

This month we will focus on bold women in History. Most of the stories are recounted in the book above but some are more local........

Please read aloud or choose a student to read the Lady of the day out to the class.

You will find clips embedded also so please check they work on your class computer ahead of time.

Please note that the number on slide does not correlate with the date this is so you can skip ahead.



Miriam Manderson

Miriam Manderson is currently one of the 0.2% of headteachers of Black African descent in the UK. That works out to I out of approximately 25 Headteachers of Black African descent in the UK. This is out of a total of 22, 400 headteachers in total. The first Black headteacher was appointed to lead a primary school 50 years ago. Miriam is the first Black and female headteacher of a mainstream secondary school in the borough of Harrow.

Growing up in Brent raised by her father who travelled to the UK from Ghana, West Africa to make the most of his accountancy education. Miriam grew up in a single-parent household after her mother passed away at the age of 6. Miriam lived on a council estate, thoroughly enjoying the sense of community that existed there as everyone on the estate knew each other, parents and children alike but life was not easy. It would be fair to say that this brought several challenges but Miriam was always determined to learn new and different things, so much so, that recognising she could not speak her own mother tongue fluently, although she was already bilingual through understanding her home language, she went on to study a series of languages including French, Spanish, German and Italian but settled on and took both French and Spanish languages to fluency (alongside the study of politics and economics) making a successful teaching career of this.

Miriam is passionate about working with children from diverse backgrounds, especially those in inner-city London and began her teaching in Harrow, Brent and Hammersmith and Fulham. Her mission is to make a difference to the educational experiences of young people, especially those who have limited experiences beyond their local areas as well as sharing her passion for languages, travel and knowledge of other cultures around the world bringing this into her classroom. With over 25 years of teaching, she has influenced thousands of children and inspired a few to become teachers of Modern Foreign Languages as well.



Mary Prince 1788 - 1833

Born into slavery in Bermuda, Mary was very rarely in charge of her own story. In the course of her life she was bought and sold five times, separated from her family and forced into gruelling back breaking work. For her first forty years she was powerless in a system that saw her only as property. Any rebellion would result in beatings, floggings or worse. Only when her master was away on business did Mary act in defiance: she learned to read and earned some of her own money. In 1826 she met and married a free man, but when her owners found out she was severely beaten.

In 1828 she travelled to England with her owners, but swiftly escaped to freedom. Slavery was banned in England but was still legal in the colonies. So, although Mary was free, there was no way she could travel back to her husband. Instead she took action and began to campaign for the abolition of slavery throughout the British Empire. In 1831 she wrote and published her autobiography, The *History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave, related by Herself,* the first account of the life of a black woman ever published in Britain. In this shocking and impactful book she recalled the awful brutalities of her upbringing. Through her detailed storytelling she helped people realize just how terrible it was to be a slave in the colonies. Finally, in 1833, the Slavery Abolition Act was passed and slavery was outlawed throughout the British Empire. Mary used her story and her powerful words to reach people, and in turn, to help change history.

Seaman William Brown 1794 - ?

Angelog Managelog Toman Managelog Toman aplana all trackman

In 1815 it was discovered that Seaman William Brown was a black woman who had secretly disguised herself as a man in order to serve in the British Royal Navy. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries it was not unheard of for a woman to pass herself off as a man to enlist in the military. At the time, Britain was the most powerful naval force in the world. It was a highly respected position but being a sailor was no glamorous job. It was tough and dangerous work.

There are a few varying accounts of William Brown's story. One version was published in the *Annual Register* for 1815. It states that she served on the flagship of Britain's Premier battlefleet, the HMS *Queen Charlotte*, for upwards of eleven years! The story says she took on **many jobs aboard the ship and was capable of steering the wheel and navigating through shallow waters.** She even served for some time as captain of the fore-top: leading

the other sailors high above the ship in the upper sails. An official document from the ship - muster list - tells a different story. It states that on 23rd may 1815 a twenty-one year old man from Grenada joined the crew of the HMS *Queen Charlotte* as a landsman - the lowest-ranking crew member - and was discharged on 19 June 'for being a female'.

If that is the true story of William, she served for 21 days, which was no easy feat. As a landman she was entirely new to the hard work of life at sea and had to keep her identity secret. We may never know exactly what happened to William Brown or even her real name but one thing is clear: she successfully enlisted and served the country and is recorded as the first black female to serve in the British Navy.

