

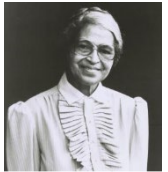
## Iconic Activists and Leaders



**[Harriet Tubman](#)**: A legendary “conductor” of the Underground Railroad, she led dozens of enslaved people to freedom and later served as a scout and spy for the Union Army.



**[Sojourner Truth](#)**: Born Isabella Bomefree in 1797. An escaped slave who became a powerful abolitionist and women's rights activist, famously delivering her "Ain't I a Woman?" speech in 1851.



**[Rosa Parks](#)**: Civil Rights Icon, often called the “Mother of the Freedom Movement”, her refusal to yield her seat on a Montgomery bus sparked the 381 day Montgomery Bus Boycott.



**[Ella Baker](#)**: Civil rights organizer who founded the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).



**[Fannie Lou Hamer](#)**: Voting rights activist who founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.



**[Ida B. Wells](#)**: A fearless investigative journalist and educator who led an anti-lynching crusade in the 1880s and co-founded the NAACP.



**[Patricia Stephens Due](#)**: Civil Rights Activist who led nonviolent demonstrations against segregation in Tallahassee. Was arrested for sitting in the “Whites only” section of the local Woolworth’s lunch counter.



**[Annette Gordon-Reed](#)**: She is an attorney, historian and educator. Famous for her 2008 Pulitzer Prize-Winning book, "The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family" which examined the relationship of President Thomas Jefferson, Sally Hemings and her children.

### Trailblazers and "Firsts"



**[Mae Jemison](#)**: A physician and engineer who made history in 1992 as the first Black woman to travel into space.



**[Carol Moseley Braun](#)**: First Black woman U.S. Senator (1993).



**[Pauli Murray](#)**: First African American woman ordained as an Episcopal priest (1977).



**[Madam C.J. Walker](#)**: An entrepreneur who built a hair care empire and became the first self-made female millionaire in America in 1910.



**[Ketanji Brown Jackson](#)**: First Black woman on the U.S. Supreme Court.



**[Shirley Chisholm](#)**: The first Black woman elected to the U.S. Congress (1968) and the first Black candidate for a major-party nomination for President of the United States (1972).



**[Katherine Johnson](#)**: A brilliant mathematician at NASA whose "human computer" calculations were critical to the success of the first U.S. crewed spaceflights.

### **Cultural and Intellectual Impact**



**[Maya Angelou](#)**: A poet, memoirist, and civil rights activist whose work, including "*I know Why the Caged Bird Sings*", explored the depth of the Black experience.



**[Toni Morrison](#)**: The first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature, known for her masterful exploration of Black identity and history in novels like "*Beloved*".



**[Audre Lorde](#)**: Author and activist.



**[Mary McLeod Bethune](#)**: Educator and founder of Bethune-Cookman University.



**[Dr. Lisa DeNeen Cook](#)**: First Black woman to lead the Federal Reserve Board.