

BLACK

HISTORY

MONTH

KH VOL. 66



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BLACK HISTORY MONTH





RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

KEWANEE LSRC has agreed to allow us to engage in more *Restorative Practices*. In the Horizons newsletter you will see the terms **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE** and **RESTORATIVE PRACTICES** very often.

The aim of *Restorative Practices* is to develop community and to manage conflict and tensions by repairing harm and building relationships. *Restorative Justice* in general, is a process involving the primary stakeholders in determining how best to repair the harm done by an offense. The three primary stakeholders in *Restorative Justice* are: the victims, the offenders, and their communities of care; their needs are respectively: obtaining reparation, taking responsibility, and achieving reconciliation.

The *Kewanee Horizons* team believes creating a better community here is *Restorative*. By indirectly repairing damages and by giving back to our current community and with greater communities at large, we are engaging in *Restorative Practices*.

**Community: A group of people with a common characteristic
Or interest living together with in a larger society.**



MISSION STATEMENT

Kewanee Horizons has adopted the **Restorative Justice** and community theme. Partly because this has been the fight of our lives, those of us who have sought not only freedom in its many forms, but, also a way to give back, rebuild, and uplift our communities.

We give back because of what we have been given. We rebuild, by restoring back to a state of before our offenses. We uplift, by a conscious and consistent effort to better ourselves as well as those around us.

Kewanee Horizons will work to highlight the achievements of our community both on campus and off, inside facilities and outside. Whether individually or collectively and no matter the uniform we wear. We're going to look into the daily lives on our campus and across the state to other facilities on a regular basis. We are hoping to open the eyes to the limitless potential there is in our population, to advocate for more participation in programming, and to give recognition to those who succeed. We want to remain as interactive as possible so **Kewanee Horizons** will be picking your brains for ideas and accepting submissions to make this as interactive as possible. This publication is put together for the purpose of uplifting mind, body and spirit.



STATEWIDE CALLOUT

To **ALL** individuals in custody within the State of Illinois we want to know about your **accomplishments, successes** and any struggles you may have overcame. Allow us to provide a spotlight for your unique voice. We hope that through your submissions it provide inspiration to others to do better and be better. **Please remember that this platform is about Restorative Justice and Community.** With that being said, we ask that all submissions be in the form of **Positivity, Restorative Justice, Re-Entry, and /or Community Building.** With every submission we have the ability to create change by showing our positive transformation and readiness for Re-Entry, which is why it's important to exemplify this through our words and actions. Change starts with us.

Please know that we are **Not** attempting to smother or drown out your voices. However, this is our opportunity to be heard so lets do so in a **POSTIVE MANNER** and **UPLIFT ONE ANOTHER.**

DISCLAIMER

Please know all submissions are subject to editing due to spelling and grammatical issues. Your story will be conveyed in the best manner, we will keep your voices intact. We thank you for your submission and look forward to sharing your stories.



PAROLE ILLINOIS INFO CENTER

From: Joseph Dole, Parole Illinois Policy Director

Parole Illinois was founded in 2018 by guys in Stateville prison who sought to address the epidemic of mass incarceration in Illinois. Since then, we have expanded into a broad network of people inside (3,000+) and outside of prison who have been working vigorously to educate the Illinois public and policymakers about the humanity of people in prison, the inhumanity of incarcerating thousands of people unto death, and the need for a fair parole system. In our educational materials, press conferences, radio interviews, and discussions with legislators across the state, we have explained how a parole system could serve as a safety valve for the many thousands of people who are serving excessively long prison sentences – many of whom are ready to return to be productive citizens, but who remain in prison simply because our state has no mechanism for review.

Parole Illinois is the only statewide criminal-justice reform organization in Illinois that is led by people who are currently incarcerated and focuses on fair chances for review for people with very long sentences. We eschew easy wins that would help only small groups of people in the future and focus, instead, on campaigns that address the toughest issues affecting large groups of people now, regardless of people's ages or crime convictions.

We are a grassroots education and advocacy organization, working to transform the laws and culture surrounding mass incarceration, so that everyone in the IDOC who has been a victim of excessive punishment has a fair chance at returning home. We believe strongly that



Illinois needs to bring back a discretionary parole system, and repeal the Truth-In-Sentencing Act, the Habitual Criminal Act, and all firearm enhancements without delay.

We have no attorneys on staff, but only hardworking volunteers and part-time workers both inside and outside of prison. As much as we wish we could help with individual cases and issues, we do not have the resources to do so. We devote our limited resources to producing educational materials about the need for expedient decarceration, promoting the voices of directly impacted people to speak at public forums and to policymakers on issues related to criminal legal policy, and writing and promoting legislation.

Our strength lies in our base of currently and formerly incarcerated people and our loved ones, who together form a massive power potential. Each one of us is key to our efforts to make bold change for justice. We encourage you to participate in our campaigns personally as well as encourage your loved ones to join our campaigns by going to paroleillinois.org and signing up to connect with us. They can also join our Monday Night Mobilizing. (They can find the link on Parole Illinois Facebook or email us at paroleillinois@gmail.com and request the link.)

Our main legislative priority for 2024 continues to be passing our Earned Reentry Bill (HB3373/SB2129). If passed, it will provide people with extremely long sentences parole hearings after they have served 20 or more years in prison. It would be retroactive. As the Prison Policy Initiative noted recently, this bill came "achingly close" to passing in recent years. We were just a handful of committed votes shy in the House and Senate of being able to call it to a vote and pass it. We continue daily to build support in the hope that, with your help, we can pass it in 2024.

For more background about the efforts and struggles of Parole Illinois over the last few years, and the history of parole policies in Illinois over the last 50 years, check out Ben Austen's new book, *Correction: Parole, Prison, and the Possibility of Change*.



We also continue to push our Campaign for Corrective Clemency (CCC) to address the historical harms and mass injustices of mass incarceration in Illinois. The CCC urges Governor Pritzker to grant blanket clemency in the form of parole eligibility and time cuts to thousands of people sentenced to death-by-incarceration or serving time under the Truth-In-Sentencing laws. For more information about this campaign go to CorrectiveClemency.org, and please have your loved ones sign the change.org petition at change.org/p/support-the-campaign-for-corrective-clemency.

We are also actively seeking legislative sponsors for a bill to return day-for-day good conduct credits to everyone (i.e. repeal Truth-In-Sentencing), and we continue to educate around this issue.

With your help, we can make vital changes that others aren't even willing to attempt.

Joseph Dole, Parole Illinois Policy Director





RECAP THE FIERCE 44: RECAP BLACK AMERICANS WHO SHOOK UP THE WORLD

Every week we're writing about Black Americans who inspire everyone. This information is from The Fierce 44: Black Americans Who Shook Up the World written by the Staff of The Undeclared. The next 11 Black Americans are:

Benjamin O. Davis Sr. (1880- 1970)

Benjamin Oliver Davis Sr. began his military career in the Spanish-American War as a volunteer in the infantry. (It is thought that he may have even lied about his age so he could enlist without his parents' permission.) He liked the discipline and order, so a few months after he was discharged, he reenlisted and stayed in the military for the rest of his career. Four decades later, as the United States prepared to enter World War II, Davis became the first African American general in the Army.

America's military was segregated for the most of Davis's career, and black soldiers had limited options for promotion. His duty assignments were designed to avoid putting him in command of white troops or officers. Davis led troops in Liberia and the Philippines, where he served with the famed all-black Buffalo Soldiers. He was assigned as a professor of military science and tactics at both Wilberforce University in Ohio and Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He rose slowly through the ranks, becoming the first black colonel in the Army, and he served in Europe as a special advisor on race relations.

Davis retired in 1948 after fifty years of service. Six days later, President Harry S. Truman



ordered the end of discriminatory practices in the armed forces.

Davis' determined and disciplined rise in the Army paved the way for black men and women—including his son, Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who in 1954 became the second African American general in the U.S. military and the first in the Air Force.

Frederick Douglass (1818-1895)

Born on a Maryland farm in 1818, Frederick Douglass was the son of a slave mother and a white father who may have been his owner. When Douglass was eight, he was sent to Baltimore to work for a ship carpenter. The carpenter's wife started to teach him to read, and Douglass recognized there was a connection between knowledge and freedom. At fifteen, Douglass was sent to a different farm to work for a brutal man with a reputation as a "slave breaker." Douglass hated the man and his time on the farm and tried to escape.

Eventually, Douglass was sent back to Baltimore where he worked as a slave in a shipyard. When he turned twenty, he met a free black woman who helped him escape. She bought him a train ticket to New York, and, disguised as a sailor, he was on his way to freedom.

Once he was in the North, Douglass started to talk to antislavery groups about his personal experience. He was a dynamic speaker who knew how to hold an audience. He was tall and graceful and had a voice that made you pay attention to what he had to say.

Some people doubted that such a good speaker could have been a slave. So in 1845, Douglass, wrote an autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, with all the details of his upbringing. A vivid portrayal of physical brutality, mental torture, and the separation of family members, the memoir brought the horrors of slavery into the light and became the most influential personal story of slavery in U.S. history. Besides fighting for abolition, Douglass was also an outspoken supporter for women's rights and continued to push for equality all his life.