Shonda Rhimes 1970 -

Shonda Rhimes was born in Chicago, Illinois, as the youngest of six children of Vera P. (Cain), a college professor and Ilee Rhimes, Jr., a university administrator. Her mother attended college while raising their six children and earned a PhD in educational administration in 1991. Her father, who holds an MBA, became chief



information officer (CIO) at the University of Southern California, serving until 2013. Rhimes lived in Park Forest South (now University Park, Illinois), with her two older brothers and three older sisters. She has said she exhibited an early affinity for storytelling. While in high school, she served as a hospital volunteer, which inspired an interest in hospital environments.

Shonda is now an American television producer, television and film writer, and author. She is best known as the showrunner—creator, head writer, and executive producer—of the television medical drama *Grey's Anatomy*, its spin-off *Private Practice*, and the political thriller series *Scandal*. Rhimes has also served as the executive producer of the ABC television series *Off the Map, How to Get Away with Murder, The Catch*, and *Station 19*. In 2007, Rhimes was named one of *TIME* magazine's 100 People Who Help Shape the World. In 2015, she published her first book, a memoir, *Year of Yes: How to Dance It Out, Stand in the Sun, and Be Your Own Person*. In 2017, Netflix said that it had entered into a multi-year development deal with Rhimes, by which all of her future productions will be Netflix Original series. Netflix had already purchased the streaming rights to back episodes of *Grey's Anatomy* and *Scandal*.

Sojourner Truth 1797 - 1883

Sojourner was born a slave in New York state under the name Isabella Baumfree. Following the state's Gradual Emancipation Act, she was due her freedom in 1827. When she realised that her owner was planning to keep her enslaved, Sojourner ran away with her infant daughter in tow, but this came at a huge cost, she had to leave her five year old son behind.

The slave owner sold her five year old son to a plantation a thousand miles away in Alabama.



Meanwhile, Sojourner remained in hiding in New York until her freedom was official. When the coast was clear, she brought a court case, saying that her son had been sold illegally. She was one of the first black women to bring a court case in America, and even though it seemed impossible, she won and got her son back!

In 1843 she changed her name to Sojourner which means traveller and became a preacher. She travelled the country, sharing her message for women's rights and the abolition of slavery everywhere. Although Sojourner could not read or write her voice carried far. In December 1851 she gave a speech that she made up on the spot. In it she spoke up on behalf of black women who faced double discrimination of racism and sexism and had often been left out of the fight for equality. The speech is known by its most famous refrain 'Ain't I a woman?'4 min

speech on next slide

Continued Sojourners Speech Re-enacted

Ain't I A Woman?

Sojourner went on to encourage African Americans to fight on behalf of the Union in the America Civil War, for former slaves to be given places to live, and for desegregation of streetcars (trams). She was an agitator and a fierce activist for equality.



Ava DuVerney

Ava DuVerney is a writer, producer and director. She's directed a multitude of cinematic gold, with powerhouse stars taking center stage in many of her productions. Duvernay eloquently captures the Black experience in so many pieces of her work. If you're looking for a moving piece to tap into your humanity and bring you to tears, tee up one of Duvernay's productions. Some of her best are "13th," "Selma" and "When They See Us."





Mary Seacole 1805 - 1881

Mary was born in the British colony of Jamaica to a Scottish father and a Jamaican mother. From an early age she learned nursing and healing from her mother, who used traditional remedies and kept a boarding house for invalid soldiers. As a young woman, Mary explored the Caribbean, visiting Cuba, Haiti and the Bahamas, which was a bold step especially for a black woman. She also travelled with her husband, Edwin Seacole, who died after only eight years of marriage. Mary continued exploring and along the way she picked up new medicine techniques. In 1853 a war broke out along the Crimean peninsula in Eastern Europe between Russian and the allied British, French and Ottoman Empires.



Mary wanted to sign up as a military nurse to help the wounded but her application was refused. She did not let that stop her. She travelled to the area with a friend to set up a boarding house - the British Hotel - behind enemy lines. She used her skills to provide hot food, drinks and clothes for the wounded soldiers. In 1857 she released *Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole in Many Lands*.



