

# **HISTORICAL FIGURE FLASHCARDS**

**CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY**



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860-612-2300  
300 John Downey Dr.  
New Britain, CT 06051

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

(1929-1968)

A Baptist minister and the most visible **leader in the Civil Rights Movement** from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. He gave the famous **“I Have a Dream” speech** at the March on Washington in 1963.

## JOHN LEWIS

(1940-2020)

Leader the first of three marches across the **Edmund Pettus Bridge** from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. He later served 17 terms in the **House of Representatives** for Georgia’s 5th district.

## MAYA ANGELOU

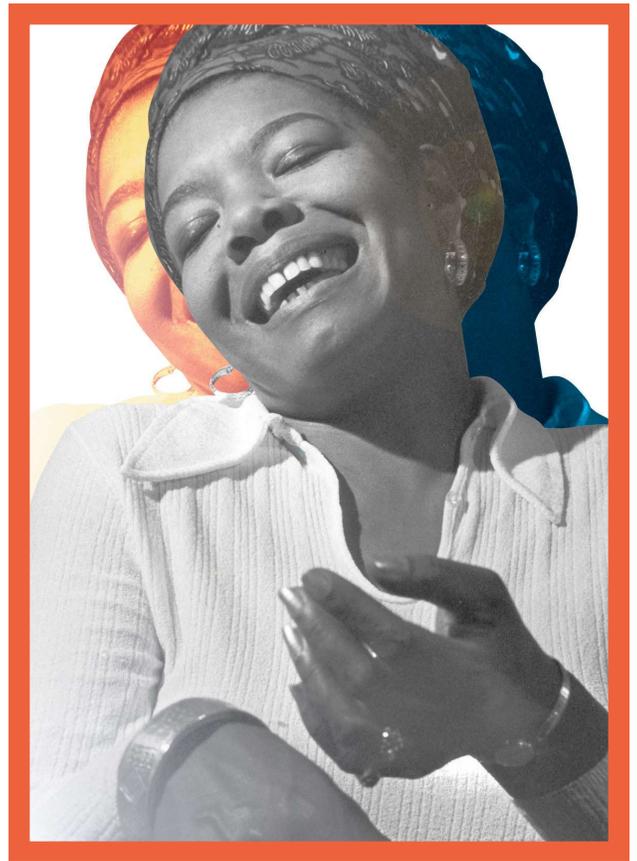
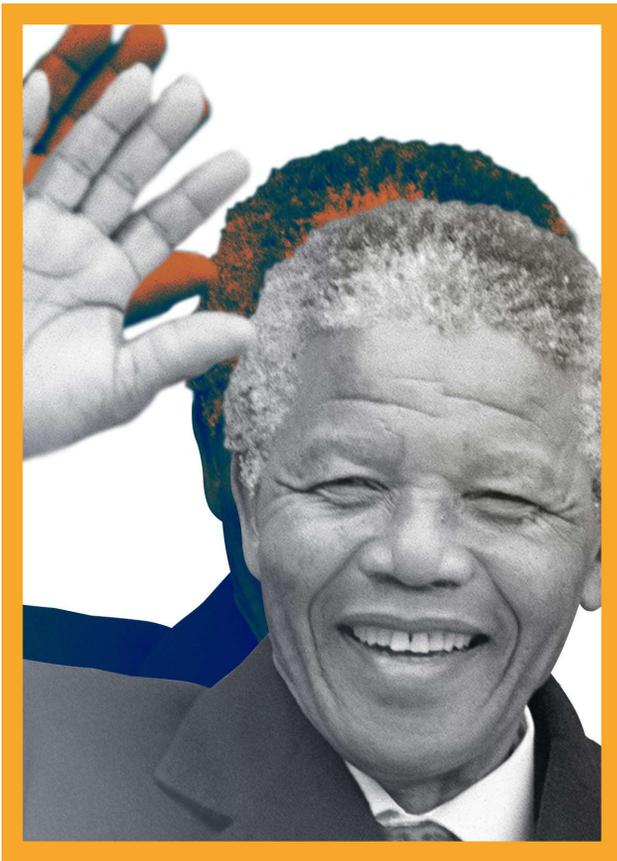
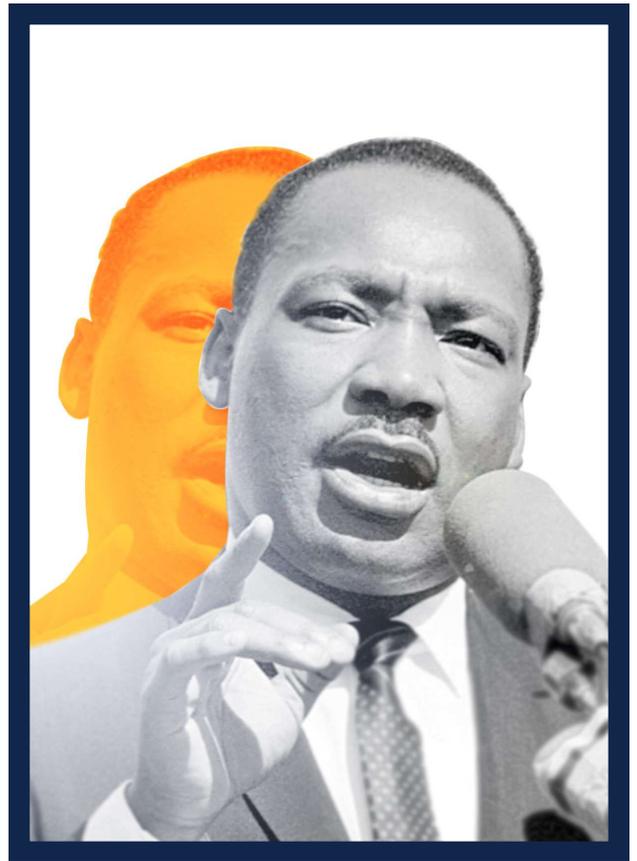
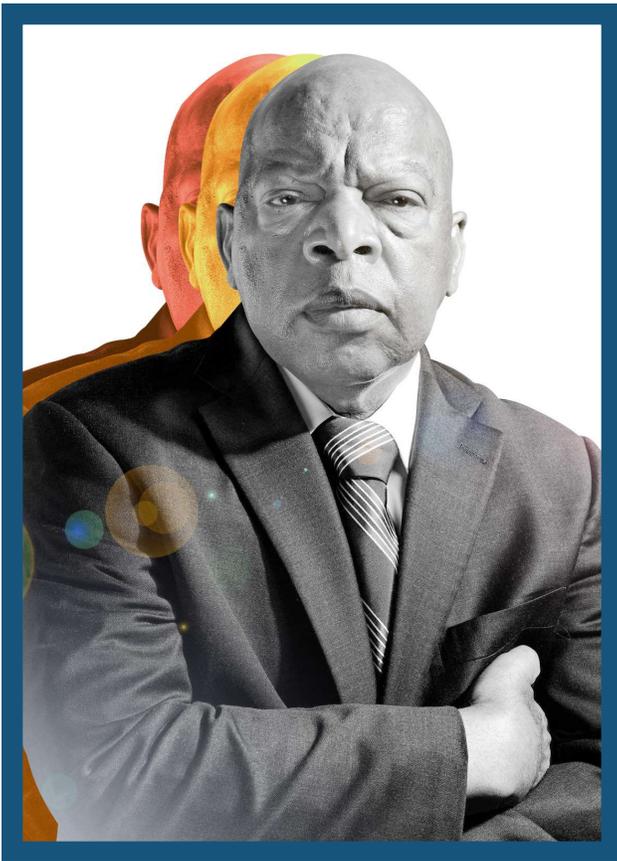
(1928-2014)

