand; actor
- ❖ **Charles Kenzie Steele** — the late clergyman and civil rights activist
- ❖ **Cannonball Adderley** — the late jazz alto saxophone player and Grammy Award winner
- ❖ **Nat Adderley** — the late jazz coronet and trumpet player
- ❖ **Ray Charles** — the late pianist and entertainer
- ❖ **T-Pain** — hip hop and R&B singer (born Faheem Najm)

# BLACK HISTORY QUIZ

1. What was the nickname for the all-Black 332d Fighter Group of the U.S. Army Air Corps, which escorted Allied bombers through European airspace on 1,578 missions during World War II?
2. Who developed the first major African American-sponsored shopping center, Progress Plaza, in Philadelphia, Pa.
3. The hymn, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," by James Weldon Johnson, was meant to celebrate whose birthday?
4. A pitcher in the Negro Baseball League for 25 years, developer of the bat-badger, jumpball, and drooper, he was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1971--name him.
5. Besides being a movie director, composer, author and semi-pro basketball player, he was a photographer for Life magazine from 1948 to 1972.
6. Having worked as an elevator operator for four dollars weekly, he achieved fame upon publication of Lyrics of Lowly Life in 1896.
7. In what year did amateur night at New York's famous Apollo Theater begin?
8. Who holds the record of 100 points scored in a single NBA game?
9. Despite a 1792 discriminatory law against Blacks in the new U.S. military, which of the country's armed forces began to enlist free blacks in the 1790's?
10. What service did the first African American female millionaire, Madame C. J. Walker provide?
11. What tennis champion and golfer earned her place in the Black Hall of Fame in 1974? (for extra credit, name her college alma mater)
12. This graduate of Yale Law School was appointed commissioner and chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by President Ronald Reagan in 1982.
13. In this tribute to 1960's R&B groups, Robert Townsend acted in and directed this movie - name it.
14. Who founded the first major African American national union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters?
15. Who won the Ladies World Figure Skating Championship in 1986?
16. Name an African American enterprise that you patronize.
17. A scholar of West Indian dance and culture, she also, originated the role of Georgia Browne in the 1940 Broadway musical, Cabin in the Sky.
18. In what field were 44% of the doctorate degrees awarded in 1995 to African Americans, according to the National Research Council?
19. Who founded the National Negro Business League?
20. At age 76, this former slave and eminent scientist narrated a 1940 documentary dramatizing his struggles and successes to a young boy pondering the options for the future.

*(Answers are on Page 8)*

# HAITIAN HISTORY IS BLACK HISTORY

**Contributed by Lawrence Gonzalez**

“The Haitian people have a long and rich history. Of all the democracies in the Americas, only that of the United States is older than Haiti’s. In addition, Haitians and people of Haitian descent have a huge impact on our people and our society. I think it is important to recognize these contributions. They have significantly helped to shape our society, but are often overlooked in textbooks and in the minds and hearts of many Americans.” - Congressman Kendrick B. Meek

## **Things You Need to Know**

- ✪ Freemen from the French colony of Saint Domingue, now the Republic of Haiti, fought alongside the United States Continental Army at the Siege of Savannah in 1779.
- ✪ Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, a Haitian, built the first permanent settlement of what later became the city of Chicago, Illinois, in 1779.
- ✪ The significant loss of life and financial burden of the failed efforts to quell Haiti's revolution prompted France to sell Louisiana to the United States in 1803, territory that now comprises 22.3 percent of the United States.
- ✪ On January 1, 1804, Haiti declared its independence from France to become the world's first Black republic and the second democracy after the United States; Major Joseph Savary, a Haitian, was the first Black Major in the United States Army, and led the Second Battalion of Freemen of Color at the Battle of New Orleans, January 8, 1815, under then-General Andrew Jackson, who became the first Governor of the Territory of Florida in 1821.
- ✪ In 1889, Frederic Douglass, the period's foremost spokesman on human rights and prominent leader of the anti-slavery movement in the United States, became the first United States Minister and Consul-General to Haiti.
- ✪ An estimated 1,200,000 persons of Haitian descent now live throughout the United States.
- ✪ Haitians and their descendants have contributed greatly to the arts and sciences, including John James Audubon, the acclaimed naturalist and wildlife artist who inspired the American conservation society that bears his namesake, and W.E.B. DuBois, the Haitian American author and political activist, who became one of the most prominent, intellectual leaders of African-American society during the twentieth century.
- ✪ Three Haitian airmen among the Tuskegee pilots were finally honored at the White House for heroic services rendered to the United States of America during World War II. The valor of these men and so many others, the price they paid for the hard choices they made are sometimes, being trivialized by inaccuracies. ALL should take pride when these three men are rightly recognized.