On 30th June 2016 a statue of her was unveiled at St Thomas Hospital, London, honouring her as a pioneer in her field. She is remembered as a brave and fearless leader.

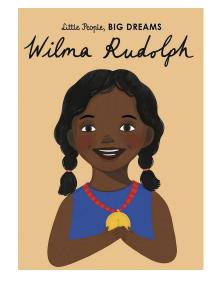
Wilma Rudolph 1940 - 1994

Wilma is one of America's most famous sprinters, but her journey to the finish line was a long one. When she was four years old she contracted polio, for which there was no cure at the time. The disease paralysed her left leg and she was forced to wear a metal brace.

Wilma was different and got teased a lot. She was small and her sandy coloured hair made her stand out, but she was also strong. With lots of hard work, determination and physical therapy, she was walking without her brace by the age of twelve. A year later she was running faster than all the boys and girls in her class. Soon she had joined track and field and was winning every event.

When she was only 16 years old she won her first Olympic Medal at the 1956 games in Australia. Wilma went on to win three Gold medals in the Rome Olympics in 1960. When she returned home to Tennessee, Wilma found out that a party organised in her honour was to a segregated event so when refused to participate until the organiser put black people and white people together. As an American icon Wilma knew that her stance on civil rights could have an impact. Wilma later became a teacher and coach. In 1981 she started the Wilma Rudolph Foundation to support young athletes.





Harriet Tubman 1822-1913

One of nine children, Harriet was born into slavery under the name Araminta Harriet Ross. Both of her parents were West Africans, from the Ashanti Warrior people. While many of her siblings were sold and traded to distant plantations, one good fortune Harriet managed to remain with her parents throughout her youth. When she was fifteen, Harriet was accidentally hit in the head with an iron weight, and fell into a coma for three days. Her brain injury resulted in narcolepsy - a permanent disorder that caused her to fall asleep at random times. Fearing her slave owner would eventually discover her injury, she decided to run away to avoid the risk of being sold or traded. After escaping the confederate south in 1849, Harriet could have stayed in the North (where slavery was outlawed). Over eleven years she returned to the South thirteen times and led more than seventy men, women and children to freedom and safety via the secret system called the Underground Railroad.

Known as a 'conductor' she 'never lost a passenger' on her journeys. Even though it was Dangerous, she continually put her life at risk for others. Later, during the American Civil War she served as an army nurse and went undercover to spy for the North. In 2016 the US Treasury announced a historic proposal to change the \$20 bill: it would replace the face of President Andrew Jackson with Harriet, making her the first woman on the front of any American paper currency.

Simone Biles - 14th March 1997





American artistic gymnast. With a combined total of 30 Olympic and World Championship medals, Biles is the most decorated American gymnast and the world's third most decorated gymnast, behind Belarus' Vitaly Scherbo (33 medals) and Russia's Larisa Latynina (32 medals).

At the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Biles won individual gold medals in all-around, vault and floor; bronze in balance beam; and gold as part of the United States team, dubbed the "Final Five".

Olympic Champion Mary Lou Retton called Biles the "greatest gymnast ever" other observers have echoed the sentiment.

Next slide for more of the amazing Simone



WOW! What do you think?

Alice Ball 1892 - 1916

Alice's mother and grandfather were both photographers, and as a child she became interested in the chemicals used in photography. She went to college in her hometown of Seattle and earned not one but two degrees, in Pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmacy. At the time most of the African American population in the city where employed in service professions - cleaning homes or preparing food for example. Alice defied expectations and her circumstances by seeking an education and a career in science.

In 1915 Alice became the first woman and first African American to graduate with a masters degree from the University of Hawaii. While working on her thesis, she developed what would become the leading treatment for leprosy, a serious, incurable disease. She found way for the oil from the seed of the chaulmoogra tree to be absorbed into the bloodstream. This treatment became the primary method that would be used until the 1940's but for a long time no one knew that Alice was the inventor. Less that two years after this discovery Alice died and the directed of her program took credit for her findings. Alice's method became know at the Dean Method.

It wasn't until the 1970's the historians unearthed the truth and worked to ensure that Alice got credit for her important discovery. On the 29th February 2000 the University of Hawaii recognised her for her work and put up a plaque for her on the only chaulmoogra tree on the school's campus. That day the lieutenant governor of Hawaii declared the 29th February Alice Ball Day.