Charles Drew (1904-1950)



As a young man, Charles Drew was an exceptional athlete, starring in football, baseball, basketball, and track and field at Dunbar High School in Washington, DC. He was an All-American halfback and captain of the track team at Amherst College in Massachusetts. Because he couldn't afford medical school in the United States, Drew attended McGill University in Montreal but later moved back to the United States to teach at Howard University's medical school.

Drew went on to do research at Columbia University in New York, becoming the first African American to get a medical doctorate at the prestigious school. He became the world's leading authority on blood transfusions and storage. His research established procedures for how blood should be collected and refrigerated and how blood donors should be recruited and screened, as well as training methods for people who would collect and test blood. His research on plasma, the liquid portion of blood without cells, made it possible for blood to be "banked" for long periods of time.

Drew's work was especially important as the United States prepared for World War II. As medical director of the American Red Cross National Blood Donor Service, Drew led the collection of tens of thousands of pints of blood for U.S. troops. Some historians say Drew's work may have saved the world from Nazism, since battlefield blood storage and transfusions didn't exist before then.

When the U.S. military ruled that the blood of African American would be segregated and not used on white troops, even though blood has no racial characteristics, Drew was outraged and resigned from the Red Cross. He returned to Washington, DC, as a professor at Howard University and head of surgery at Freedmen's Hospital, where he trained many black physicians. Drew continued to work as a physician until his untimely death in a car crash.

W.E.B. Du Bois (1868-1963)

William Edward Burghardt Du Bois, the first African American to receive a PhD from Harvard University, was a brilliant scholar who changed how black people saw their place in the world. But he was also a political activist who helped start the NAACP, crusaded against lynching,



and tried to unite black people across the world.

His most famous book, *The Souls of Black Folk*, was published in 1903 and introduced the idea of “double consciousness,” in which blacks always have to think about how white people see them. Du Bois rejected the arguments of Booker T. Washington, the most influential black leader of the time, who asked blacks to accept discrimination while trying to prove they were worthy of equal treatment through hard work. Instead, Du Bois believed, blacks should actively fight discrimination and racism.

Du Bois acted on his beliefs. He helped start the NAACP and was the founder and first editor of its crusading magazine, *The Crisis*. He criticized President Woodrow Wilson for resegregating the federal government and continually spoke up for social justice. Du Bois ran for the U.S. Senate in New York, representing the American Labor Party, and became chair of the Peace Information Center, which sought to ban nuclear weapons around the world. At one point, Du Bois was arrested and charged with being an agent of the Soviet Union. He was found not guilty and later moved to Ghana, where he stayed until the end of his life.

Duke Ellington (1899-1974)

Edward “Duke” Ellington started playing piano as a seven-year-old, and by the time he was seventeen, he was working as a professional musician. A few years later, he moved to New York City and was soon a regular at the famous Cotton Club in Harlem, launching a career as one of the greatest American musicians of all time.

Just as soul music and Motown provided the soundtrack for the 1960s civil rights movement, big band swing music furnished the score for the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. While many famous bandleaders were playing then, including Count Basie and Benny Goodman, Ellington was the best.

A pianist and an orchestra leader, music seemed to pour from Ellington. He wrote more than one thousand tunes, many of which are considered classics, including “Don’t Get Around Much Anymore,” and “Satin Doll.” His original songs rank among the first examples of crossover pop. They captured the essence of the black experience, but were also irresistible to white



audiences.

Unlike other bandleaders, who wanted their musicians to meld their sounds together, Ellington was famous for writing music to highlight individual artists. He liked to feature people with unique styles and was constantly rewriting even his biggest hits.

Ellington received many honors, including eleven Grammy Awards, thirteen Grammy Hall of Fame nods, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a Pulitzer Prize special citation, and was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. But Sir Duke's legacy is bigger than any award. Whenever "swing" or "big band music" is mentioned, Ellington's name leaps to mind as he is the embodiment of jazz.

Aretha Franklin (1942-2018)

In 1967, Aretha Franklin, the daughter of popular Detroit Baptist minister C.L. Franklin, scored a number one hit with her remake of Otis Redding's "Respect." The song became part of the soundtrack of the civil rights movement as well as anthem for the women's movement as women demanded to be taken as seriously as men.

But Franklin was bigger than one track. She had started out as a teenager singing gospel music. Soon, she branched out and, over the years, moved easily from jazz to rhythm and blues to pop. At the Grammy Awards in 1998, she stepped in at the last minute for a sick opera star and dazzled the audience with her performance. But Franklin always brought her roots in gospel to her songs, which is why she was nicknamed the Queen of Soul.

Franklin was a big supporter of the civil rights movement, one time going on tour with other artists to help raise money for the cause. She sang at the memorial service for Martin Luther King Jr., who was a friend of her father's. She also sang at the inauguration of the first black president, Barack Obama.

In 1987, Franklin became the first female performer inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Over her six-decade career, she had more than one hundred singles on the Billboard charts, and seventeen of them were top-ten singles. She won eighteen Grammys and sold more than seventy-five million albums.



Franklin was a musician's musician: she could bang it out on the piano and sang opera as effortlessly as gospel. Few can match her four-octave range or sustain a note or a song quite the way Franklin did. All hail the Queen.

Jimi Hendrix (1942-1970)

Jimi Hendrix couldn't read or write music. But Rolling Stone magazine named him the greatest guitar player ever. The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame went even further, calling him "the most gifted instrumentalist of all time."

Hendrix left his home in Seattle in 1961 to become a paratrooper in the Army. After suffering an injury from a parachute jump, he left the military and started working as a backup musician for some of the best rhythm and blues acts of the time.

Soon, Hendrix began his short career as a headliner, radically changing how the electric guitar was played and combining rock with blues and jazz. He was popular with white audiences even while playing music built on the black experience.

What made Hendrix so great? His live performances could be messy and his guitar tone ear-piercing. But it was these eccentricities that made him unique. For Hendrix, music wasn't about a note-perfect performance, but a search for truth. He was a nonconformist and part of a generation that was proud to be antiestablishment.

Hendrix died at only twenty-seven after an overdose, but by then he had thoroughly changed how people thought about music. Hendrix's talent is probably best demonstrated by his performance of "The Star-Spangled Banner" at the famous Woodstock music festival in 1969, in which he used his guitar to condemn the war in Vietnam by evoking the sounds of artillery explosions and air-raid sirens.

Many guitarists have challenged Hendrix's position at the top, yet none have matched his genius. In the world of electric guitar, there are two ages: the monochromatic era Before Hendrix and the limitless, kaleidoscopic period After Hendrix.



Zora Neale Hurston (1891-1960)

Zora Neale Hurston is now recognized as one of the South's most famous and eloquent writers, but it took a long time for her talent to be recognized.

She grew up in Eatonville, Florida, the first all-black incorporated town in the country, where her father was one of the first mayors. Her mother, a Sunday school teacher who encouraged her children to be ambitious, died when Hurston was only thirteen. She didn't get along with her stepmother and eventually joined a group of traveling performers as a maid.

She finally finished high school in her twenties before going on to get degrees from Howard University in Washington, DC, and Barnard College in New York City, where she studied anthropology.

In New York, Hurston became a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s and pursued a career as a writer and researcher who studied the folklore of southern blacks. The author of four novels, including the now celebrated *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937), and the autobiography *Dust Tracks on a Road* (1942), she also wrote short stories, essays, and plays. Unlike other writers, Hurston focused on the experience of black women and wrote the way black people in the South actually spoke.

Hurston never made much money from her writing. When she died, her neighbors in Fort Pierce, Florida, couldn't afford a headstone, so they buried her in an unmarked grave. Alice Walker (who later wrote *The Color Purple*) found her grave in 1972 and paid for a marker. Now everyone recognizes Hurston as an important author who told the story of country folk.

Jesse Jackson (1941-

Jesse Jackson's are the biggest shoulders that Barack Obama stands on. Jackson laid the foundation for electing a black president, one of the signature achievements of the twenty-first century. The groundwork began with Jackson's decision to run for president himself in 1984, widely seen then as more symbolic than practical. Black leaders had discussed for years what it would take to seriously compete for the highest office in the land. After Harold Washington was elected Chicago's first black mayor in 1983 and with concern mounting about the nega-



tive impact of Ronald Reagan's presidency on black Americans, some thought it was time. Jackson was one of the greatest political orators in American history. His ability to inspire farmers and factory workers, maids who take the bus, and teenagers growing up in housing projects was unmatched.

In 1984, Jackson ran for president and won five Democratic primaries and caucuses on a tiny budget. With his second presidential campaign in 1988, he established himself as the leader of the progressive wing of the Democratic Party. He won eleven primaries and caucuses and finished as runner-up to Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis.

Before Jackson's campaigns, black campaign workers were largely put in small roles focused on "urban issues." Jackson helped increase black participation in all the jobs in politics. The result was more field operatives, strategists, and fundraisers—and candidates for a wider range of offices—than ever before.

He deserves credit for his civil rights activism in the Deep South and later on Wall Street and in Silicon Valley. But Jackson's most notable achievement was demonstrating that sending an African American to the Oval Office was an attainable dream.

Jay-Z (1969-

Shawn Corey Carter grew up in the Marcy Projects in Brooklyn, New York, where his mother, Gloria Carter, remembers he'd be in the kitchen of their apartment rapping until late at night. He never graduated from high school and initially sold CDs out of his car. He became Jay-Z with his 1996 debut album, *Reasonable Doubt*. Ten years later, MTV named him the greatest rapper of all time.