**Haiti - the only republic to rise from a successful slave rebellion—  
inspires pride, solidarity, and self-reliance**



# HAITIAN HISTORY IS BLACK HISTORY

## **Haiti's Revolt Inspired U.S. Black Activists**

**Written by Peniel E. Joseph. Special to CNN**

**Contributed by Lawrence Gonzalez**

Haiti's poverty has been much discussed since its massive earthquake, but little has been said of its rich, and equally fraught, history.

For African-Americans, Haiti's tragedy hits close to home. For more than two centuries the tiny, at times fragile, republic has inspired black political activism in the United States.

Born of the influence of the French and American revolutions, Haiti, once prized as the jewel of the French Empire, changed the course of its history by engineering a revolution that startled the world.

Once a colony of slaves under French rule in the 18th century, Haiti transformed itself into the first black republic and one of the first nations in the Western Hemisphere to outlaw slavery.

It is a breathtakingly inspirational story: Slaves revolted en masse in 1791 under the leadership of Toussaint L'Ouverture, a brilliant statesman and military strategist who was influenced by the Enlightenment ideals of universal freedom and citizenship.

Ultimately, the rebels defeated Napoleon's army and England before declaring independence in 1804. The founders of the American Republic had celebrated the news of revolution in France, but news of the revolt in Haiti didn't receive the same applause.

News of this successful revolution led by slaves reverberated across the Caribbean to the United States and brought chills up the spines of whites - including President Thomas Jefferson, who deplored the revolution and despised the new republic's existence. But it emboldened African-American slaves.

Fears that Haiti's successful revolt could inspire slave insurrections in the United States led to increased restrictions on the movements of blacks in Southern states.

Coupled with concerns over the stability of slavery in Cuba, Haiti represented a powerful threat to the comfort, safety and security of the new American Republic.

In antebellum America, and during the Civil War, black and white abolitionists saw Haiti as an example of the potential and possibilities of black political leadership.

In many respects, Haiti's liberation from French rule proved to be a high point, sadly followed by a seemingly endless cycle of economic poverty, foreign intervention - including American occupation from 1915 to 1934 - government corruption, and dictatorships.

Yet there is another, equally important aspect of Haitian history, one that black Americans identify with deeply.

*(Continued on Page 15)*

# HAITIAN HISTORY IS BLACK HISTORY

## Haiti's Revolt Inspired U.S. Black Activists

*(Continued From Page 14)*

During the period of antebellum slavery and after, Haiti profoundly impacted the imagination of African-American political activism. On the eve of the Civil War, Frederick Douglass spoke for most African-Americans when he referred to the “bright example” of Haiti. He called Toussaint Louverture “the noble liberator and law-giver of his brave and dauntless people.” Douglass and other blacks considered Toussaint one of the greatest self-made men of the 19th century.

Caribbean migration to the United States, beginning in the early 20th century, transformed black political activism. Immigrants such as Marcus Garvey and Hubert Harrison emerged as street speakers in Harlem. And the Haitian Revolution remained a touchstone for radical black political activists.

C.L.R. James, a Trinidadian-born author and activist, wrote a 1939 history of the revolt, “The Black Jacobins,” that remains a classic in Africana Studies scholarship.

The immigration of Haitians in increasing numbers after the passage of major immigration reform in 1965 has allowed Haitian culture to establish critical beachheads in cities such as New York, Boston, and Miami.

Haiti's culture - its food, music, flag, and proud revolutionary tradition - resonates alongside of contemporary African-American culture.

The popularity of hip hop musician Wyclef Jean, the proliferation of Haitian sports stars, and the prevalence of Kreyol [Haitian Creole] words such as “Sak' Pase” in rap music attest to Haiti's influence.

As the Haitian people prepare to rebuild their republic, we would do well to remember that the tragedy of Haiti is not a failure of black power but ultimately the frustration of it, one that involves mistakes by not only Haitians but by Western powers as well, including the United States.

