

February 1st

The Intention for today is:
DREAM



*Rev. Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr.
1929-1968*

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. headed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Through his activism and inspirational speeches, he played a pivotal role in ending the legal segregation of African American citizens in the United States, as well as the creation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. King won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, among several other honors. He continues to be remembered as one of the most influential and inspirational African American leaders in history.

February 2nd

The Intention for today is:
COURAGE

Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and subsequently made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad. A leading abolitionist before the American Civil War, Tubman also helped the Union Army during the war, working as a spy among other roles.



*Harriet Tubman
1822-1913*

February 3rd

The Intention for today is:
INCLUSION



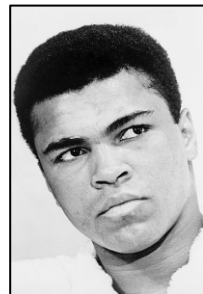
Rosa Parks
1913-2005

Rosa Parks was a civil rights leader whose refusal to give up her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Her bravery led to nationwide efforts to end racial segregation. Parks was awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. Award by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.

February 4th

The Intention for today is:
CONVICTION

Muhammad Ali was a boxer, philanthropist and social activist who is universally regarded as one of the greatest athletes of the 20th century. Ali became an Olympic gold medalist in 1960 and the world heavyweight boxing champion in 1964. Following his suspension for refusing military service, Ali reclaimed the heavyweight title two more times during the 1970s, winning famed bouts against Joe Frazier and George Foreman along the way.



Muhammad Ali
1942-2016

February 5th

The Intention for today is:
BREAKTHROUGH



Jackie Robinson
1919-1972

Jackie Robinson became the first black athlete to play Major League Baseball in the 20th century when he took the field for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. Throughout his decade-long career, Robinson distinguished himself as one of the game's most talented and exciting players, recording an impressive .311 career batting average. He was also a vocal civil rights activist.

February 6th

The Intention for today is:
CREATIVITY

Langston Hughes published his first poem in 1921. He attended Columbia University, but left after one year to travel. A leading light of the Harlem Renaissance, Hughes published his first book in 1926. He went on to write countless works of poetry, prose and plays, as well as a popular column for the Chicago Defender.



Langston Hughes
1902-1967

February 7th

The Intention for today is:
GRACIOUS



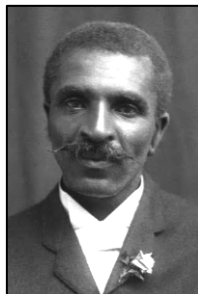
Maya Angelou
1928-2014

Maya Angelou was an American author, actress, screenwriter, dancer, poet and civil rights activist best known for her 1969 memoir, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which made literary history as the first nonfiction bestseller by an African American woman. Angelou received several honors throughout her career, including two NAACP Image Awards in the outstanding literary work (nonfiction) category, in 2005 and 2009.

February 8th

The Intention for today is:
INVENTION

George Washington Carver was born into slavery and went on to become one of the most prominent scientists and inventors of his time, as well as a teacher at the Tuskegee Institute. Carver devised over 100 products using one major crop—the peanut—including dyes, plastics and gasoline.



George Washington
Carver
c. 1860-1943

February 9th

The Intention for today is:
ACHIEVEMENT



*President Barack
Obama
1961-Present*

Barack Obama was the 44th president of the United States and the first African American commander-in-chief. He served two terms, in 2008 and 2012. The son of parents from Kenya and Kansas, Obama was born and raised in Hawaii. He graduated from Columbia University and Harvard Law School, where he was president of the Harvard Law Review. After serving on the Illinois State Senate, he was elected a U.S. senator representing Illinois in 2004.

February 10th

The Intention for today is:
SUCCESS

Madam C.J. Walker is often credited as the first black woman millionaire. She was a marketing genius, developing a beauty system specifically for black women and advocating for those same women through charitable contributions, like the scholarships she funded at Tuskegee Institute. Committing to her cause, Madam C. J. employed over 3,000 people and rewarded them for giving back to their communities.



*Madam C.J.
Walker
1867-1919*

February 11th

The Intention for today is:
BRAVERY



*Mae C. Jemison
1956-Present*

Mae C. Jemison is an American astronaut and physician who, on June 4, 1987, became the first African American woman to be admitted into NASA's astronaut training program. On September 12, 1992, Jemison finally flew into space with six other astronauts aboard the Endeavour on mission STS-47, becoming the first African American woman in space. In recognition of her accomplishments, Jemison has received several awards and honorary doctorates.