A poet, memoirist, and civil rights activist best known for her series of autobiographies. The first of the series, ***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings***, earned her worldwide acclaim upon publication in 1969.

## NELSON MANDELA

(1918-2013)

A South African political revolutionary and leader who worked to end **apartheid**, South Africa’s policy of racial segregation. He became the first Black head of state in South African history.



**GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
CARVER**  
*(1864-1943)*

An **agricultural scientist and inventor**. He encouraged farmers to grow crops other than cotton and worked to prevent soil depletion. He was one of the most well-known scientists of the 20th century.

**ELLA BAKER**  
*(1903-1986)*

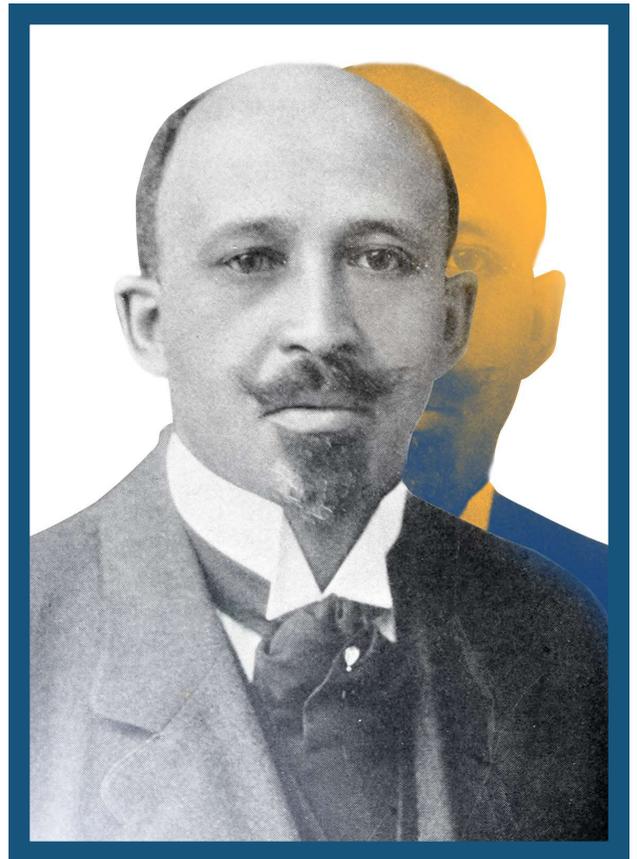
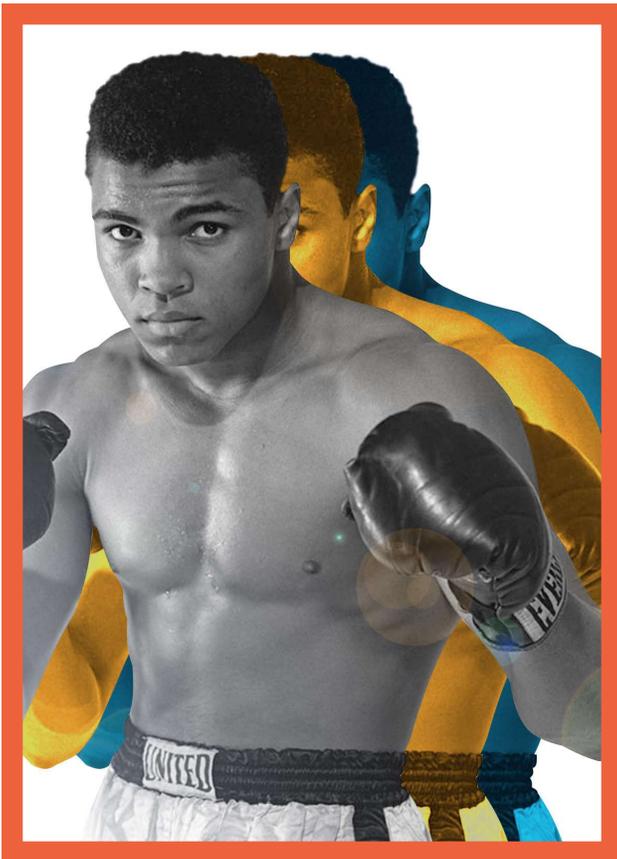
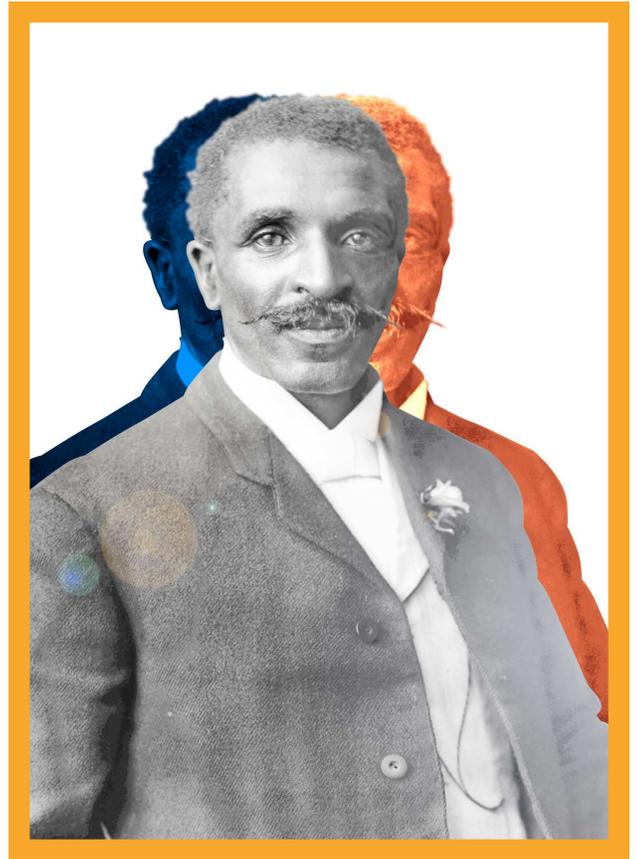
A civil rights activist who worked to achieve equal rights and freedoms for African American women as well as men. She used **grassroots organizing** (community action) to build the Civil Rights movement nationwide.