5 min



5 min

Rebecca Lee Crumpler 1831 - 1895

From the very beginning, caring for others was part of Rebecca's life, she was raised in Pennsylvania by her aunt who provided health care services to the people in her neighbourhood helping her community became her passion and her life's mission.



She attended a private school in Massachusetts and went on to work as a nurse for eight years. In 1860, she applied to an all white medical school, the New England Female Medical College, a bold a risky move but she was accepted. Rebecca graduated in 1864, becoming the first African American woman doctor in the country. Out of more than 50,000 physicians in the USA at the time. Only about 300 were women, and Rebecca was the only black woman.

She began her practice in Boston specialising in the care of women and children, but when civil war came to an end she moved to Richmond, Virginia to work with the Freedmen's Bureau, the fallen confederate south was extremely hostile to the newly freed slaves. So Rebecca worked with the Bureau to provide healthcare to them. Rebecca had been born free in Delaware, the state with the highest number of free black people before the war. She was new to the adversity and racism of the South but she endured it in order to help the poor and needy.

In 1883, she published a two part text entitled - A Book of Medical Discourses. The first part focuses on care for infants, and the second part focused on women's health. It is the first medical article by a black woman.

Tessa Sanderson 1956 -

Born in Jamaica, Tessa moved to Britain when she was only nine years old. Swapping the tropical Caribbean for an English city might seem a bit scary but, helped by her love of sport Tessa quickly made Wolverhampton her home. She joined the local club where she showed promise in the javelin and other *heptathlon events. She was a rising star in her field and by the age of sixteen she had already won her first javelin championship. By 1976 she had earned her spot in the first Olympic Games. Meanwhile she also participated in the Commonwealth games - in the heptathlon which consists of seven elements: (100m hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200m, long jump, javelin and 800m) and in 1981 she became the top British woman heptathlete.

Tessa's biggest moment was when she won a gold medal for Great Britain in the Los Angeles Olympics. This made her the first woman to win Olympic Gold in the heptathlon and the first black British woman to win any Olympic gold. Tessa broke records in her sport and is one of only five women to throw a javelin over 73m.

In 1997 she retired from competition and used her passion for sport to start the Tessa Sanderson Foundation and Academy which gives able and disabled athletes opportunities to excel in sport.

*The women's heptathlon was introduced in the 1980s, first appearing in the Olympics in 1984. The event consists of the 100m hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200m sprint, long _jump, javelin throw, and 800m run._____



Tessa Sanderson





1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games - Women's Javelin





From a young age, Shirley's big voice was unmistakable.

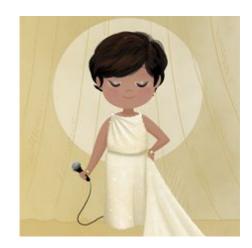
Born in Cardiff, she was the youngest of seven children in a blended mixed-race family.

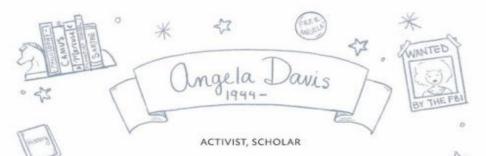
Racial discrimination and poverty were a constant issue, and Shirley had to leave school at 16 to work in a factory.

But she kept singing in pubs and clubs, and was soon talent spotted, and was propelled to stardom.

She sang the title tracks to three James Bond films, and became famous all over the world for her amazing voice and glamorous style.







Angela grew up in racially segregated Birmingham, Alabama, a city at the center of the fight for civil rights. By the time she was a teenager, Angela was already actively involved in the movement. She organized interracial study groups, which were broken up by the police. This was only the beginning for Angela's passion for activism and scholarship.