February 12th

The Intention for today is:
ACCOMPLISHMENT

Daniel Hale Williams pursued a pioneering career in medicine. An African American doctor, in 1893, Williams opened Provident Hospital, the first medical facility to have an interracial staff. He was also one of the first physicians to successfully complete pericardial surgery on a patient. Williams later became chief surgeon of the Freedmen's Hospital.



*Daniel Hale
Williams
1856-1931*

February 13th

The Intention for today is:
PERSISTENCE



*Garrett Augustus
Morgan
1877-1963*

Garrett Augustus Morgan, Sr. was an inventor and businessman as well as an influential political leader. His most notable inventions were the three position traffic signal, an improved sewing machine, the smoke hood, a hair-straightening product, and a respiratory device that would later provide the blueprint for WWI gas masks.

February 14th

The Intention for today is:
CONTRIBUTE

Zora Neale Hurston was an American author, anthropologist, and filmmaker. She portrayed racial struggles in the early-20th-century American South and published research on Hoodoo. The most popular of her four novels is *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, published in 1937. She also wrote more than 50 short stories, plays, and essays. With her candid accounts of life, writers like Ralph Ellison were inspired by her and have carried her legacy into today.



*Zora Neale
Hurston
1891-1960*

February 15th

The Intention for today is:
INSPIRE



*Oprah Winfrey
1954-Present*

Oprah Winfrey is a talk show host, media executive, actress and billionaire philanthropist. The Oprah Winfrey Show aired for 25 seasons, from 1986 to 2011. In 2011, Winfrey launched her own TV network, the Oprah Winfrey Network. Winfrey contributed immensely to the publishing world by launching "Oprah's Book Club," as part of her talk show. The program propelled many unknown authors to the top of the bestseller lists and gave pleasure reading a new kind of popular prominence.

February 16th

The Intention for today is:
EDUCATION

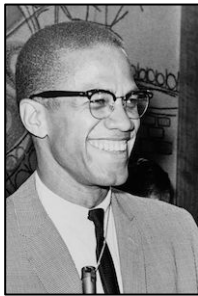
Carter G. Woodson was the second African American to receive a doctorate from Harvard, after W.E.B. Du Bois. Known as the "Father of Black History," Woodson dedicated his career to the field of African American history and lobbied extensively to establish Black History Month as a nationwide institution. He also wrote many historical works, including the 1933 book *The Mis-Education of the Negro*.



*Carter G. Woodson
1875-1950*

February 17th

The Intention for today is:
EMPOWERMENT



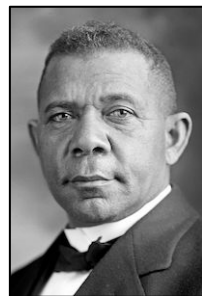
Malcolm X
1925-1965

Malcolm X was an African American leader in the civil rights movement, minister and supporter of black nationalism. He urged his fellow black Americans to protect themselves against white aggression “by any means possible.” His charisma and oratory skills helped him achieve national prominence in the Nation of Islam. After his assassination in 1965, his bestselling book, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, popularized his ideas and inspired the Black Power movement.

February 18th

The Intention for today is:
WISDOM

Booker T. Washington was born into slavery and rose to become a leading African American intellectual of the 19th century, founding Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (Now Tuskegee University) in 1881 and the National Negro Business League two decades later. Washington advised Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft. He is remembered as the most influential African American speaker of his time.



*Booker T.
Washington*
1856-1915

February 19th

The Intention for today is:
ADVOCATE



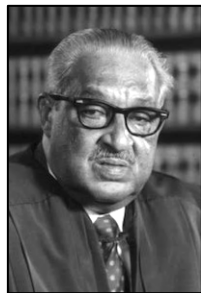
W.E.B. Du Bois
1868-1963

W.E.B. Du Bois was an African American writer, teacher, sociologist and activist whose work transformed the way that the lives of black citizens were seen in American society. Considered ahead of his time, Du Bois was an early champion of using data to solve social issues for the black community, and his writing—including his groundbreaking *The Souls of Black Folk*—became required reading in African American studies.

February 20th

The Intention for today is:
JUSTICE

Thurgood Marshall, the first African American Supreme Court justice, played an instrumental role in promoting racial equality during the civil rights movement. As a practicing attorney, Marshall won more cases before the high court than any other person. During his 24-year term as Supreme Court justice, Marshall's passionate support for individual and civil rights guided his policies and decisions.