**W.E.B. DU BOIS**  
*(1868-1963)*

A sociologist, historian, and civil rights activist. He was the leader of the **Niagara Movement** and one of the founders of the **NAACP**, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

**MUHAMMAD ALI**  
*(1942-2016)*

Known as **"The Greatest,"** he was one of the most celebrated figures of the 20th century and one of the greatest boxers of all time.



## IDA B. WELLS

(1862-1931)

An **investigative journalist** and leader in the civil rights movement. Her reporting exposed the horrific truths of lynching in the American south. She was one of the **founders of the NAACP**.

## SOJOURNER TRUTH

(1797-1883)

A women's rights activist and **abolitionist**. She escaped slavery with her infant daughter in 1826. Her speech at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention, "**Ain't I a Woman?**," became famous during the Civil War.

## THURGOOD MARSHALL

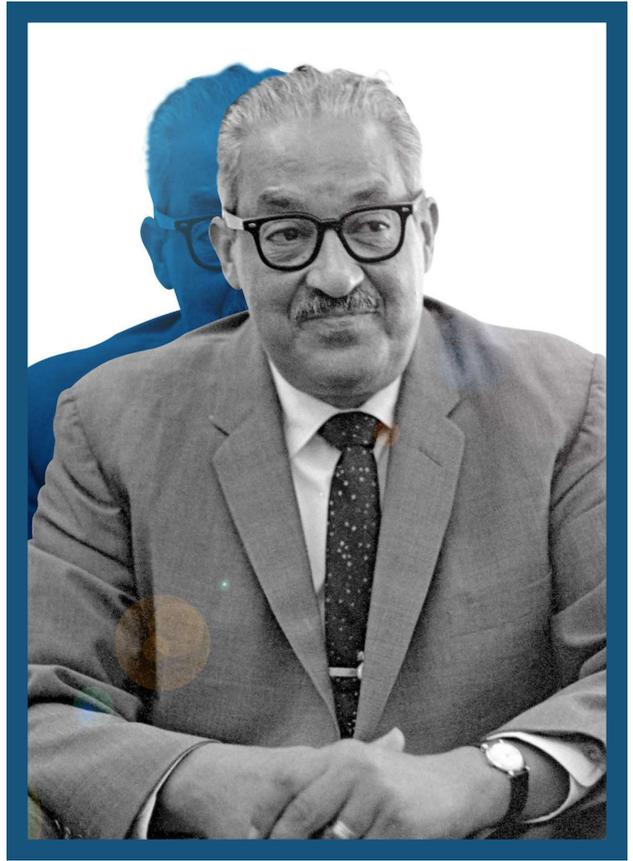
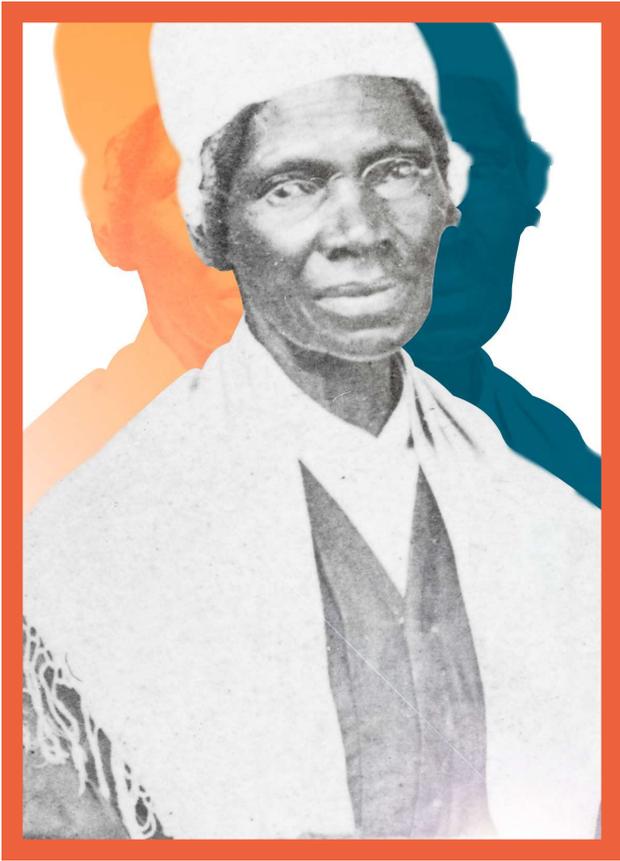
(1908-1993)

The first African American **Supreme Court Justice**. He successfully argued many cases, one of the most famous being **Brown v. Board of Education**, which ruled school segregation unconstitutional.

## MARSHA P. JOHNSON

(1945-1992)

A gay liberation activist and drag queen. Johnson was a founding member of the **Gay Liberation Front** and participated in the **Stonewall uprising** against police raids of lesbian and gay bars.



## RUBY BRIDGES

(1954-PRESENT)

A civil rights activist and philanthropist. When she was **6 years old**, in 1960, she became the first Black student to attend the all-white William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans.

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS

(1818-1895)

A **speaker, writer, and statesman**. He escaped from slavery and became a leader of the **abolitionist** movement, especially in the American north. Several of his autobiographies became bestsellers during and after the Civil War.

## HARRIET TUBMAN

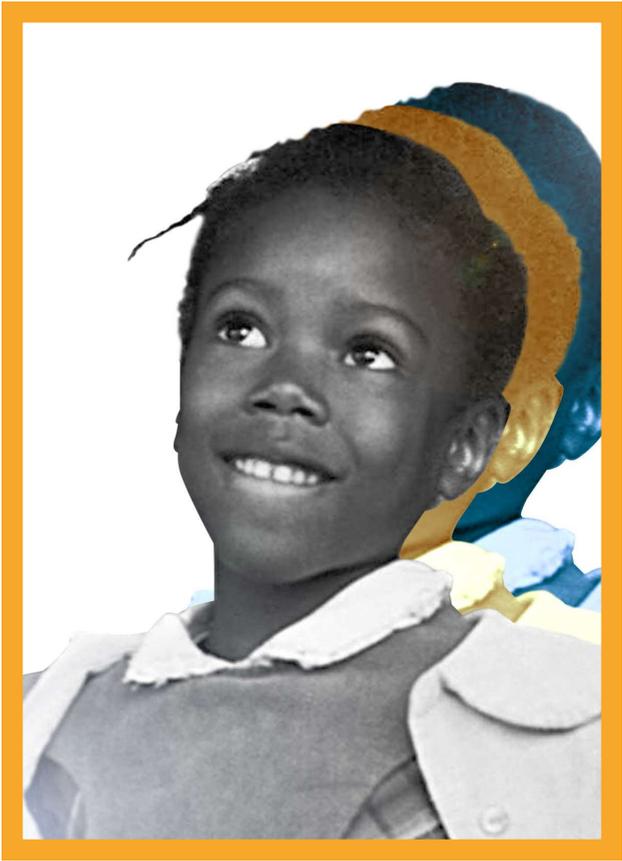
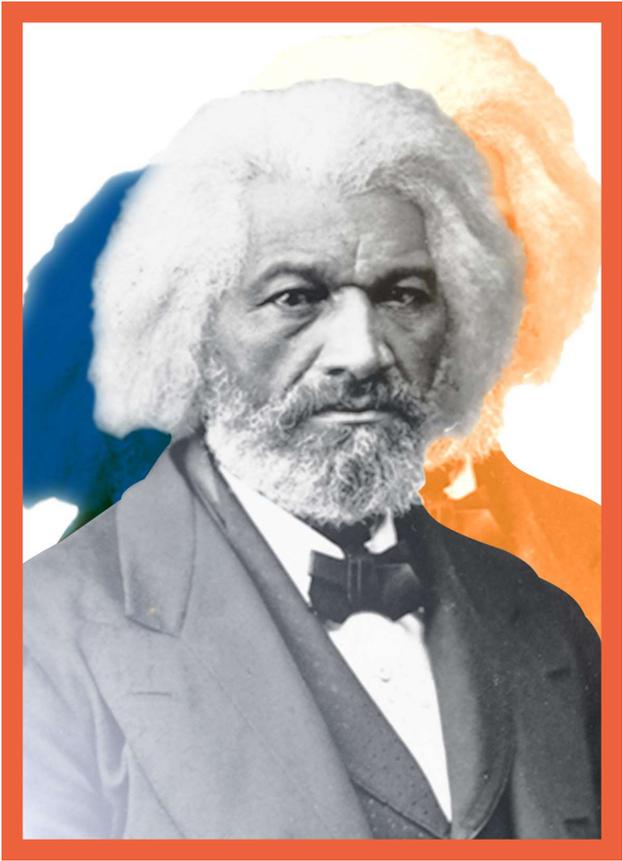
(1822-1913)