Famous for his work ethic, Jay-Z has released fourteen Billboard number one albums, the most by any solo artist in history. These include many timeless tracks that have defined popular culture, such as 2004's "99 Problems," a look at what it's like to drive while black in America, and 2009's "D.O.A. (Death of Auto-Tune)," which single-handedly undermined a voice-correction tool that was widely used in rap and pop music. Jay-Z was instrumental in taking



hip-hop from its origins in house parties to selling out stadium concerts.

As he climbed the charts, Jay-Z also became an influential businessman. He is an owner of Tidal, a streaming music service. He cofounded Roc-A-Fella Records, served as president of Def Jam Recordings, founded entertainment company Roc Nation, and became part-owner of the Brooklyn Nets before giving up his stake in the NBA franchise to found his own sports agency, Roc Nation Sports.

Married to Beyoncé, Jay-Z has lived the American dream of reinvention and second chances.

Katherine Johnson

By fourth grade, every American kid has studied the history of this country's space missions, especially the story of astronaut John Glenn, who became the first American to orbit the earth in 1962. But for a long time, one nugget was missing from those histories—the black woman who helped him safely get there and back.

Katherine Johnson was a physicist and mathematician, one of many black women hired by NASA in the early 1950s to work in the Guidance and Navigation Department. She was a math prodigy who graduated from high school at fourteen and earned a double degree in math and French from West Virginia State College at eighteen. And she helped to integrate the graduate school at West Virginia University, where she was one of three black students and the only black woman.

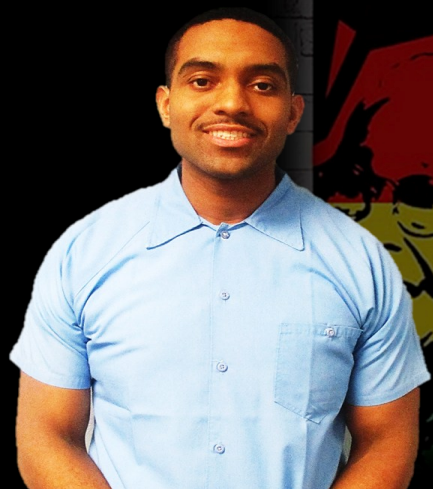
At NASA, Johnson was plucked from the pool of women working on math calculations to work with an all-male flight research team. Besides her work on Glenn's famous flight, she helped launch the use of computers at the space agency and helped calculate the orbit for the 1969 Apollo 11 flight to the moon. Johnson coauthored twenty-six scientific papers in her career at NASA.

In 2015, then-president Barack Obama awarded Johnson the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her pioneering work. And the next year, her story was told in grand Hollywood fashion in the movie *Hidden Figures*. Taraji P. Henson played the role of Johnson and brought to



life a story that many of us never knew existed.

Tune in to Kewanee Horizons next week for the next eleven Black Americans who shook up the World.



List of African-American Inventors and Scientists

Name	Years	Occupation(s)	Inventions / Accomplishments
Bashen, Janet	1957–	Inventor, entrepreneur, professional consultant	First African-American woman to receive a patent for a web-based software invention, LinkLine, an Equal Employment Opportunity case management and tracking software
Bath, Patricia	1942–2019	Ophthalmologist	First African-American female physician to receive a patent for a medical invention; inventions relate to cataract surgery and include the Laser phacoProbe, which revolutionized the industry in the 1980s, and an ultrasound technique for treatment
Beard, Andrew	1849–1921	Farmer, carpenter, blacksmith, railroad worker, businessman, inventor	Janney coupler improvements; invented the car device#594,059 dated November 23,1897; rotary engine patent#478,271 dated July 5, 1892
Bell, Earl S.	1977–	Inventor, entrepreneur, architect, industrial designer	Invented chair with sliding skin(2004) and the quantitative display apparatus (2005)
Benjamin, Miriam	1861–1947	Inventor, educator	Invented chair with sliding skin(2004) and the quantitative display apparatus (2005)
Berry, Leonidas	1861–1947	Gastroenterologist	Gastroscopy pioneer
Bharucha-Reid, Albert T.	1927–1985	Mathematician, statistician	Probability theory and Markovchain theorist
Black, Keith	1957–	Neurosurgeon	Brain tumor surgery and research
Blackwell, David	1919–2010	Mathematician, statistician	First proposed the Blackwell channel model used in coding theory and information theory; one of the eponyms of the Rao–Blackwell theorem, which is a process that significantly improves crude statistical estimators



ECHOES OF LANGSTON: IN HIS OWN WORDS

By: Toussant Daniels @ Robinson C.C.

I speak a panoramic blackness/ full of southern drawls & negro northern tongues/ I sing songs.../ songs of dark girls lamenting to the bitterness of strange fruit/ I danse Africaine moving with a beautiful bishma/ when she wears red a queen from some time dead-egyptian night once, walks again/ enchanted by jazzonia rhapsody, tom-toms beating ripples within my negro soul/ I lived at Seventh street in Washington/ I wrote with Gwendelyn in Bronzeville and Harlem!/ when I dream its not of Nordic views or Episcopal heavens/ I dream of Harlem nights that wrap around you, where neon lights make incandescent crowns/ loud laughter in the hands of fate - are my people/ even my humidifier gives off terra-cotta vapors/ I want to fling my arms so wide in some place of the sun/ and bathe each morning in euphoria carried from the night before/ looking long at placid eyes and coquettish grins from some sable temptress/ but I have nightmares too/ my mahogany dread is filled with the smell of charred skin/ triple k insignias of cloaked avengers hidden beneath blue coats/ religiosity that pacifies the spirit/ shivers from the thunder of rain Gods that muzzles the fluidity of my sun speak/ nourishment that ferments and festers/ mental calluses from climbing staggered & prodded racial mountains slicked by white fear/ shallow screams of defiance like a dot of black essence washed over by dominant opulence/ or being regulated to a servant & sycophant who smiles & leaves the room when company comes/ but at last I'm left with this incongruous humor similar to weary



blues/ That chuckles are mixed with tears/ I speak a panoramic blackness full of southern drawls & negro northern tongue



LANGSTON HUGHES

“Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die,
life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.”



E.Q.U.A.L.I.T.Y.

By: Antonio Perkins @ Robinson C.C.

E. Everything that Africans endured on this American plight.

Q. Question that we have concerning police brutality, incarceration rates, and Civil rights.

U. Understanding that it is up to us to become unified and stand as one.

A. Acknowledge our trailblazers who paved the way for a brighter future that is still to come.

L. Love, because that is the only thing that can truly conquer hate.

I. Ingenuity that my people display, all the wonderful things that they envision and create.

T. Thanks given to the thoughtful brothers and sisters who helped teach us the way.

Y. Youth who are determined to ensure that tomorrow is better than yesterday.





A TALE CALLED FAILURES OF LIFE

By: Yusef Kareem Brown @ Pinckneyville C.C.

For many years I began to believe that I was destined to bondage, poverty, and failure. See, when we persist in this view of our life, we give up the real possibility of change. I settled for trying to survive. I lived in fear and shame too long. That led me to resentment as my life went downhill. I couldn't overcome the negative assumptions about myself. I allowed the devil to control my core being as a person!

As I have allowed my life to get out of control, I hurt myself and my family members. Sometimes the insanity of living with guilt can cause you to do bizarre things. We may be searching for shortcuts to happiness yet the road of life often takes us through painful places we would rather avoid. I couldn't keep away.

At last, I've been given a second chance and an opportunity to redeem my failures. Embrace your failures because it could've been worse. I could've been dead...I couldn't control myself, my failures controlled my inner being. Now I say start over and correct your failures. Don't be shackled by failures, mistakes, and sins of the past. If I can change, then I know you can, too. Respect the process.



DISCRIMINATION BUSTERS

By: Timothy Youngblood @ Lawrence C.C.

Why do we have discrimination? And how do we put a stop to it?

Discriminating against a different group seems to be almost second nature, even when the groups themselves are completely meaningless. For instance, dividing into two groups, on the basis of something deliberately trivial: whether they preferred fried chicken or caviar.

This discrimination starts young when kids watch television cartoons and prefer scenes where a third character is nice to the cartoon character that is like them (helping him find his ball) and mean to the character that is not like them (stealing his ball).

But why do we have this tendency to divide each other up and discriminate against members of other groups? I'll answer this for you. The answer is probably evolutionary. For the most of our history as a species, food and other resources have been scarce, and we have had to band into groups and tribes in order to compete for them. Against this backdrop, fear and suspicion of outsiders—members of rival tribes—was presumably necessary for survival.

In today's modern world, of course, there is no need—indeed, no justification—for fear of outsiders. We would all be better off if we could put a stop to discrimination for good; the question is, how to achieve it.

Fortunately, I have some answers. One answer is that all ethnicities can be given training in telling faces of other ethnic groups apart from one another. The reasoning for the training is that helping people to overcome their tendency to lump all members of a particular ethnicity together—visually as well as in terms of character, behavior, and wealth—might help them overcome their prejudices. And do you know what? I think this just might work.

Some pessimists may say that we have never made and we will never make any progress in combating discrimination. I disagree. A quick look at the literacy test administered to would



-be voters in the U.S. state of Louisiana in the 1960's should quickly disabuse us of that notion; (no matter what, for the black test takers, there were no correct answers) what was government policy in the 1960's is unthinkable today, not only in the United States but in most of the world.

On the other hand, while official state-sanctioned racism has been largely eradicated, the implicit association with cartoon characters that kids have reminds us that personal prejudices remain hidden with many—perhaps most—of us.

That said, if you're worried that you might, deep down, harbor some unconscious prejudices, try to meet as many members of the relevant group as possible, in order to learn to view them as individuals rather than a homogenous "them".

In short, if you want to join the discrimination busters of the world, you need to learn to discriminate between people of other ethnicities rather than against them.





The Ladies and Gentlemen that you see pictured above are the very people that help make our vision come to life. These individuals dedicate their time and effort to help teach our fellow peers things that are much needed in their personal development in life, which we anticipate will inspire us all to step up and do the same. We are beyond appreciative for the submissions we've received from other facilities, and other peer educators, and it's truly a wonderful thing to see. We all lead by example, and the example that we've set with these peer-led classes show that we are more than determined to prove our worth. We are all leaving behind a roadmap to success, and for all of those that are involved, to everyone that makes this possible, our gratitude cannot be expressed in simple words.

However, thank you to **Everyone**, and please, keep up the good work!

Trust me, it's not going unnoticed.



Kenji "Truck" Haley, KLSRC

At Kewanee, we read the Kewanee Horizons (hence the publication) and we were very intrigued by the women at Decatur C.C. and their in-house mission of doing 2,000 or more burpees in one month, Running (or Walking) a marathon (26.2 miles) the next month and Sit Ups (3,000) for the third month. On January 1st, we were not doing a New Year's Resolution, we were do the "Following the Leader Mission." These brave men (20 overall, 13 shown) took the mission personal and took the 2,000 burpees head on. Even I did mine (I'm so tired...)! All in all, we completed over 30,000 burpees. Not as much as the women, but we held our on. We are now halfway into the marathon run and there are more people involved, getting to the goal. I would like to thank LTS M. Louck for allowing the men to do the challenge and also marking



off the laps required to run a mile in our gym (24 laps!!!); we thank the administration for keeping us honest and tracking our burpees and finally, the women of Decatur for getting the men in shape. I now ask you other facilities, will you accept the mission??? Get involved and take this plunge, you won't regret it.



VALERIE THOMAS B. 1943

PATENT #: 4,229,761
DATE: OCTOBER 21, 1980

VALERIE THOMAS STARTED WORKING AT NASA IN 1964 AS A DATA ANALYST. WHILE AT NASA, SHE MANAGED A PROJECT FOR THEIR IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEMS AND OVERSAW THE DEVELOPMENT OF "LANDSAT", THE FIRST SATELLITE TO EVER SEND IMAGES FROM OUTER SPACE. IN 1977, THOMAS BEGAN RESEARCHING AND EXPERIMENTING ON AN "ILLUSION TRANSMITTER", WHICH WOULD CREATE THE APPEARANCE OF A 3D IMAGE. SHE PATENTED IT IN 1980 AND NASA STILL USES HER INVENTION TO THIS DAY.



MALCOLM X

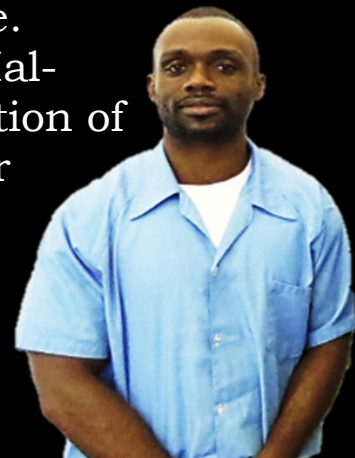
By: Malcolm Russell

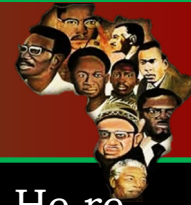
Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska in 1925 the son of Rev. Earl Little a bold Baptist preacher who moved his family to Lansing, Michigan after receiving consistent threats from the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan later murdered Malcolm's father for his views about the togetherness of black people. By the time, Malcolm was 14 years old he was on his own and left to his own devices, which lead him into a life of crime that included drugs, burglary, and prostitution in Detroit and Harlem, New York. Here he was later arrested and subsequently imprisoned. This set him on the journey of becoming the great man that we know him to be.

In 1948, Malcolm joined the Nation of Islam where he studied the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's and used his time in prison to study the dictionary, encyclopedias, and honing his intellect on the teachings of the Black Muslims and Black people as a whole. Once he became free from prison and on parole he was asked to speak in Chicago, Illinois where he took on his new name Malcolm X. Stepping into the great man he was to become.

Malcolm was second to Honorable Elijah Muhammad for nearly 12 years. Malcolm X's pride, intelligence, and effective speeches drew new members to the Nation of Islam. Teaching African Americans to embrace rather than hate the color of their skin, find pride in their heritage and their accomplishments, and rebel against any form of racism. Malcolm X became our very own "Black Prince".

In 1963, Malcolm made some comments about then president John F Kennedy assassination and the nation of Islam felt as if he had over stepped his boundaries and was silenced by Honorable Elijah Muhammad. Being silenced

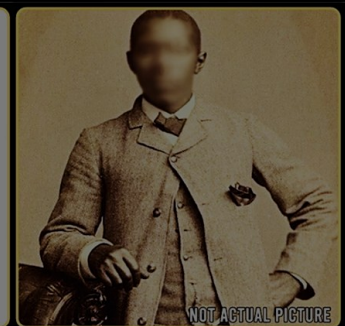




made Malcolm reflect on life, his message and the way he felt about other Black leaders. He responded by forming the Organization of Afro-American Unity. After a trip to Mecca -the Holy Land- once again Malcolm was on a spiritual enlightenment and converted to Orthodox Islam, returning to America with a new tolerance. He had walked amongst men of every color, nationality, all taking the pilgrimage required of every Muslim and heard the words of Muhammad "The Prophet". He returned home not only with a spiritual awaking but also with a new name El-Haji Malik El Shabazz and denounced The Nation of Islam and the Honorable Elijah Muhammad publicly. Malcolm believed that we have to start to love ourselves, and to fight for ourselves, for the betterment of the entire race. Never afraid of the consequences of his statements because the truth is like the sun its always going to shine thru, Malcolm X ignored the death threats that followed and kept his public engagements, including the one at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem on February 21, 1965.

The Great Malcolm X was killed for all of us. Malcolm's death was one the two most painful blows to the progressing Civil Rights Movement. The second was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In the words of Malcolm X "*We didn't land on Plymouth rock Plymouth rock landed on us*". Also "*By Any Means Necessary*"



CHARLES ORREN BAILIFF

PATENT #: 612,008
DATE: OCTOBER 11, 1898

CHARLES ORREN BAILIFF WAS ABLE TO CREATE A PADDED OR CUSHIONED DEVICE FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEAD-REST AND HEAD-SUPPORT FOR A PERSON SITTING IN A BARBER, BEAUTY SALON, OR DENTIST CHAIR. HE WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN HIS PATENT IN 1898. NOT ONLY WAS HIS HEADREST ADJUSTABLE, BUT IT COULD ALSO BE DETACHED AND RE-ATTACHED TO THE CHAIR. IF YOU HAVE VISITED A BARBER OR A BEAUTY SALON AND HAVE HAD THE BENEFIT OF A WARM HAIR SHAMPOO, YOU CAN THANK MR. BAILIFF FOR THE NECK SUPPORT AND COMFORT PROVIDED BY HIS CUSHIONED HEADREST.



SPOKEN

Black History to Me

WORD

By: Ronaldo "Eastside" Crawford



I was recently asked what is black history to me/
And my honest answer is black history is we/
Black history leads to an opening of the mind/
To the knowledge that the history of Africans is the history of humankind/
Because we're the quintessential Pioneers, just check the receipts/
The **P**roincipal **I**ndividuals **O**riginating **N**early **E**verything **E**veryone **R**epeats/
The influencers of the influencers, the inheritors and the intuitors/
America don't know what to do with us, because the creator will never be through with us/
The original, the aborigine, the indigenous, the native/
The first to be created and clearly the most creative/
That's why there's so many of us who, just by being ourselves can make a trend/
Say what you say, but at the end of the day we are nature's blend/
What is black history to me? Knowledge, wisdom and understanding/
I know where I'm from, so I can take a leap of faith and not worry about where I'm landing/



I'm following the footprints of our forefathers towards supreme peace, health and wealth/
And adhering to our ancestors directives to **"know thyself"** /
It is because of such actions that I can confidently say/
You don't have to be excellent out the gate, just make excellence know you're on the way/
What is black history to me? It's a chance to learn from our past/
And do what's necessary this day...to ensure that our next day will be better than our last/



SARAH MARSHALL BOONE 1832-1904

PATENT #: 473,653
DATE: APRIL 26, 1892

IN THE LAST 19TH CENTURY, **SARAH BOONE IMPROVED UPON THE IRONING BOARD**. AN AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN BORN ENSLAVED, SHE BECAME ONE OF THE **SECOND BLACK WOMEN IN U.S. HISTORY TO RECEIVE A PATENT**. SHE EXPANDED UPON THE ORIGINAL IRONING BOARD, WHICH WAS ESSENTIALLY A HORIZONTAL WOODEN BLOCK. WITH **BOONE'S 1892 ADDITIONS**, THE IRONING BOARD FEATURED A **NARROWER AND CURVED DESIGN**, MAKING IT EASIER TO IRON GARMENTS. **BOONE'S DESIGN WOULD MORPH INTO THE MODERN IRONING BOARD THAT WE USE TODAY.**



MY WEIRD KEWANEE EXPERIENCE

By: Cristian Briseno

My Kewanee experience so far has been good and weird. The weird part is getting accustomed to staff and individuals in custody saying good morning to you and being friendly. It takes you out of your comfort zone but in a good way. It's preparing you so that when you go home you won't be so socially awkward to people. Just having friendly manners is a real good thing. One thing I'm learning so far is that this is your experience, you don't have to bid off other people nor have staff tell you where you have to be. The good part is you can see that staff really care about you (the ones I met so far). I'm still pretty new here and still taking it day by day, but being here is a big relief. I'm just saying, if you get the opportunity you'll figure it out for yourself.