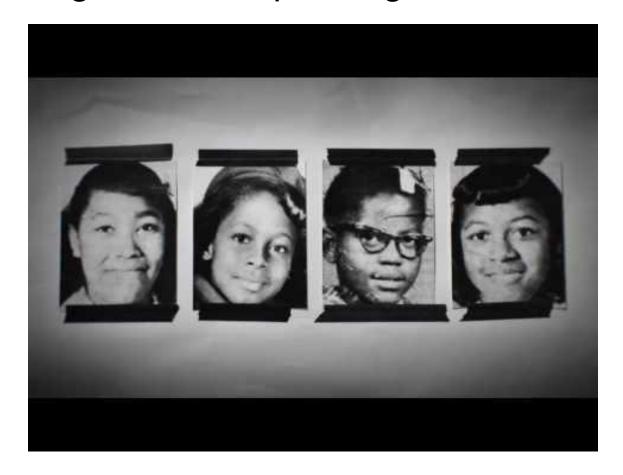
In college she majored in philosophy and was a student under a famous German thinker named Herbert Marcuse. She says he taught her that she could be an academic and a scholar as well as an activist and a revolutionary.

Angela was outspoken and a prominent counterculture voice. She became affiliated with the Black Panther Party as well as a member of and later president of the Communist Party USA. Both groups were considered dangerous because of their opposition to the US government, so she was put on the FBI's most wanted list. Some of her major passions were fighting for prison reform and against police brutality. She was labeled a troublemaker for fighting the system. She was let go from her teaching job at the University of California–Los Angeles (UCLA), but she fired back with a lawsuit. She was put in prison for conspiracy charges, but was acquitted sixteen months later. Angela Davis is largely considered a symbol for fighting back against systems of oppression. Through all of this she maintained a devotion to teaching, and remained a professor of philosophy into her seventies.





Angela Davis speaking in documentary the 13th





Nina Simone 1933 - 2003

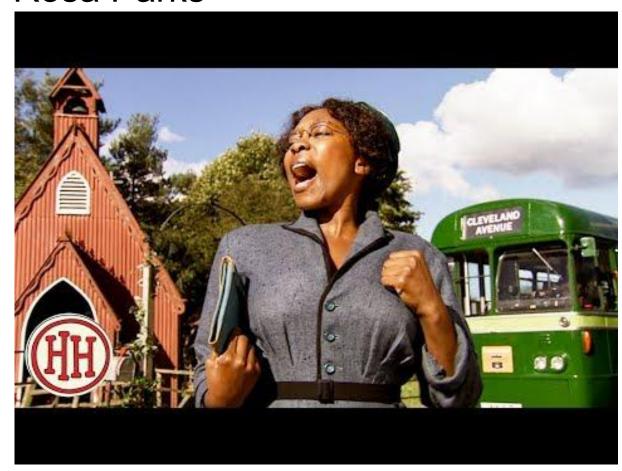
Nina, born Eunice Waymon- grew up in a home where music was all around. A prodigy with a love for Bach, Beethoven and Brahms, she dreamed of becoming the first black concert pianist. Activism, however was much a part of her as her music was, at the age of twelve, when Eunice's parents were removed from the front row of one of her recitals to make room for a white couple, she stood up and refused to play until the injustice was corrected. The event left her hardened and distrustful but demonstrated the power of activism through music.

As a young adult, financial troubles and discrimination got in the way of her studies, so Eunice began giving piano lessons. She soon learned that she could earn double the money by performing in nightclubs in Atlantic City. When nightclub owners informed her that playing the piano was not enough, she had to become a singer. She took the name Nina Simone and began to sing.

Was there any way of knowing then that hers would become one of the most iconic voices in the history of music?

Onstage, her musical genius really showed. She combined different musical styles, and played a very wide range of music. She mixed jazz, folk music and blues, and always had a soft spot for classical piano. Nina used her music to stand up for social justice, writing songs in response to the assassination of Civil rights leader Medgar Evers and the Birmingham Church Bombing. She became a leading voice in the Civil Rights Movement while her songs served as its soundtrack.

Rosa Parks



Were you listening? Click next slide

Were you listening?

What did Rosa Parks do that was considered wrong?

What year was this?

Where was it?

Who else was fighting at this time in USA for civil rights?

What Honour was awarded to Rosa Parks?



Additional video 11 min

Nicola Adams 1982 -

Nicola Adams is a British Professional Boxer, the first woman to win an Olympic Boxing Gold medal.

They say that bad luck comes in doses of three, and it has been a tough time for women's boxing pioneer Nicola Adams following the break up of her relationship with fellow fighter Marlen Esparza, the revelation that her mother Dee is battling breast cancer, and just two months ago, a mystery illness afflicting her influential trainer Virgil Hunter, which has forced the respected Oakland coach out of action indefinitely.