Thurgood Marshall
1908-1993

February 21st

The Intention for today is:
LEADERSHIP



Shirley Chisholm
1924-2005

Shirley Chisholm was an American politician, educator, and author. In 1968, she became the first black woman elected to the United States Congress, and she represented New York's 12th congressional district for seven terms from 1969 to 1983. In 1972, she became the first black candidate for a major party's nomination for President of the United States, and the first woman to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, as well as the first woman to appear in a United States presidential debate.

February 22nd

The Intention for today is:
TRAILBLAZE

Ethel Waters was an American singer and actress. Waters frequently performed blues, jazz, swing, and pop music on the Broadway stage and in concerts. She was the first African American to star in her own TV show in 1939, *The Ethel Waters Show*. Waters was the second African American to be nominated for an Academy Award. She was first African American woman to be nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award.



Ethel Waters
1896-1977

February 23rd

The Intention for today is:
EQUALITY



Jane Bolin
1908-2007

Jane Bolin was the first Black woman to attend Yale Law School in 1931. In 1939, she became the first Black female judge in the United States, where she served for 10 years. One of her significant contributions throughout her career was working with private employers to hire people based on their skills, as opposed to discriminating against them because of their race.

February 24th

The Intention for today is:
DIVERSITY

Marsha P. Johnson was an American gay liberation activist and self-identified drag queen. Known as an outspoken advocate for gay rights, Johnson was one of the prominent figures in the Stonewall uprising of 1969. Johnson, a Black transwoman and activist, was at the forefront of the LGBTQ movement. In addition to being the co-founder of STAR, an organization that housed homeless queer youth, Johnson also fought for equality through the Gay Liberation Front.



Marsha P. Johnson
1945-1992

February 25th

The Intention for today is:
QUESTION



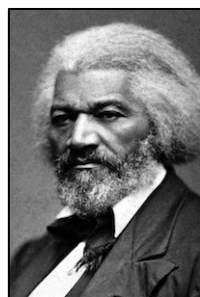
James Baldwin
1924-1987

James Baldwin was an American novelist, playwright, and activist. His essays, as collected in *Notes of a Native Son* (1955), explore intricacies of racial, sexual, and class distinctions in Western societies. Baldwin's novels and plays fictionalize fundamental personal questions and dilemmas amid complex social and psychological pressures thwarting the equitable integration of not only African Americans, but also gay and bisexual men

February 26th

The Intention for today is:
FREEDOM

Frederick Douglass was an American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman. After escaping from slavery in Maryland, he became a national leader of the abolitionist movement in Massachusetts and New York, gaining note for his oratory and incisive antislavery writings. In his time, he was described by abolitionists as a living counter-example to slaveholders' arguments that slaves lacked the intellectual capacity to function as independent American citizens.



Frederick Douglass
1818-1895

February 27th

The Intention for today is:
UNITY



Ta-Nehisi Coates
1975-Present

Ta-Nehisi Coates is an American author and journalist. Coates gained a wide readership during his time as national correspondent at *The Atlantic*, where he wrote about cultural, social, and political issues, particularly regarding African Americans and white supremacy. Best-selling author of *We Were Eight Years in Power*, he isn't afraid to have uncomfortable conversations that America needs to push for progress.

February 28th

The Intention for today is:
RESILIENCE

Ella Baker was a civil rights activist. She was a largely behind-the-scenes organizer whose career spanned more than five decades. In New York City and the South, she worked alongside some of the most noted civil rights leaders of the 20th century. Baker promoted grassroots organizing and the ability of the oppressed to understand their worlds and advocate for themselves. She organized pivotal events that helped put a stop to segregation and Jim Crow.



Ella Baker
1903-1986

February 29th

The Intention for today is:
ENCOURAGEMENT



Phillis Wheatley was the first African American woman to publish a book of poetry. Born in West Africa, she was sold into slavery at the age of seven or eight and transported to North America. She was purchased by the Wheatley family of Boston, who taught her to read and write and encouraged her poetry when they saw her talent. She's not only the first African

American to have a work of poems published (endorsed by John Hancock and George Washington), but also one of the first women to do so.

Acknowledgements:

The short biographies in this booklet were found at:
<https://mom.com/momlife/205297-20-important-leaders-know-black-history-month/ella-baker>

and at the Wikipedia:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

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