THE ANSWER I WAS WAITING FOR...

By: Derrick Blackman

Greetings my brothers & family, first of all let me start off by saying remember to always give thanks to the father above for everything he does in your life. Well I got that answer and the blessing I was asking for since I applied for Kewanee. It's been 19 years (3 years to walk to freedom). Well now I can evolve myself into this new walk here at KLSRC, moving in step with the bright brothers & staff encouraging our firm thoughts of believing in self. Last but not least, I



will like to give thanks to the Welcoming Committee, Warden, Staff, and the community here that has embraced us as a family and has shown us that they care and are willing to assist us in preparation of the obstacles we may possible face in our daily lives.

Rest, Recuperate, Evolving, staying strong, always thinking!



CHARLES B. BROOKS 1865-N/A

PATENT #: 556,711, 560,154
DATE: MARCH 17, 1896

CHARLES BROOKS WAS LIVING IN NEW JERSEY, WORKING AS A PORTER FOR THE PULLMAN PALACE CAR COMPANY WHEN HE STARTED BRAINSTORMING ON WAYS TO IMPROVE THE EXISTING STREET SWEEPER. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT HE COULD MAKE THE CURRENT CONTRAPTION BETTER AND MORE COST-EFFECTIVE. HIS VERSION WAS THE FIRST SELFPROPELLED SWEEPER THAT HAD REVOLVING BRUSHES ATTACHED TO THE FRONT FENDER, SIMILAR TO THE ONES IN USE TODAY. AS URBAN CITIES GREW LARGER, FILTHIER AND HUMANS COULD NO LONGER HANDLE THE GRUELING AND LABORINTENSIVE JOB OF KEEPING THE STREETS CLEAN BY HAND, HIS INVENTION WOULD GROW IN POPULARITY AND WOULD BECOME INDISPENSABLE IN LARGE CITIES LIKE NEW YORK.

06:41



BLACK HISTORY MONTH INFO CENTER

We came across a piece ran in the Time Magazine called “18 Black Leaders working to end the racial wealth gap”, and we decided to bring a few of the stories to you for Black History Month. These articles sparked some interesting debate amongst the KLSRC community so it was only right for us to share them so that you can get a glimpse behind the scenes of the fight for equality.

Ramogi Huma

College Athletes' Advocate

Reported by Sean Gregory in the Time Magazine

In 1995, when the NCAA suspended UCLA linebacker Donnie Edwards for accepting \$150 worth of groceries-in violation of rules prohibiting college athletes from receiving extra benefits – Ramogi Huma, a backup for the Bruins, felt incensed. “To see him treated like that, while they’re selling his jersey in the store, it was wrong on all kinds of levels,” Huma says.

The incident inspired Huma to launch the National College Players Association (NCPA) in 2001, when the concept of giving college athletes more than a scholarship faced resistance. While Huma, 46, has fought for all college athletes, he’s attuned to the racial dynamics. In



2020, he and Ithaca College professor Ellen J. Staurowsky published a report titled, “How the NCAA’s Empire Robs the Predominantly Black Athletes of Billions in Generational Wealth.” It found that the average major-college football and men’s basketball player had fair market values of \$208,208 and \$370,085, respectively. Now, thanks in large part to his efforts as NCPA’s executive director, athletes can earn a fairer share through capitalizing on their name, image and likeness (NIL) rights, as in July 2021, the NCAA allowed players to secure third-party sponsorships.

But his work is not over. In June he helped a bill that require schools to share athletes revenues with players pass the California state assembly. In 2022, the NCPA filed a complaint arguing that college athletes should be classified as employees and allowed to unionize. In turn, the National Labor Relations Board directed its L.A. regional office to pursue unfair-labor charges against the USC, the Pac-12, and the NCAA. A trial began in December. “If you feel like you’re on the right side of history, just don’t give up,” Huma says.

ISSA RAE

Spreading the wealth

Reported by: Andrew R. Chow in the Time Magazine

Issa Rae’s office in South Los Angeles overflows with trinkets from her many successes: a Peabody award; pillows from her HBO show *Insecure*, which ran for five seasons; boxes of Presidents Barbie dolls, her character from last year’s biggest blockbuster. But at the moment, the item Rae is most excited about is her new Moleskine notebook. She buys one every year and



fills it with personal reflections, creative ideas, and tasks to complete for her many businesses. “I love Mondays for me,” she says. “To be able to open a new journal was very exciting in the nerdiest way possible.”

Rae, 39, is especially determined to turn the page because last year was “not fun at all,” she admits. In public, she was crushing it: she stole scenes in two of the year’s most hyped films, *Barbie* and *American Fiction*, and released the second season of her critically acclaimed Max show *Rap Sh!t*.

But as the tagline for Season 3 of *Insecure* read, “glowing up ain’t easy.” And in her quest to become a media mogul on the level of Oprah or Debbie Allen, Rae has faced growing pains: she had to lay off eight employees during the WGA and SAG-AFTRA strikes, and watched projects get sidelined or canceled. In January, *Rap Sh!t* was axed by Warner Bros. Discovery. Perhaps worst of all, Rae says she’s witnessed backsliding on pledges to increase representation and diversity. “I’ve never seen Hollywood this scared and clueless, and at the mercy of wall Street,” she says.

In the face of these roadblocks, Rae is hatching a slew of plans for a better 2024. She’s developing at least two new projects for HBO, including, she tells *TIME* exclusively, a project set in an alternative present,” which will be the first show since *Insecure* that she will create, write, and star in, and a comedy about corporate America with the creators of *South Side* and *Sherman’s Showcase*. She’s also working to build a studio campus in South L.A., the area where she grew up and set much of *Insecure*.

Rae has made it her priority to create pipelines for people of color, but as she scales upward, she says she is learning more and more about how to balance her personal entrepreneurial priorities with a larger fight for equity. “I recognize that I have to do well economically



to be able to make change,” she says. “That’s frustrating, that’s ugly. But I recognize that money moves things faster-and so much of what I do is with the intention to help make those moves.

ISSA RAE’S RISE is held up as one of the prime DIY success stories of the digital era. In college, she began making a web series, *Dorm Diaries*, with a camcorder borrowed from the Stanford library. She raised money for a subsequent web series, *The Mis-Adventures of Awkward Black Girl*, on Kickstarter. A deal with HBO for *Insecure*, her zeitgeist-capturing show about Black millennials navigating life and love in L.A., followed.

Rae is certainly doing well for herself. In 2021, she signed a deal with WarnerMedia reported to be eight figures. And her ambitions have long stretched beyond TV into entrepreneurship. Her growing portfolio now includes a production company (Hoorae), an indie music label (Raedio), a management company (Color Creative), a marketing agency (Fete), a prosecco line (Viarae), a hair-care brand (Sienna Naturals), and a coffee shop (Hilltop Coffee).

Many of her enterprises are specifically aimed at creating opportunities for her community. Rae used *Insecure* as a breeding ground for Black talent, allowing creatives to cut their teeth on an HBO show. Her other businesses function similarly: she gives protégés titles and helps them grow into those roles. For *Rap Sh!t*, Rae hired a first-time showrunner (Syreeta Singleton) and tasked her various entities with developing aspects of the series. “If she can’t do stuff to bring other people with her, she’s not going to do it,” says Montrel McKay, Hoorae’s president for development and production.

Rae acknowledges the impact of the strikes on the entire industry and the cost cutting that all media companies are doing, but also sees a withering of promises Hollywood execs made in 2020 to increase diversity and representation, on-and offscreen. “There is a bitterness



of just like, who suffers from you guys pulling back? People of color always do,” she says.

A UCLA report found that in 2022, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity among movie actors, directors, and writers for theatrical releases slid to 2019 levels after trending upward for the three years. A report from USC Annenberg’s Inclusion Initiative in January called the industry’s pledges to support inclusion “performative.” “I’m sorry, but there aren’t a of smart executives anymore,” Rae says. “And a lot of them have aged out and are holding on to their positions and refusing to let young blood get in.”

In prior eras, Rae says, the suits mostly stayed away from creative choices. “Now these conglomerate leaders are also making the decisions about Hollywood. Ya’ll aren’t creative people. Stick to the money,” she says. “The people that are taking chances are on platforms like TikTok: that’s what’s getting the eyeballs of the youth. So you’re killing your own industry.”