But Adams hates losing – at anything. And life's tragic twists mirror the toughness boxing develops in the character of its protagonists. Behind the million-dollar smile Adams is a self-obsessed, driven character.

She has been forced to find an alternative coach in San Francisco, her training base, and had to put her career on hold for a few months in the wake of her mother's worrying news, yet the triple trauma has not blunted the desire of the double Olympic champion, now 35, to attempt to unify the women's world super-flyweight division this year.



4 min video on next slide



Bessie Coleman 1892 - 1926

Bessie grew up in a small, segregated town in Texas. At home, with three younger siblings around, she had a lot of responsibilities - washing clothes by hand, fetching clean water - on top of walking four miles to school and back every day.

Bessie knew that one day she would leave her small town. In 1915 she moved to Chicago to live with her older brothers. Returning for the First World War they told her all about being in France and about how the women there could fly planes - unlike the women in America. This got Bessie curious - furiously curious. She applied to every flying school she could find but was denied entry. No one at any of these schools thought that a woman could fly - especially not a black woman. Bessie wanted to prove them wrong. In 1920 she moved to France where she could finally learn to fly. She was so gifted, that she graduated from the 10 month course in only seven months. In 1921 Bessie became the first African American woman in the world to receive her pilot's licence. She specialised in stunt flying, parachuting and aerial tricks.

After returning home to USA Bessie flew for huge crowds, she was very popular among the white and black Americans and stood up against segregation and discrimination whenever she could. She hoped to open her own flying school for other girls of colour. Unfortunately, during a test flight in 1926 a mechanical issue caused her plane to crash. Bessie passed away but her legacy lives on. In 1977, the Bessie Coleman Aviation Club opened in Chicago to help women of all races fulfil their dreams of flying.







Althea Gibson 1927 - 2003

A self described 'street rebel', Althea was a child with a lot of energy. Growing up on the streets of Harlem, she preferred to play pool, go boxing and bowling, or basketball than do her homework. She struggled with rules, but everything changed when she discovered tennis at the age of fourteen. Members of the Harlem Cosmopolitan Club noticed her talent and took her under their wings, teaching her the game and respect for the rules.



By the time she was fifteen, Althea had won her first Junior Championship. Most sports were segregated at the time so when Althea became the first black tennis player to compete at the US National Championship, it was a milestone. Althea was the first black player at Wimbledon in 1951 and her 1956 victory as the French open made her the first African American to win a Grand Slam. Her wins paved the way for black tennis players to come including Serena and Venus Williams. Despite the barriers she broke into the public eye, segregation still kept her from entering through the front door, eating with other players and using the locker rooms.

In 1958 she retired from Tennis. In those days it was difficult to make a living out of playing sport, even though she was regarded as one of the best athletes in the world, Althea had to return to the real world and find work. But she wasn't finished with being a rebel; later in life she started playing golf and became the first black woman to compete on the professional tour.

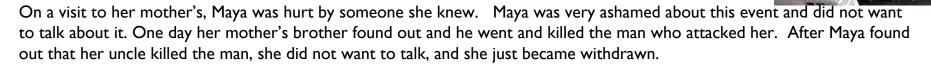
1.16 min clip on next slide





Maya Angelou 4th April 1928

Marguerite Johnson was born in a segregated area of St. Louis, Arkansas on April 4, 1928. After her parent's divorce she and her brother, Bailey were sent to go live with their grandmother, Annie. Annie made sure that the family went to church on a regular basis. Marguerite and Bailey had a close relationship as children and Bailey was the person that gave Marguerite the name of "Maya".



After Angelou finished middle school, she continued to work hard. While attending high school, she won a scholarship in dance and drama to California Labour School. Then Maya became San Francisco's first African-American female streetcar conductor. At the age of sixteen, Angelou gave birth to her son, Guy Johnson. At age 22, she married Tosh Angelou, though the marriage only lasted two years. In order for Angelou to support Guy and herself, she had to get jobs as a waitress, cook and a nightclub singer.

Later on in her life, she started reading work by William Shakespeare, Edgar Allan Poe, and Paul Lawrence Dunbar. Maya became interested in writing, so she moved to New York and joined Harlem Writers Guild. In 1960, Maya and Guy moved to Egypt, where Maya was an editor for Arab Observer. Two years later, they moved to Ghana, where she worked for three years as a writer, and administrator for the University of Ghana, and as an editor for the African Review. Maya has written many poems that she has won many awards for. Maya is fluent in French, Spanish, Italian, Arabic and Fanti.

Adefemi Akinsanya - 11th November 1990

Adefemi Akinsanya is a broadcast journalist. She was born and raised in the Harlesden, Alperton and Wembley areas in North-West London. Adefemi attended Alperton Community School where she sat her GCSEs and A-Levels. From there, Adefemi went on to graduate from King's College London with a BA in International Politics. In the few years since then, she has worked as a journalist at many newsrooms including Al Jazeera, Reuters, TRT World and Arise News. Her major influences are her mother, Oprah Winfrey and Issa Rae. Adefemi is channelling her class clown heritage into a comedy she is writing for television and online audiences.



END SARS PROTEST - OCTOBER 2020

https://www.instagram.com/tv/CGPZu0hp6DP/?igshid=qvt8q8cu8b8v

TONY BLAIR INTERVIEW - OCTOBER 2020

https://www.instagram.com/tv/CF6xdtcJGUq/?igshid=r3mig4cxlc70

KANO PALACE & TIE DYE

https://youtu.be/PxTgQgSCudc

https://youtu.be/PxTgQgSCudc

Iman - 25 July 1955

Iman was born in Somalia on July 25, 1955. She was raised speaking 5 languages, and went to Nairobi University where she got a political science degree. She was at University when well-known photographer Peter Beard spotted her. Her first modelling assignment was for American Vogue in 1976. Iman was an instant success in the fashion world, and worked for several fashion designers including Yves St. Laurent, Versace, Calvin Klein, and Donna Karan. During her 14 years as a model, she also worked with many top photographers, including Helmut Newton, Richard Avedon, Irving Penn, and Annie Liebovitz.

When she introduced IMAN Cosmetics and Skincare Collection as an exclusive line for women of colour in 1994, she was already considered an authority for this growing market. "I have a real sense of who the true woman of colour is," Iman explained. "She is not merely one ethnic group...she's African-American, Hispanic, Asian and Native American".

In 2000, Iman successfully launched her second beauty company, I-IMAN Makeup, which addresses the needs of all women regardless of skin tone. Known for an urban, sophisticated concept, I-IMAN Makeup has become popular in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain.



Cathy Freeman - 16 February 1973

Catherine Astrid Salome Freeman, OAM is an Australian former sprinter, who specialised in the 400 metres event. She would occasionally compete in other track events, but 400m was her main event. When Australia's **Cathy Freeman** won a gold medal at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Canada, she celebrated by taking a victory lap while carrying the **Aboriginal flag**. The **flag** has become a rallying symbol for the **Aboriginal** people and a symbol of their race and identity. In the first clip the other competitors start ahead of her as she had placed really well in her previous races, so they got a head start.....





Michelle Obama 17 January 1964 -

Michelle Obama is a lawyer and writer who was the first lady of the United States from 2009 to 2017. She is the wife of the 44th U.S. president, Barack Obama. As first lady, Michelle focused her attention on social issues such as poverty, healthy living and education. Her 2018 memoir, *Becoming*, discusses the experiences that shaped her, from her childhood in Chicago to her years living in the White House.



Raised with an emphasis on education, both Michelle and her brother learned to read at home by age four. Both skipped the second grade. By the sixth grade, Michelle was taking classes in her school's gifted program, where she learned French and completed accelerated courses in biology. Michelle went on to attend Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, the city's first magnet high school for gifted children, where, among other activities, she served as the student government treasurer. In 1981, she graduated from the school as class salutatorian.

On January 13, 2017, Michelle made her final speech as first lady at the White House, saying "being your first lady has been the greatest honor of my life and I hope I've made you proud." In an emotional moment, she addressed young Americans: "I want our young people to know that they matter, that they belong. So don't be afraid. You hear me, young people? Don't be afraid. Be focused. Be determined. Be hopeful. Be empowered. Empower yourself with a good education. Then get out there and use that education to build a country worthy of your boundless promise. Lead by example with hope; never fear."

Which one of the Great Leaders that we have learned about do you admire most and why?
Write a letter to one of them and explain why you admire the decisions they made and how will you be more like them in your life?

End of October

