**WHEN WAS BLACK HISTORY MONTH OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES?**

1976

**BY THIS GUY**

President Gerald R. Ford
(& the US Gov)

Smack-dab in the middle of the Black Power Movement (1968-1982)

As part of the USA’s Bicentennial celebration

**BUT... WHO FOUNDED BLACK HISTORY MONTH?**

**CARTER G. WOODSON**

HISTORIAN, SCHOLAR, EDUCATIONALIST (1875-1950)

Son of former slaves, and 2nd black person to graduate from Harvard University

When he prompts the fraternity Omega Psi Phi to create “Negro History & Literature Week:”

1920

Woodson eventually proceeds to build a week-long “Negro History Week” event around traditional days in February that already historically commemorated the African-American past:

- President Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12th
  (The guy who abolished slavery)
- Frederick Douglass, Feb. 14
  (Leader of the Abolitionist Movement)
AND WHAT LED TO THE FOUNDBING OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

PEOPLE PARTICIPATING

The Civil Rights Movement 1950s-1980s
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, 1929-1968
Minister & Social Activist

Was the foremost leader of the movement and awarded the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize for his work. He continued to fight against segregation until his assassination in 1968

“I HAVE A DREAM…”

The NAACP

Founded in 1909, NAACP is the nation’s oldest and largest civil rights organization.

WHAT’S IT ALL ABOUT NOW?

RECOGNIZING The many contributions of African-Americans

Inventors

Lewis Latimer (1848-1928) Invented the carbon filament for the light bulb, improving upon Thomas Edison’s paper filament

George Washington Carver (1860-1943) Devised 300+ uses for the peanut

Dr. Patricia E. Bath (1949-) Ophthalmologic surgeon, invented the Laserphaco Probe, which is a surgical tool used to remove cataracts

Garrett Morgan (1877-1963) Invented safety hood smoke protection devices for fire fighters to breathe in the line of duty, patented one of the first traffic control devices

Otis Boykin (1920-1982) Invented the electrical device used in all guided missiles and IBM computers, +26 other electronic devices most notably the control unit for a pacemaker

artists & craftsmen

Thomas Day (1801-1861) Master cabinetmaker and entrepreneur, owned and operated one of the most successful furniture shops (PHE Civil War)

Henry O. Tanner (1859-1937) The first African-American painter to gain international acclaim

Augusta Savage (1900-1962) World-famous sculptor associated with the Harlem Renaissance

political activists

Stokely Carmichael (1941-1998) Organized freedom rides

Rosa Parks (1913-2005) Instituted the Montgomery Bus Boycott

James Meredith (1933-) Fought to integrate blacks and whites at the University of Mississippi

... and so many more.

souces: