

Diversity Newsletter

February

Black History Month

Black Health & Wellness

“The theme for Black History Month 2022 focuses on the importance of *Black Health and Wellness*. This theme acknowledges the legacy of not only Black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine, but also other ways of knowing (e.g., birthworkers, doulas, midwives, naturopaths, herbalists, etc.) throughout the African Diaspora. The 2022 theme considers activities, rituals and initiatives that Black communities have done to be well. “

ASALH: <https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/>

UNC Health Celebrates Black History Month

CELEBRATING



**BLACK
HISTORY**

MONTH

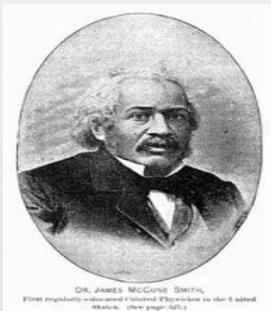
**FEBRUARY IS
BLACK HISTORY MONTH!**

UNC Health Black Alliance Employee Resource Group in partnership with the UNC School of Medicine is hosting a variety of Black History Month events including panel discussions, games, educational spotlights and more!

Notable Black People in Healthcare

Rebecca Lee Crumpler, MD (1831 — 1895) In 1864, after years as a nurse, Rebecca Lee Crumpler became the first black woman in the United States to receive an MD degree. She earned that distinction at the New England Female Medical College in Boston, Massachusetts — where she also was the institution’s only black graduate. Crumpler also wrote *A Book of Medical Discourses: In Two Parts*. Published in 1883, the book addresses children’s and women’s health.

James McCune Smith, MD (1813 — 1865) James McCune Smith, MD, was a man of firsts. In 1837, he became the first black American to receive a medical degree — although he had to enroll at the University of Glasgow Medical School because of racist admissions practices at U.S. medical schools. He was also the first black person to own and operate a pharmacy in the United States and the first black physician to be published in U.S. medical journals.



Charles Richard Drew, MD (1904 — 1950) Known as the “father of blood banking,” Charles Richard Drew, MD, pioneered blood preservation techniques that led to thousands of lifesaving blood donations. Drew’s doctoral research explored best practices for banking and transfusions, and its insights helped him establish the first large-scale blood banks. Drew directed the Blood for Britain project, which shipped much-needed plasma to England during World War II. Drew then led the first American Red Cross Blood Bank and created mobile blood donation stations that are now known as bloodmobiles. Despite his renown for blood preservation, Drew’s true pas-

sion was surgery. He was appointed chairman of the department of surgery and chief of surgery at Freedmen’s Hospital (now known as Howard University Hospital) in Washington, D.C



Louis Wade Sullivan, MD (b. 1933) The only black student in his class at Boston University School of Medicine, he would later serve on the faculty from 1966 to 1975. In 1975, he became the founding dean of what became the Morehouse School of Medicine — the first predominantly black medical school opened in the United States in the 20th century. Later, Sullivan was tapped to serve as secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Marilyn Hughes Gaston, MD (b. 1939) became the first black female physician to be appointed director of the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Bureau of Primary Health Care. She was also the second black woman to serve as assistant surgeon general as well as achieve the rank of rear admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service



Patricia Era Bath, MD (b. 1942) The first African-American to complete an ophthalmology residency, noticed that rates of blindness and visual impairment were much higher at the Harlem Hospital's eye clinic, which served many black patients, than at the eye clinic at Columbia University, which mostly served whites

Bath was also the first woman appointed chair of ophthalmology at a U.S. medical school, at the University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine in 1983. And she was the first black female physician to receive a medical patent in 1988 for the Laserphaco Probe, a device used in cataract surgery.



Alexa Irene Canady, MD (b. 1950) In 1981, she became the first black neurosurgeon in the United States, and just a few years later, she rose to the ranks of chief of neurosurgery at Children's Hospital of Michigan.



Goldie D. Brangman was a part of the emergency surgical team at Harlem Hospital that was responsible for a successful emergency heart surgery performed on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. following an assassination attempt in 1958. Many who were present that day wanted to move Dr. King to a different hospital. It was finally decided that King could not survive the move and needed help immediately. Brangman was responsible for physically operating the breathing bag that kept Dr. King alive during surgery. After this momentous day, Brangman went on to have an illustrious career, which included serving as President of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) from 1973-74. On October 2, 2017, she turned 100 years old while still vol-

unteering for the American Red Cross and remaining an active member of AANA.



