



THE BRIEN CENTER

Diversity • Equity • Inclusion

Your courage, our care.

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Black Americans and other peoples of African descent.

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history.

Here at the Brien Center we will be celebrating Black History Month by highlight the achievements individual who have impacted our regions and less commonly known national individuals.

https://youtu.be/EkaA_fgZxhE



INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Person-first versus identity-first language was first applied to people with disabilities. However, the language has been broadened to refer to other identity groups. In person-first language, the person is emphasized, not the disability or chronic condition. In identity-first language, the disability becomes the focus, which allows the individual to claim the disability or the chronic condition and choose their identity rather than permitting others to name it. Person-first language is widely considered the most advised and respectful approach unless or until you know that a group or individual clearly prefers the identity-first approach, in which case, you should use their preferred approach.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY

We celebrate Susan B. Anthony Day on February 15, the day of her birth. Although she was not able to see her dream of women being given the right to vote before her death in 1906, her work contributed to the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920 that gave women that right. After having met William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass, she became an abolition activist and spoke openly against slavery. Beginning in 1851, she and Elizabeth Cady Stanton worked for over 50 years for women's rights and, in particular, the right for women to vote.

After the passing by Congress of the 15th Amendment, giving African American men the right to vote, Anthony and Stanton opposed the fact that this amendment did not include giving women the right to vote and formed the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA). This opposition to the new law and the creation of the NWSA created a division in the women's rights movement with others who supported the passing of the amendment forming the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA). In dedication to her beliefs, Anthony faced arrest in 1872 for attempting to vote in the presidential election.



INCLUSION

An environment that offers affirmation, celebration, and appreciation of different approaches, styles, perspectives, and experiences, thus allowing all individuals to bring in their whole selves (and all their identities) and to demonstrate their strengths and capacity.

Questions/Comments/Suggestions for the DEI Committee?

Contact Us: DEI@briencenter.org