



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

During Black History Month 2023, I hope you learned something new about the significant contributions Black/African American peoples have made throughout the United States and the world – inventions, policy and law changes, social justice movements, artistic creations, etc. And, I hope you now know about those 5 Black women who desegregated Texas State! As we move forward through 2023, I hope we all continue learning about the significant contributions people of all backgrounds have made to our society and continue celebrating them on a regular basis.

From segregation to integration!

The advocacy of five black women; **Dana Jean Smith, Georgia Faye Hoodye, Gloria Odoms, Mabeleen Washington and Helen Jackson** led to the U.S. District Judge Ben H. Rice, Jr. signing a court order tending segregation at Texas State University. History was made, as the first black students enrolled at Texas State!

The events that led these five women to seek social justice:

In 1962, Dana Jean Smith applied to Southwest Texas State College and was rejected due to the University being whites-only. Only a court order or state legislature could make it possible for Smith and other black students to attend Texas State University. Ms. Washington also met all the University requirements and was denied admission due to the color of her skin. In a letter to the University, Ms. Washington wrote, "I wanted to go to college really, really bad. My dad told me he wouldn't pay for college out of town." Daniel Smith, Dana's father obtained an attorney and filed a lawsuit in August 1962 on behalf of all qualified black students. Victory was won and integration began in 1963. First Five Freedom Hall is named after the first five.

For full story, please refer to <https://exhibits.library.txstate.edu/univarchives/exhibits/show/people-of-texas-state/introduction/first-five>

Sources: The African-American Presence at SWT: Celebrating Forty Years; Naming Task Force Announcement, May 2021



Photo courtesy of Texas State

Living Legends First Five!



Photo courtesy of Texas State

Black History Month

~ February 2023 ~

Juneteenth

Freedom Day

Slavery was abolished by President Lincoln in 1863; Texas slaves were not informed and freed until 1865 - almost two years afterward. For Texas slaves freedom came to pass on June 19, 1865, when approximately 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state, were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "Juneteenth," by the newly freed people in Texas. The very first Juneteenth celebration took place the very next year. The name Juneteenth is a combination of the words June and nineteenth. The day is also called Emancipation Day and Freedom Day.

Learn more about "Juneteenth" at <https://www.history.com/news/what-is-juneteenth>





Dr. Angela R. Ausbrooks
Director/Professor
School of Social Work

My Culture

Dr. Ausbrooks culturally identifies as Black and not African American. Faith is a strong part of Dr. Ausbrooks cultural identity. It contributes greatly to her strength and resilience, especially when facing difficulties, oppression or discrimination.

Growing up the most significant family traditions were participating in family dinners with her extended family. It was a sacred time to learn about her family's history. Her grandfather was a great storyteller and he shared the most egregious experiences of his family. However, he would have everyone laughing by the end of the tale.

Grandparents played a pivotal role in Dr. Ausbrooks upbringing. She was very close to her maternal grandparents and a significant amount of time at their home. Her paternal grandparents lived in East Texas and she would visit them during the summers. Her grandparents taught Dr. Ausbrooks how resilient and strong they were, shaping Dr. Ausbrooks own strength and resilience. Her grandparents instilled the desire to make them proud due to all they had gone through. Dr. Ausbrooks shared, "Without them, I would not exist."

BLACK
History
MATTERS



2019 College of Applied Arts Convocation
- Dr. Angela A. Ausbrooks



Important Cultural Observations

"We are strong, resilient, and multi-faceted/multi-layered. And, although we share a similar 'foundation' of values, we are not all the same – there is a LOT of diversity among Black people." - Dr. Ausbrooks

Signature Dish

Potato Salad & Sock-It-To-Me cake

Favorite Poem

"Phenomenal Woman" by Maya Angelou

Favorite Music Genre

R & B, Jazz, Country, Hip Hop and Gospel

Dr. Rudo Nyamapfumba

Lecturer



My Culture

Dr. Nyamapfumba identifies as black, African and Zumbabwean. Names in her culture are very important, as they tell a story. The name "Rudo" means love. "Tatenda" which means thank you and "Bless more". In her grandmother's words, "she was a sign of love, they thanked God and asked God to bless her family with more granddaughters." This is how Dr. Nyamapfumba has three names. These stories serve as an important reminder of Dr. Nyamapfumba's family lineage of faith.