Haitians are the descendants of the great black revolution for liberation, imbued with a history of wrestling with crises. The spirit of the Haitian people is resilient and resourceful. These values will serve them well even during this unimaginable devastation.

The Haitian people can also take comfort in the knowledge that African-Americans continue to find deep kinship, one forged in the shared crucible of slavery as well as heroic resistance against this system, in their current plight and efforts to rebuild Port-au-Prince.

*The opinions in this commentary are solely those of Peniel E. Joseph.*

*Peniel E. Joseph, a Haitian-American, teaches history at Tufts University. His latest book is “Dark Days, Bright Nights: From Black Power to Barack Obama.”*

# LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

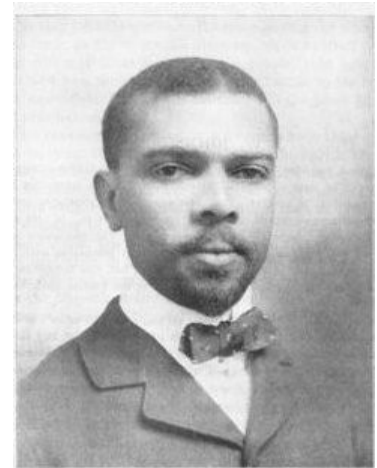
## Lift Every Voice and Sing also known as the The Black National Anthem lyrics by James Weldon Johnson

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing, often called "The Black National Anthem", was written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) and then set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954) in 1899. It was first performed in public in the Johnsons' hometown of Jacksonville, Florida as part of a celebration of Abraham Lincoln's Birthday on February 12, 1900 by a choir of 500 schoolchildren at the segregated Stanton School, where James Weldon Johnson was principal.

Lift every voice and sing,  
'Til earth and heaven ring.  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise,  
High as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet,  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
'Til now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might,  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee,  
Shadowed beneath thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God,  
True to our native land.



James Weldon Johnson



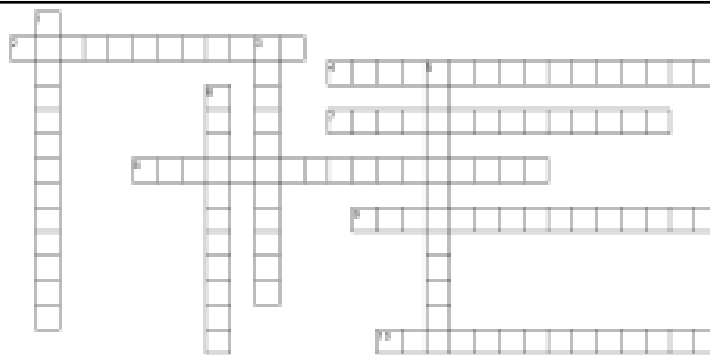
# Black History Word Search

Find the words pertaining to African-American history and the civil rights movement.

L O P P R E S S I O N Q D I S I M  
 E S H A R E C R O P P E R R E K N  
 V J U S T I C E L Y Y S T X G F K  
 R O G Q B P R O T E S T T F R I N  
 K C L P F M X N W T H Y A H E W P  
 C N Q Y T I L A U Q E F T J G Q C  
 I O T T O C Y O B J R S W I A I O  
 V I H O U Z U O A I I H Y M T Y R  
 I T S F P I U A C N L T A C I R Y  
 L A W U R V Z A O F F R N R O E O  
 W R S B F N R I U R C A O O N V S  
 A G D S A F T E E H M I R W P A U  
 R E K W R I R E V B G J T V C L B  
 H T K F L C D A U R M V O W A S C  
 I N T O T O V T G R A T Q W A W O  
 I I B O M I W I M E E C M O N R X  
 L A H H T R O N H T U O S H Y F N

ABOLITIONIST  
 AFRICA  
 BOYCOTT  
 BUS  
 CARVER  
 CIVILWAR  
 EQUALITY  
 FREEDOM  
 INTEGRATION  
 JIMCROW  
 JUSTICE  
 KWANZAA  
 MARCH  
 NAACP  
 NORTH  
 OPPRESSION  
 PROTEST  
 RIGHTS  
 SEGREGATION  
 SHARECROPPER  
 SLAVERY  
 SOUTH  
 SUFFRAGE  
 TUBMAN  
 VOTE