In an email to TIME, HBO execs signaled their support of Rae. “We’ve established a creative shorthand over the years and with every new project, we pick up right where we left off,” wrote Amy Gravitt, executives vice president for HBO Programming. “We look forward to what genres Issa and Hoorae will take on next,” added Casey Bloys, chairman and CEO of HBO and Max Content. And Rae says she does feel “secure” in her relationship with HBO. Nevertheless, she says industry changes have forced her to re-evaluate the feasibility of “smaller, quieter projects.” “I know what my brand identity is and what I want to make,” she says. “But if that doesn’t align with who’s paying me to make stuff, then that’s complex. We are malleable, but only to an extent.

IN THE NEW MOVIE American Fiction—which received five Oscar nominations, including for Best Picture— Rae plays Sintara Golden, a commercially successful author whom the film’s protagonist, Monk, believes to be a hack pandering to white audiences. In a confrontation be-



tween them, Golden tells Monk she's simply being pragmatic about her choices: "I'm OK with giving the market what it wants," she says.

Rae own attitude is more nuanced. She has no aspirations of helming a blockbuster franchise, but understands the value of appearing in massive movies like Barbie and Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse. At the Golden Globes, a moment in which two Black girls recognized her as President Barbie went viral. "It took me a while to understand that when they see me, they see this version of Barbie that they aspire to be," Rae says. When I meet her, she's still wearing the friendship bracelet they gave her.

Meanwhile, she's pouring resources into her own neighborhood, which has been harmed by discriminatory practices like redlining and underfunding. In 2019, Rae chose to house Hoorae's office just outside of Inglewood. This year, she hopes to build an entire studio campus, which she believes can serve as an economic engine for the area, providing union jobs while sparking the interest of tourists.

Malick Diop, Hoorae's chief financial officer (and Rae's older brother), says a bid for a piece of city-owned land was unsuccessful. But Rae is adamant that an acquisition will happen. "When I tell you we're ready, we're ready," she says. She's come this far-in developing the studio, but also in building her empire-and she's not about to back down. "I have my little stake in this limited plot of land, and I'm gonna make sure that I bring in as many people to live on it as possible," she says. "So until we run out of opportunities, they'll be good."



AURORA JAMES

FASHION'S FORCE

WRITTEN BY: CADY LANG IN TIME MAGAZINE

When Aurora James founded her nonprofit the Fifteen Percent Pledge in 2020, amid the reckoning sparked by George Floyd's murder, she knew the push for racial justice needed to include addressing the Black-White wealth gap. A black squares flooded social media feeds, James, 39, saw an opportunity for companies to take real action to back up their pledges.

On Instagram, she issued a challenge asking major retailers to commit to buying 15% of their products from Black-owned businesses.

The push for financial equality and economic opportunity was informed by James' own experiences as the creator of Brother Vellies, a luxury shoe and accessory brand, she knew that connections and access to capital-not necessarily skills, ideas, or hard work-could determine success.

Though Brother Vellies was critically acclaimed (it won a Council of Fashion Designers of America award in 2015), it still suffered from financial strain for a period because of a troublesome loan James took out when she had limited funds.

"When you don't have friends or family ' to raise money from and you're in industries that require a lot of capital to scale, you have unique challenges, especially when you haven't had the opportunity culturally to accrue generational wealth in this country," she says

Today, 29 companies have taken the pledge, putting more than 600 Black-owned brands



on shelves and redirection \$14 billion in revenue to Black-owned businesses, she says. Last year, James also launched the Friends and Family Collective, an \$850 million venture-capital fund in partnership with private-equity firm VMG Partners, as part of an effort to support Black entrepreneurs (as of 2022, just 1% of VC went to Black founders.) “I personally love investing in Black-owned brands and always have , but it isn’t just a nice thing that I’m doing, she says. “I think it’s also a really smart investment.”

BRIAN FLORES

REPORTED BY: SEAN GREGORY

IN THE TIME MAGAZINE

GAME CHANGER

Two years ago after Brian Flores filed a racial-discrimination lawsuit against the NFL and three of its teams-the Miami Dolphins, Denver Broncos, and New York Giants-his influence continues to extend beyond the field. (Flores later added the Houston Texans, claiming they passed him up for a head-coaching job as a form of retaliation for the suit.) When Flores filed his complaint, the NFL, where the majority of players are Black, had one Black head coach. He was fired as the Dolphins head coach in 2022 despite leading the team to its first back-to-back winning seasons in almost two decades. Last March, Flores won a victory when a federal judge said the case could proceed in court. (The judge ordered Flores to pursue his claims against the Dolphins through arbitration.) The NFL, Dolphins, Broncos, Giants, and Texans have all denied Flores’ claims.



“Everybody has known that the NFL’s record of hiring Black coaches is a problem,” says Louis Moore, author of *We Will Win the Days: The Civil Rights Movement, the Black Athlete, and the Quest for Equality*. “The fact the Brian Flores is able to go out there on a limb, and risk his career, is really powerful.”

The NFL now has six Black head coaches. Three—DeMeco Ryans of the Texans, Mike Tomlin of the Pittsburgh Steelers, and Todd Bowles of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers—reached the playoffs. In January, the New England Patriots named Jerod Mayo to replace Bill Belichick, the Las Vegas Raiders hired Antonio Pierce as its permanent head coach, and the Atlanta Falcons tapped Raheem Morris to lead their team. (Dolphins coach Mike McDaniels identifies as biracial.) Despite solid work as defensive coordinator of the Minnesota Vikings, Flores likely won’t be joining them this offseason. But by coming forward, he may have helped some colleagues win opportunities.

DARRICK HAMILTON & WILLIAM DARITY

BABY-BOND ARCHITECTS

REPORTED BY: JANELL ROSS

IN THE TIME MAGAZINE

IN JULY 2023, CONNECTICUT DEPOSITED \$3,200 INTO AN ACCOUNT for a newborn, creating the nation’s first ever baby bond. Over the next 18 to 30 years, the effects of time and compounding interest will give that baby up to \$24,000 to pay for college, make a down payment on a home, or do other things that build wealth. Connecticut’s initiative will automatically enroll the estimated 15,000 babies born each year participating in the state’s Medicaid ex-



pansion program. That's a modified version of an idea Darrick Hamilton first described to William "Sandy" Darity, his dissertation advisor, as a newly minted academic about 25 years ago. "We tend to think about wealth as an outcome," Hamilton says "but its real value is what it can do for you."

Hamilton, now 53, a university professor of economics and urban policy as well as the founding director of the New School for Social research's Institute on Race, Power and Political Economy, thought a mechanism was needed to disrupt the racial wealth chasm. In 2022, median wealth for a white family in the U.S. was six times that of a Black one. The mean racial wealth gap is much larger. He suggested the equivalent of trust accounts for kids funded by the government.

Researchers have found that white voters often oppose programs for the poor because they perceive them as benefiting Black people, even when those programs might be helpful to their own families.

Yet Hamilton and Darity thought they'd be able to navigate this issue. "Nobody could claim that the infants were responsible in any way for the financial position of their family," Darity, today 70 and a distinguished professor of public policy and economics at Duke University's Sanford School of Public policy, where much of his work focuses on reparations. "So it was kind of an innocence argument or strategy."

Recently, there's been some momentum, even as the specific plans have varied. In addition to Connecticut, California and Washington, D.C., have approved baby-bond programs, and since 2021, lawmakers in 12 others states have introduced some type of baby-bond legislation.



LISA RICE

RAISING HOME EQUITY

REPORTED BY: BELINDA LUSCOMBE IN THE TIME MAGAZINE

The racial gap in homeownership in the U.S. is wider now than it was back when it was legal to refuse to sell a house to a family because they were Black. The difference is that in the 60's, it was people who were turning minority families away; now it's systems.

“Our credit-scoring systems, our risk-based pricing systems, our automated underwriting systems that we use in the housing and financial-services space are inequitable,” says Lisa Rice, 61, president and CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance (AFHA). “The inequality is automated. So you have to be disruptive.”

The legal changes since the 60's would make a difference, says Rice, if the antidiscrimination laws were enforced. But enforcement agencies are underfunded, so the NFHA, a consortium of housing and civil rights advocacy groups, aims to close the gap through education, advocacy, and when necessary, litigation.

Rice has been at the forefront of reforming discriminatory lending, insurance, rental, and zoning practices, and ensuring that as lenders turn over the task of approving home loans to AI tools, the same racial inequalities are not baked into the new system.

Housing is no a problem that can be fixed by money alone, she says. “Data shows that every single year, high-income Black people get denied for mortgages at rates that are on par with or higher than low-income white people,” says Rice. “The market absolutely cannot solve the problem.”



REBECCA AJULU-BUSHELL

OPENING DOORS THROUGH INTERNSHIPS
REPORTED BY: TARA LAW IN THE TIME MAGAZINE

When Rebecca Ajulu-Bushell was a student at Oxford university, she got an internship at a prestigious gallery. There, she learned about the art world, but not in the way she expected. The organization paid a stipend that didn't even cover her London tube fare. A colleague warned her that people were hired only if they were connected to the owner “or you have to wait until someone dies,” she recalls.