As a young child, her favorite memory was going to her paternal grandparents home, where 40 members of her family gathered to celebrate family unity, food and their love. This rich tradition allowed this sacred gathering to last for several days and no one would hardly sleep! Men gathered around the fire pit sharing stories and women were usually in the kitchen hut gathered around their own fire and sharing beautiful stories, while the children played together. When tired, her family slept on the floor, anywhere in the house and cherished the meaning of family gatherings.

Zimbabwean Beef Stew Recipe:

<https://atasteozimboivyskitchenette.com/2021/09/04/zimbabwean-beef-stew/>



Dr. Rudo Nyamapfumba's Family

Faith and spirituality are a major influence of Dr. Nyamapfumba's cultural identity. When you live in a third world country where poverty is ramped, you have no distractions and nothing else, faith is a pillar of strength. When someone was ill, often her parents, grandparents, and neighbors prayed.

Dispelling cultural norms! When Dr. Nyamapfumba was one year old, her mother went to college. Though society was very patriarchal in nature. Her mother modeled the importance of women challenging societal norms. When Dr. Nyamapfumba was 10 years old, she attended a college graduation and noted the doctoral robe unique and she asked her family why the attire was different? Her family responded, "that is the highest level of education anyone can attain. Dr. Rudo asked, "Do you think I can do that?" My family responded, "of course you can and even if you are the first woman to do it in our family." This was the birth of her dream to obtain a doctoral degree!



Dr. Raphael Travis, Jr.

MSW Program Director/ Professor



My Culture

Dr. Travis cultural identify is Black, as part of the broader Black Diaspora around the globe. His cultural roots vary, primarily originate in West Africa and there is a small piece of DNA from Scotland. He is a proud New Yorker ,and member of the East Coast Hip Hop generation birthed out of New York. Growing up, every summer Dr. Travis was spent "Down South" in Kinston, North Carolina with his grandparents. Though his family in N.Y. was struggling financially, the summers with grandparents were indeed a reprieve...Peaceful, quiet, plenty of food, space, a yard to play, 24 hour stress free love! His grandparents mean the world to him and their unconditional love was like no other! His grandparents represented stability, safety and security. His grandfather was filled with humor and his grandmother was the epitome of unconditional love. Grandma made Dr. Travis feel like anything was possible and is his guardian angel in the most challenging of times.

Three things to note in Black culture

- A beautiful mosaic of people - varied and complex.
- Thousand of years of dynamic, brilliant, and eventful history for the Black diaspora before the last 500 years.
- Our cultural resilience is an endless story of courage, hope and inspiration!



- Dr. Travis Family

Favorite Poem: "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou
Dr. Travis shared, "it is the ultimate testimonial of confidence, pride, and resilience. Especially considering the role of Black women in not only US History, but all history."

Favorite Music Genre: Hip Hop
Favorite Artist : A Tribe Called Quest, NAS
Favorite Group: EPMD

Favorite Albums:
"Low End Theory" by A Tribe Called Quest,
"Legend" by Bob Marley and "Under the Table and Dreaming" by Dave Matthews.

Signature Dish: Grandmother's world-famous Macaroni and Cheese. Dr. Travis and his daughter starting making this recipe together since her daughter was in grade school. When he became ill with Covid-19, she made it all alone and it turned out special. This dish not only is delicious, it brings joy to his family, and it is a recipe his daughter can hold on to tradition. The recipe is not available for publication, it is a secret!



HIP HOP



Dr. Richard W. Wiley

Lecturer



My Culture

Dr. Wiley's cultural fabric is rooted in Africa with unknown origins. His elders shared that his ancestors were slaves and owned by a slaveowner who bore the name Wiley. To show ownership, the slaveowner marked the name Wiley to his slaves, representing his "property."

A story that impacted Dr. Wiley is of his father, who was a retired 24 year veteran of the United States Air Force. When returning from serving in Vietnam, his father went to Dairy Queen to get ice cream and was denied service due to the color of his skin. He was told to return to the line and place an order. However, his dad refused.

What Dr. Wiley would like colleagues to know about his culture

Be educable, be willing to learn about the African and African American culture by stepping outside one's comfort zone.

Favorite Poem: Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.



- Dr. Richard W. Wiley

Three things to know about my culture

- Africans who were made slaves did not start as slaves
- Honor our past that is rooted in African ancestry
- Respect the African culture, traditions, art, and music without the desire to exploit, appropriate, or humor for entertainment

MUSIC

As a Louisiana native, Dr. Wiley enjoys music from Louisiana, which includes: Blues, Jazz, Soul, and old school R & B music. He loves old school Hip Hop and Rap music with the art of spoken word. Music that exposed the conditions that plague communities of color.

Favorite genre: Hip Hop and Rap music

Favorite Artist: Tupac Amaru Shakur

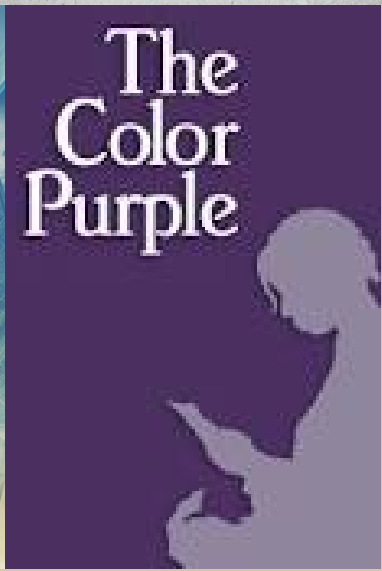
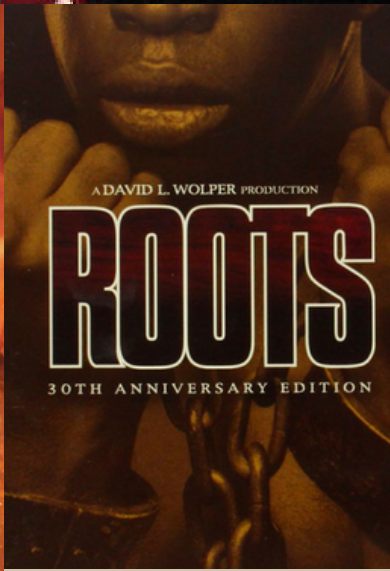
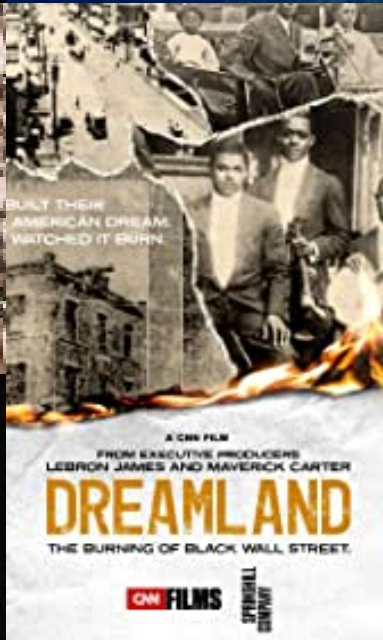


Mardi
Gras



Black History is American History

~ Movies and Documentaries ~



AFRICAN AMERICAN INVENTIONS THAT TRANCENDED THE TIMES..

- **Granville T. Woods (1856-1910)** He invented the telegraph system in trains and held close to 60 patents. He improved communication between traveling trains.
- **Frederick McKinley Jones (1893-1961)** He invented the automatic refrigerated air-cooling units for trucks, trains, ships and airplanes. He held over 40 patents. His inventions helped preserve blood and medicine during WWII. He was the first African American to receive the National Medal of Technology in 1991.
- **George Washington Carver (1864-1943)** He Invented Peanut Butter . However, he is best known as an agriculture chemist, conducting over 518 new products (including: dye, ink, soap, cosmetics, flour, vinegar and synthetic rubber.
- **Madam C.J. Walker (1867-1919)** Became the first self-made millionaire after creating black hair products.