FRANCIS CECIL SUMNER (1895-1954)

Francis Cecil Sumner is known as the "Father of Black Psychology." He was the first African American to receive a Ph.D. in psychology in 1920. Sumner's main focus in psychology is "race psychology" wherein he studies how to understand and eliminate racial bias in the administration of justice. Aside from "race psychology," Sumner also studied color and vision, as well as the psychology of religion. He Helped establish the psychology department at Howard University to train African American Psychologists. Sumner completed vast amount of research which counteracted racism and bias in psychological studies of African Americans.



Retrieved from:

- * [*Celebrating 10 African-American Medical Pioneers \(AAMC\)*](#)
- * [*12 Leaders in Nursing and Medicine To Honor This Black History Month*](#)
- * [*10 African & African American Psychologists You Should Know*](#)

[**Leonard Medical School: the first four-year medical school in the United States**](#)

[**The Remarkable Story of Vivien Thomas, the Black Man Who Helped Invent Heart Surgery**](#)

Upcoming Events & Diversity Trainings

Martial Arts Performance for Chinese New Year: February 5th, 4pm. “Come out and bring in the Year of the Tiger with us on Saturday February 4th at 4:00pm! Our pop-up kungfu performance will be outdoors at the North Carolina Museum of Art in the Ellipse.”

African American History Month Lecture with Dr. Marcia Chatelain: February 9th, 6:30p. Join The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History as they present the African American History Month Lecture with Dr. Marcia Chatelain. Dr. Marcia Chatelain is a Professor of History and African American Studies at Georgetown University. The author of *South Side Girls: Growing up in the Great Migration* (Duke University Press, 2015), she teaches about women’s and girls’ history, as well as Black capitalism. In 2021, Chatelain received the Pulitzer Prize in History, the Hagley Prize in Business History, and the Organization of American Historians (OAH) Lawrence W. Levine Award for Franchise.

Obesity, Cancer, and Disparities: February 9th, 12-1p Kirsten A. Nyrop, PhD, (UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center) will describe how the U.S. obesity epidemic, which has disproportionately impacted communities of color, impacts cancer risk and outcomes, with a specific focus in breast cancer disparities.

THE 2022 CIDD “VIRTUAL” COMMUNITY TALK SERIES PRESENTS: Disability and Dating: Romantic Relationships — A PANEL DISCUSSION: February 9th, 6:30p-8p. Panel discussion featuring people with disabilities and their experiences with dating and romantic relationships. Moderated by: Michelle Ballasiotes, BSPH, OTS – Occupational Therapy Student and LEND Self-Advocate Trainee. She has a form of cerebral palsy called hemiplegia due to

a stroke she had before birth. Michelle recently started a podcast called Dating with a Disability.

Respecting All: February 16th, 12p-3p. This workshop explores microaggressions and biased behavior prevalent in the SOM and provides participants tools with which to intervene when witnessing acts of disrespect and discrimination.

University/Community MLK Memorial Banquet: February 20th, 6:00 pm:
This event was originally scheduled for January 16 but was postponed due to concerns about inclement weather creating power outages and internet interruption)

Keynote speaker: **Elmira Mangum, PhD** – the first woman to permanently hold the position of President of Florida A&M University in its 128-year history. She will be joined at this event by several other prominent community leaders as we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King. Tickets \$30 (all proceeds fund the MLK/Edith Wiggins HS Senior scholarships).

Black History Month 2022: Crucial Conversations: Racial Bias and Disparities In Healthcare Among Communities Of Color: February 23rd, 12p-1p.

Racial Bias and Disparities in the Healthcare System can greatly impact a person's health outcomes. Learn more about bias, disparities, understand its impact, and feel empowered to address it after this powerful crucial conversation with our own UNC Physicians.

Lunch & Learn with Ramaswamy and Rice: February 28th, 12p -1p. The Center for Health Equity Research at UNC will host Dr. Rohit Ramaswamy and Dr. Dana Rice to discuss their recent research publication, "[Beyond Virtue-Signaling: Advancing Equity Through Design Justice and Public Health Critical Race Praxis.](#)" The focus of the discussion will be collaboration opportunities and the recent publication.

FEBRUARY DIVERSITY CALENDAR

February 14th: Frederick Douglas's Birthday. Frederick Douglass was an American abolitionist who escaped slavery and committed himself to social activism thereafter. To remember him today, read his most famous of his autobiographies, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*.

February 14: St. Valentine's Day. A Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentinus. Typically associated with romantic love and celebrated by people expressing their love via gifts.

February 15th: Parinirvana: Also known as Nirvana Day in Mahāyāna Buddhism, this day is the annual festival that commemorates the death of Buddha after he reached his final nirvana. Buddhists often celebrate this day by visiting Buddhist temples or monasteries and meditating.

February 15t: Lantern Festival. The first significant feast after the Chinese New Year, named for watching Chinese lanterns illuminate the sky during the night of the event.

February 15th: Susan B. Anthony's Birthday Susan B. Anthony was one of the most visible leaders of the women's suffrage movement. She's remembered as a champion of labor rights, abolition, temperance, and equal pay for equal work.

February 16th: Maghi-Purnima. A Hindu festival especially for worshippers of Lord Vishnu. Millions of devotees take a holy bath on this day. Devotees also carry out charity work on this day.

February 16th: Magha Puja Day (also known as Māgha Pūṣya). A Buddhist holiday that marks an event early in the Buddha's teaching life when a group of 1,250 enlightened saints, ordained by the Buddha, gathered to pay their respect to him.

February 20th: World Day of Social Justice. An international day recognizing the need to promote social justice, which includes efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion, gender inequality, unemployment, human rights, and social protections.

February 25th: Festival of Ayyam-i-Ha. A multiple-day festival in the Baha'i faith that prioritizes gift-giving, hospitality, charity, and preparation for fasting ahead of the New Year.

February 1st: Lunar New Year. One of the most sacred of all traditional Chinese holidays, a time of family reunion and celebration. The Lunar New Year is also celebrated at this time in Japan, Korea, Vietnam and Mongolia. 2022 is the year of the Tiger.

February 1st : Imbolc. The halfway point between the winter solstice and spring equinox in the Pagan and Wiccan calendars. This day celebrates fire, light, and the return of life.

February 1st: National Freedom Day. Celebrates the signing of the 13th Amendment that abolished slavery in 1865.

February 2nd: Candlemas. A holiday in the Christian church that blesses the candle supply for that year.

February 3: Setsubun-Sai (Beginning of Spring). The day before the beginning of spring in Japan, celebrated yearly as part of the Spring Festival.

February 5th: Vasant Panchami, also known as Saraswati Puja, Shree Panchami, or the Basant Festival of Kites is a Sikh and Hindu festival the Hindu festival that highlights the coming of spring. On this day Hindus worship Saraswati Devi, the goddess of wisdom, knowledge, music, art, and culture.

February 7th: National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. This observance is an opportunity to increase HIV education, testing, community involvement, and treatment among black communities. The first National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD) was marked in 1999 as a grassroots-education effort to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS prevention, care, and treatment in communities of color.

February 11th: International Day of Women and Girls in Science. In order to achieve full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls, and further achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the United Nations General Assembly declared February 11th as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science in 2015.

UNC DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY DEI COMMITTEE

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Hemanth Baboolal	Caryn Hertz	Emily Robertson
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Robin Brennan	My Liu	Marwa Sidani
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Vishal Dhanda	Elisa Lund	Adam Suchar
Alexander Doyal	Lindsay Macchio	Eva Waller
Patrick Farmer	Skye Margolies	Shanna Weaver
Amy Goetzinger	Duncan McLean	



DEI Certificate Program

<https://www.med.unc.edu/inclusion/programs-and-initiatives/dei-certificate-program/>

The DEI Certificate Program is a new initiative from the SOM Office of Inclusive Excellence in support of the 2019 SOM Strategic Plan to foster an inclusive workplace environment. The program's curriculum offers workshops and trainings designed to broaden awareness about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion topics among the SOM faculty/staff and deepen engagement with and between individuals in the SOM at all levels – from patients to leadership. The workshops offered as part of the certificate program address a broad array of DEI topics, including those related to race and ethnicity, gender

Interested in participating or learning more? There are many ways to contribute!!

Please contact the DEI Committee to get involved: Anes_diversity@med.unc.edu

Have suggestions or need to report something?

Visit the anonymous reporting page:

<https://www.med.unc.edu/anesthesiology/our-department/diversity-equity-inclusion/>