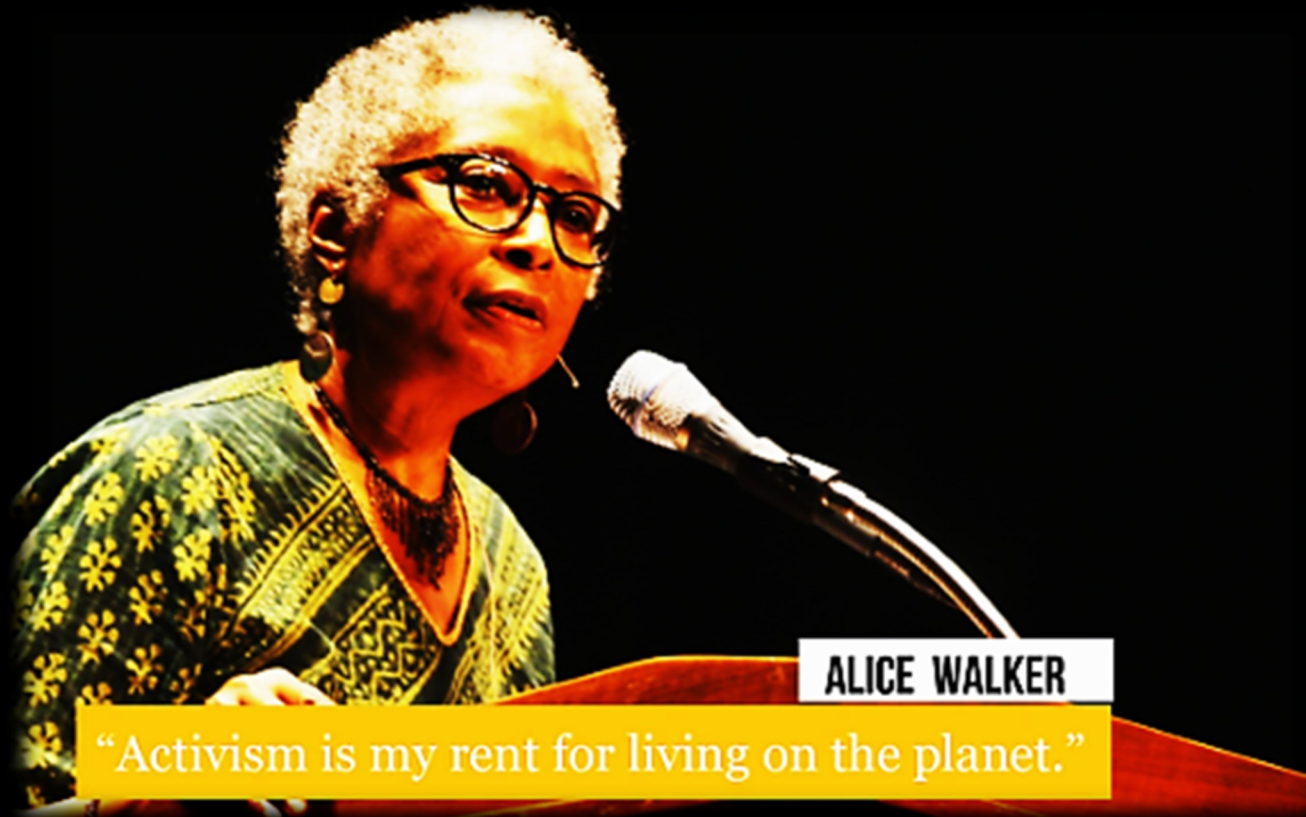
The experience was disheartening, but it didn't curb the drive of the former world No. 1 swimmer and the first Black woman to swim for Britain's national team. At 29, Ajulu-Bushell is the CEO of the 10,000 Interns Foundation, which in three years has created 5,000 internships for Black disabled students and graduates. An internship she says, “can create this inertia that pushes you forward, or it can create this force that holds you back and pushes you down.”

Born in the U.K. to a white mother and a black father, and raised until she was 13 in Kenya, Ajulu-Bushell was perceived as black when she was in the U.K. and white in her father's Kenyan home village. Her father instilled in her a strong sense of the importance of fighting for social justice, but also taught her that as a person of color, the only way to get to the top was to work so hard that her talent became “undeniable.” As a swimmer, however, being exceptional came with a cost. Struggling with the pressure she felt to succeed in a predom-



inantly white sport, she quit while training for the 2012 Olympics. (She will recount the experience in her upcoming memoir, *These Heavy Black Bones*.)

Today, her goal is for the 10,000 Interns Foundation to change the face of business and to enable participants to see “Black excellence all around them.”



ALICE WALKER

“Activism is my rent for living on the planet.”



ERIN HORNE MCKINNEY

EDUCATING ENTREPRENEURS

REPORTED BY: BELINDA LUSCOMBE FOR TIME MAGAZINE

In 2021, about 161,000 of the 6 million companies that employ people in the U.S. were owned by African Americans. That's better than the previous year, but to Erin Horne McKinney, the number's still too small. "Research shows that entrepreneurship is really the way we will close the wealth gap in this country," she says.

The challenges Black entrepreneurs face are legion, and they start with investment; a recent Goldman Sachs study found that loan applications from Black business owners get rejected at three times the rate of those by white business owners. To try to close the gap, Horne McKinney, 48, is heading up a new center for Black entrepreneurship at Howard University, her alma mater, that will be networked across four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to convene conferences, fund research into Black entrepreneurship, and help HBCUs create programming and initiatives that focus on building business skills. "When you compare HBCUs to predominantly white institutions, we are so far behind in the investment around entrepreneurship and innovation on our campuses," says Horne McKinney, who serves on the board of the Black Innovation Alliance. "Our center brings together not just practitioners but researchers to pilot best practices by creating blueprints that we know are proven models."

Having been in her role for about a year, Horne McKinney, says she'll know she's having an impact when there's a rise in the number of jobs created by Black-owned businesses and the number that are opening bank accounts and improving their credit. Supporting Black entrepreneurs will help other entrepreneurs too, Horne McKinney says. "If we can solve for those in our community who receive the least support, we really solve for all."



HORIZONS MONEY TEAM

Hujambo Bwana's and Bibi's. In part two, we are going to talk about the Dojo Supercomputer and all it does to make Tesla a better stock. As I said last time, Tesla has sold 4,527,916 cars during its history, and every one of these vehicles are transmitting data back to Tesla top over the company's efforts to develop **Full Self-Driving (FSD)** capabilities (Also known as Full Autonomy) Level 5). Meshing a huge mobile sensor and camera network with powerful edge computing capabilities to a backend supercomputer designed in-house to learn from that data is a paradigm we haven't seen before and elevates Tesla beyond purely a vehicle manufacturer. In other words, when they sell you the car, they are learning how the car works with you in it. That is a trade off that both parties are willing to learn!!

(DISCLAIMER: I AM IN NO WAY A PROFESSIONAL!! I am just an Individual In Custody like you giving you the tools that I have grown to learn over my time and I will do my best to give you a peace of mind: but YOU will be responsible for your actions. Thank you!!)

To understand the significance of Dojo, one needs to examine the existing background of AI processors and supercomputing. The Dojo system is a Tesla-designed supercomputer made to train the machine learning models behind the EV maker's self-driving systems. The computer takes in data captured by vehicles and processes it rapidly to improve the company's algorithms. Analysts have said Dojo could be a key competitive ad-





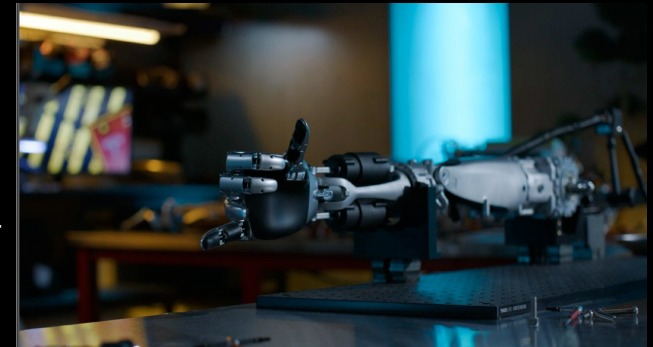
vantage, and earlier this year Morgan Stanley estimated it could add \$500 billion to Tesla's value.

Conventional supercomputers have been vital in scientific research, complex simulations, and big data analytics. However, these systems are primarily designed for a broad array of tasks rather than optimized for a singular purpose like the real-world, data-driven AI computer vision that Tesla is designing Dojo for.¹

Tesla's Dojo promises to revolutionize the AI processing landscape by focusing solely on improving the company's FSD capabilities. With this vertical integration, Tesla aims to construct an ecosystem that encompasses hardware, data, and practical application—a trifecta that could usher in a new era of supercomputing, explicitly designed for real-world data processing.²

In summary, Dojo's advent signals a shift in the supercomputing paradigm, one that leans toward edge-driven, vertical integration, specialization, and scalable architecture. Time will tell whether it transforms supercomputing, but what is unequivocal is its potential to provide Tesla with a technical moat that other more traditional auto manufacturers will never be able to catch up to.

By focusing on specific real-world applications and demonstrating an architecture fundamentally different from conventional designs, Tesla's Dojo emerges not merely as a tool for the company's FSD aspirations but as a landmark development in the ever-converging worlds of AI and supercomputing. As you see, Tesla is not the only trying to sell you vehicles, but, they are trying to create a computer system, that is not only going well for those driving their future vehicles, but also for future work in their other companies, namely **X (formerly Twitter) and X.Ai**. In our last week, we are going to discuss what the everyone wants to reach out and talk about...Tesla's robot **Optimus**.