# Black History Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

2. First African American to win a Nobel Peace Prize - for mediating the Arab-Israeli trade
4. First African American Supreme Court Justice
7. First African American to play in the major leagues in the modern era
8. First African American to be on a U.S. postage stamp
9. First African American to publish a book - Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral
10. First African American millionaire - invented Black hair care products

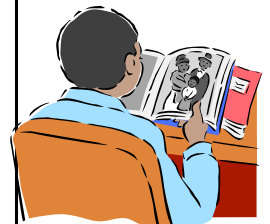
### DOWN

1. First African American student to attend the University of Mississippi
3. First African American to serve in the United States Senate
5. First African American to go into space
6. First African American with his own network radio show - The Nat King Cole Show

Thurgood Marshall  
 James Meredith  
 Jackie Robinson  
 Ralph J. Bunche

Phillie Phanero  
 Hank Revell  
 Guion 'Bud' Sherman  
 Booker T. Washington

Nat King Cole  
 Melrose C. Walker





# VALENTINE'S DAY RECIPES



## Red Velvet Cupcakes with Cream Cheese Frosting

Prep Time: 20 min  
Cook Time: 20 min  
Level: Easy  
Yields: 24 frosted cupcakes

### Cupcake Ingredients

- ♥ 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- ♥ 1 1/2 cups sugar
- ♥ 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ♥ 1 teaspoon salt
- ♥ 1 teaspoon cocoa powder
- ♥ 1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
- ♥ 1 cup buttermilk, room temperature
- ♥ 2 large eggs, room temperature
- ♥ 2 tablespoons red food coloring
- ♥ 1 teaspoon white distilled vinegar
- ♥ 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

### Cream Cheese Frosting Ingredients

- ♥ 1 pound cream cheese, softened
- ♥ 2 sticks butter, softened
- ♥ 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ♥ 4 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- ♥ Chopped pecans and fresh raspberries or strawberries, for garnish

### Cupcake Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line 2 (12-cup) muffin pans with cupcake papers.

In a medium mixing bowl, sift together the flour, sugar, baking soda, salt, and cocoa powder. In a large bowl gently beat together the oil, buttermilk, eggs, food coloring, vinegar, and vanilla with a handheld electric mixer. Add the sifted dry ingredients to the wet and mix until smooth and thoroughly combined.

Divide the batter evenly among the cupcake tins about 2/3 filled. Bake in oven for about 20 to 22 minutes, turning the pans once, half way through. Test the cupcakes with a toothpick for doneness. Remove from oven and cool completely before frosting.

### Cream Cheese Frosting Directions

In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter and vanilla together until smooth. Add the sugar and on low speed, beat until incorporated. Increase the speed to high and mix until very light and fluffy.

Frost the cupcakes with a butter knife or pipe it on with a big star tip. Garnish with chopped pecans and a fresh raspberry or strawberry.



## Chocolate Covered Strawberries

Prep Time: 20 min  
Inactive Prep Time: 30 min  
Level: Intermediate  
Yields: 1 pound chocolate covered strawberries

### Ingredients

- ♥ 6 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped
- ♥ 3 ounces white chocolate, chopped
- ♥ 1 pound strawberries with stems (about 20), washed and dried very well

### Directions

Put the semisweet and white chocolates into 2 separate heatproof medium bowls. Fill 2 medium saucepans with a couple inches of water and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Turn off the heat; set the bowls of chocolate over the water to melt. Stir until smooth. (Alternatively, melt the chocolates in a microwave at half power, for 1 minute, stir and then heat for another minute or until melted.)

Once the chocolates are melted and smooth, remove from the heat. Line a sheet pan with parchment or waxed paper. Holding the strawberry by the stem, dip the fruit into the dark chocolate, lift and twist slightly, letting any excess chocolate fall back into the bowl. Set strawberries on the parchment paper. Repeat with the rest of the strawberries. Dip a fork in the white chocolate and drizzle the white chocolate over the dipped strawberries.

Set the strawberries aside until the chocolate sets, about 30 minutes.