Source:

<https://www.oprahdaily.com/life/work-money/g30877473/african-american-inventors/>



WITHOUT		
BLACK INVENTORS		
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE THESE		
PRODUCT	INVENTOR	DATE
ELEVATOR	ALEXANDER MILES	1867
FIRE EXTINGUISHER	THOMAS MARSHALL	1872
STETHOSCOPE	THOMAS A. CARRINGTON	1876
LIGHT BULB	LEWIS LATIMER	1882
IRONING BOARD	SARA BOONE	1887
MAILBOX	PAUL L. DOWNING	1891
PENCIL SHARPENER	JOHN L. LOVE	1897
TRAFFIC LIGHTS	GARRETT MORGAN	1923
BLOOD PLASMA BAG	CHARLES DREW	1945
AIR CONDITIONING UNIT	FREDERICK M. JONES	1949

Photo is courtesy of KdrStudioIN

~ Etsy 2.28.2023



Black History Month Community Events

Coalition
OF BLACK FACULTY & STAFF
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

TEXAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

FEB 28TH

12:30 PM

**LBJSC
3 - 14 . 1**

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS
OF AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN PRESENCE

THEIR LEGACIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO PAVING THE WAY
FOR THE CONTINUOUS SUCCESS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS.

Celebrating 60yrs of an African American Presence
Tuesday, February 28th
1pm-2:30pm | LBJSC 3-14.1

THE COALITION OF BLACK FACULTY & STAFF
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE

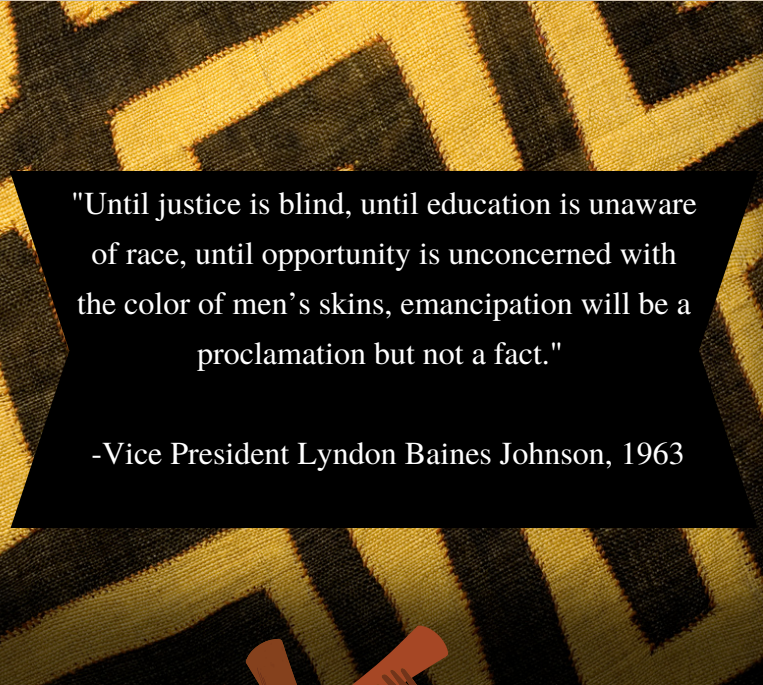
HCWC
Baby & Mommy Shower

<u>REQUESTED BABY ITEMS</u>	<u>REQUESTED MOMMY ITEMS</u>
DIAPERS SIZE 6-7	CAN OPENER
PULL-UPS SIZE 2T/4T	SILVERWARE
BABY WIPES	TOASTER
BABY SHAMPOO & SOAP	PLASTIC CUPS, PLATES,
BABY LOTION	BOWELS
	CLEANING SUPPLIES
	DISH SOAP

BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE NEXT CBFS
MEETING OR DROP OFF AT LBJSC 4-14.3
BETWEEN FEB. 15TH - MARCH 21ST
(FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE OFFICE)



**3RD Annual Soul Food
Celebration**
Sat., March 11, 3-7pm
Second Baptist Church
3310 E. Commerce Street
San Antonio, TX



"Until justice is blind, until education is unaware of race, until opportunity is unconcerned with the color of men's skins, emancipation will be a proclamation but not a fact."
-Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson, 1963



Black History Month and Beyond Activities:



- Volunteer at an African American nonprofit agency
- Join the NAACP
- Amplify Black voices on social media
- Support Black owned businesses
- Engage in a cross-cultural experience (ex: attend a Black Church Service)
- Watch a Black History movie or documentary
- Share love and end hate
- Enjoy Soul Food!



LA VOZ UNIDA
E-Newsletter - Black History Month Edition
Created by Dr. Rosalva Washington, LMSW
School of Social Work, Texas State University
February 28, 2023