MY VIEW ON THE MARKET—With Jerome Powell not doing a rate cut in the next FED meeting, one could say that the market is just fine. The “higher for longer” phrase is being used less and the housing mortgage is receding...but for how long? The jobs have been plentiful and the CPI (Consumer Price Index) has remained low, but if anyone knows anything, the market and its happy days can turn into *Fukushima* (total meltdown). All indices are at or near all time highs and this is consistent. But we know what comes up—must come down, and if that plays true, the market will fall 7-10% in the course of a week!! My true advise. If you want to stay in the game, just remember that it comes with risk. I personally moved some stocks from the mag 7 (yeah, I know) and took the profits to health care and real estate. I follow the rules of Warren Buffett and Benjamin Graham “*when people are running to it, I leave (to sell), and when they are running away from it, I go to buy.*”

References

¹ Tesla’s push into supercomputers, potentially worth \$500 billion in added market value (fortune.com)

² Tesla’s Dojo Supercomputer Head Exits in Blow to Efforts (Bloomberg)



HOROSCOPES



Aries: Keep the momentum flowing. Don't let trivial matters stand between you and what you want to achieve. Search for the right opportunity and take advantage of it before it's too late.

Translation: Keep moving, don't stop just because you hit a bump in the road, there is always doors opening, just don't let them close in your face.



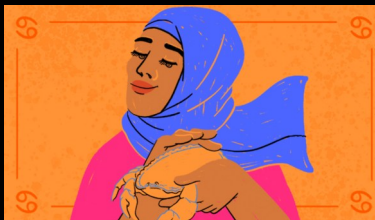
Taurus: A mix-up will cost you if you don't leave yourself enough wiggle room. Stick to simple, doable plans that won't cause insurmountable debt and stress. Control the outcome.

Translation: Stop going to the law library and getting all those copies knowing that you don't have the money at that time, but complain when they take the money when you do get some put in your account.



Gemini: You can turn an idea into a profit if you put in the time and cultivate the possibilities. Prepare a workspace conducive to concentration and getting things done.

Translation: Go in your cell and give that business plan some real thought, you just might be on to something that can help with your future.



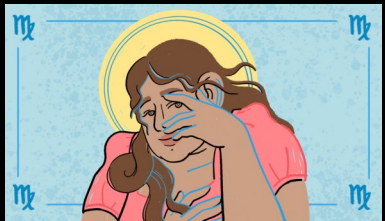
Cancer: Reach out to experts and express your concerns. The input you receive will help clear up any misconception you have regarding your next move. If you want something done correctly, do it yourself.

Translation: That job you have been waiting on just came open, speak up and see where it takes you, don't depend on someone else to do it for you.



Leo: Change only what's necessary. Stay focused on what's essential and makes you happy. Embrace what is best for everyone. Pay more attention to your needs.

Translation: Do you and be happy, if eating a bag of chips a day makes you fill good then eat that bag of chips, in the end its all about you right?



Virgo: Engage in changes that help you learn, expand your horizons and help you live within your means. Cut back on expenses you can do without, and you'll boost your efficiency.

Translation: Stop ordering that girl all those gifts out them catalogs, and start ordering some books that will help you become successful in the future.



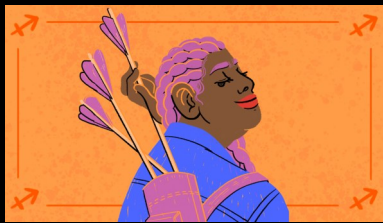
Libra: Let your actions be your voice. Show compassion when dealing with others; you'll gain respect and the backup you need. Don't let love cost you financially; know when to say no.

Translation: Just because you love her doesn't mean you have to be a pushover, stand your ground and tell her HELL NO, money do not grow on trees.



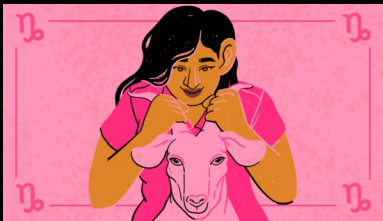
Scorpio: Tidy up loose ends, and you'll feel better about yourself and your future. Reach out to those who spark your imagination and excite you about the possibilities.

Translation: Cut out those who don't have your back (that girl), there is a new connection and its better for your future.



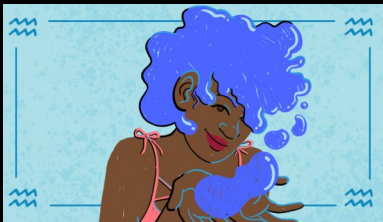
Sagittarius: Share your true feelings, and the response you receive will be enlightening. Honest communication and heartfelt action will be the way to go.

Translation: That female you are attracted to just reached out to you, let her know how you feel, you never know she might feel the same.



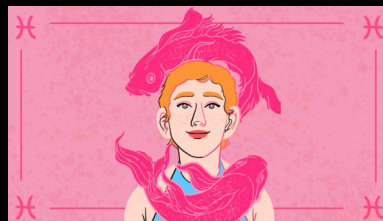
Capricorn: Deception is apparent. Before you put someone else first, consider the ramifications. Make suggestions, call for backup and change how you do things moving forward. Speak your mind.

Translation: Just because dude is a friend of a friend do not mean you can trust him, use your best judgment and keep it moving.



Aquarius: Simplify your life, reduce spending and pay attention to doing and being your best. Walk away from confusion, chaos and people trying to steal what's yours. Cherish what you have.

Translation: If you stop letting your homie get what he wants out your box, you wouldn't spend so much money at commissary, cut that out your life and you will be better off.



Pisces: When in doubt, take a pass. The time you give yourself to evaluate your options will lead to success. Ask tough questions and prepare to make decisions that map out what's to come.

Translation: Don't be too quick to take that job that's on the table, there is something in the works for you that might be better, your seeking has worked in your favor.

STATEWIDE CALL OUT



Everyone here at Horizons would like to take the time to express our sincerest gratitude for all of the viewers, supporters, and participants of Kewanee Horizons. Our approach is different from other material that has been of benefit to us all, especially in regards to highlighting the successes of our fellow peer's, as well as highlighting the fact that we have an outstanding amount of friends, family, and loved ones that contribute to our overall success. Horizons is more than just a platform for us to use to spread content throughout I.D.O.C., it's also valuable to us all to show that we are indeed a community made up of "real" people, striving to make it through this journey. With Horizons, we are experiencing amazing things. Things that weren't the norm just a few years ago, and that's the evolution of "US", (the incarcerated individuals), and our desire to spark an already contagious thing, which is a change in the utmost positive direction. Change begins with us, and that's exactly what's been shown, as well as proven.



STATEWIDE CALL OUT



Being able to see some of the Peer led groups is something that is a blessing for us all. For so long, some of us didn't have the courage to teach what we knew, and quite possibly, the issue was that we didn't know what we knew would help anyone. Kewanee doesn't make Horizons, we "ALL" make Horizons. It's about all of us. The things we do during this incarceration not only impacts us, but our community as well. If we want people to believe in us, we first have to believe in ourselves. The entire Horizons team is honored to be able to be a voice for some of those that feel that you don't have one. Our focus is on positivity and how any occurrence that you've encountered since being incarcerated has impacted you in a positive way. Our driving force is positivity with a Restorative Justice mind-set. We don't look to focus on anything negative, we don't want anyone dwelling on yesterday's bad decisions, we want everyone focusing on tomorrow's goal of productivity, positivity, and finding ways to help one another in the best way possible. Please don't shy away from submitting your article to Horizons. **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**





The address for Kewanee Horizons is:

Kewanee Horizons Editor, KLSRC

ATTN: EFA Mr. Warnsing

2021 Kentville Rd.

Kewanee, IL 61443

Here is a quick list of Do's and Do-not's:

- **DO** try to have someone official from your facility contact EFA Mr. Warnsing before you send anything through the mail, they may be able to e-mail it directly to him at doc.kewaneehorizons@illinois.gov
- **DO** try to stick within the ideals we have tried to promote in your article, namely Community and Restorative Justice principles, i.e. how the subject of your piece is community related and affected, stay positive
- **DO NOT** expect to have whatever you send, however you send it, returned to you under any circumstances
- **DO NOT** write to any individuals in custody at Kewanee Horizons directly, or indirectly if you are in prison, incarcerated, locked up, doing a bit or anything in that direction
- **DO** write to or e-mail our liaison E.F.A. Mr. Warnsing if you are a free person in the free world and would like to submit something for possible publication
- **DO** understand, your submission is not guaranteed publication in Kewanee Horizons, we have internal and external guidelines that we adhere to.

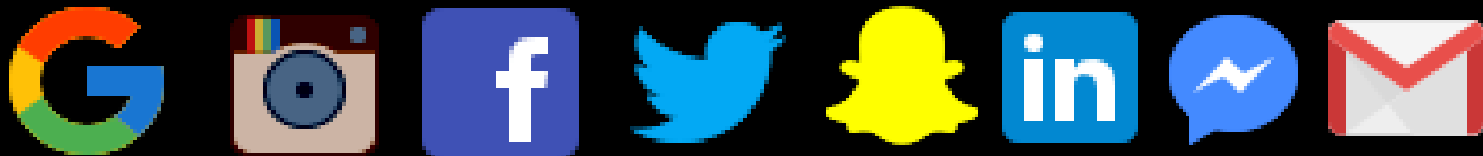
KEWANEE HORIZONS NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN EMAIL ADDRESS!

doc.kewaneehorizons@illinois.gov

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