# VALENTINES DAY FUN



## Dating on the Cheap for Valentine's Day

By Marie Fleurimond

- ♥ Movie Night - Memento, Hitch, Brown Sugar, Knocked Up, Love and Basketball, Jason's Lyric, Two Can Play That Game. Someone gets the pizza someone else buys the drinks.
- ♥ Play Pool - Make sure you pick a place with a pool table or dartboard set up, and challenge him to a few games.
- ♥ Spa Night - Run a bubble bath and then treat each other to full-body massages. Sleep in the next day.
- ♥ Skating - As long as you don't mind being the oldest people there who aren't chaperoning their children, it's a great way to have fun and let loose with each other. Top it off with an ice cream cone after.
- ♥ Karaoke - Take in amateur night at the coffeehouse, bar or comedy club. You could also get up on stage yourself and belt out a tune, tell a joke or read romantic poetry you've written while on your cheap date.
- ♥ Swim - Take your date for a swim to a local pool or hot tub after hours. Add some music and candles. Ex. Janet Jackson, "That's the Way Love Goes", En Vogue, "Giving Him Something He Can Feel", D'Angelo, "How Does It Feel", TLC, "Red Light Special".
- ♥ Dinner Party - Host a home cooked meal for other couples, lovingly prepared by you and your date. Add some board games and you are set; just make sure you and your date win.
- ♥ Camping - Pull out some bug spray and a cozy blanket and curl up together in your backyard or a local park for some stargazing. (New Moon around 2 am 2/12/2010).
- ♥ Swing - Find a swing set or playground and spend the cheap date there together. Boost it up by bringing grown man flowers. And a bottle of champagne with real glasses purchased from Dollar Store.
- ♥ Picnic - Pack a picnic and take your date to a secluded location for a special, inexpensive getaway. Complete with sexy music and cheap candles.
- ♥ Volunteer - Sign up to volunteer together for a cause that you are both passionate about or a festival that otherwise would be too expensive to attend. Donate some blood or volunteer with children!
- ♥ Wishes - Take a roll of pennies to a fountain and make wishes out loud as you throw them in. (Wear sandals and bring an iPod). Ask your date to dance barefoot with you in the fountain.
- ♥ Memories - Get a disposable camera. Go around town just taking pictures together. Drop off the pictures. Cut up the pictures. Build "Puzzle" out of pictures together.
- ♥ Shot - Go to a shooting range together. Loser buys dinner!
- ♥ Car Window Shopping - Get dressed, go to dealership and test drive the most expensive cars.

# Valentine's Day Puzzles

# love notes

## Valentine's Day Word Search

E S M W B F  
 T R A E H C A R D N  
 O R O S E S V I V M N F  
 O F L O W E R S G E C A N D Y X  
 H A N D H O L D I N G L L O R T S  
 H U G S T C D P D K F B E M I N E  
 Q S R O T I U S U N E C N A M O R  
 D I P U C H O C O L A T E V Z  
 S G N I L E E F C G I F T  
 F R P V N D I A M O N D Z  
 Y E W Y R A U R B E F  
 V V P Q R T I Y T  
 O U R Z E  
 L O V  
 W

- |           |            |              |           |
|-----------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| Arrow     | Date       | Hand holding | Roses     |
| Be Mine   | Diamond    | Heart        | Stroll    |
| Candy     | February   | Hugs         | Suitors   |
| Card      | Feelings   | Kisses       | Valentine |
| Chocolate | Flowers    | Love         |           |
| Couples   | Friendship | Lovers       |           |
| Cupid     | Gift       | Romance      |           |

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## Valentines Message:

Happy Valentine's Day roro !  
*Vladimir Gachelin, Orlando, FL,  
 Senior, M.I.S., FSU*

## My Perfect Mate:

My idea of a perfect mate is a 6'4" slightly muscular, God fearing family man who loves me for me. And to Greg S. I love you !

*Nicole Pierre, Miami, FL, Sophomore, Business Marketing, FAMU*

He has to be tall, in college, funny. I would like him to be understanding and if he talked a lot, I wouldn't mind. He has to get along with my mother. If he doesn't, then we couldn't get together. He can't smoke or drink and if he smelled good all the time it would be a plus !

*Anonymous*

## Things Not to Say on Your Valentine's Date

- ♥ I really don't like this restaurant that much, but I wanted to use this 2-for-1 coupon before it expired.
- ♥ I used to come here all the time with my ex.
- ♥ I never said you *need* a nose job. I just said it wouldn't hurt to consider it.
- ♥ Could you excuse me? My cat gets lonely if he doesn't hear my voice on the answering machine every hour.
- ♥ Nice outfit. Is that a Wonder Bra ?