An abolitionist and activist. After escaping slavery in 1849, she helped **70 other people** escape as well, using a network of safe houses called the **Underground Railroad**.

## ZORA NEALE HURSTON

(1891-1960)

An **author and anthropologist** who wrote over 50 short stories, essays, and plays. Her work explored the experiences of African American women, and is considered a central part of the **Harlem Renaissance**.



## LANGSTON HUGHES

*(1901-1967)*

A **poet, novelist, and playwright**.

He is considered one of the founders of jazz poetry. He was one of the foremost figures in the **Harlem Renaissance**, a cultural revival of African American ideas and art beginning in the 1920s.

## BARACK OBAMA

*(1961-PRESENT)*

An attorney, politician, and 44th president of the United States. He served as a senator for Illinois from 1997 to 2004. He was the **first Black president** in national history.

## JACKIE ROBINSON

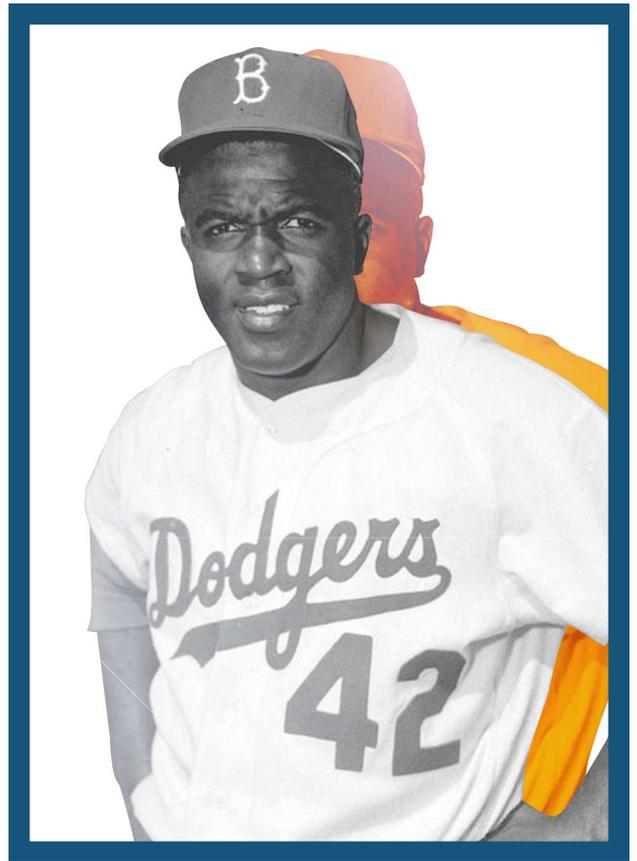
*(1919-1972)*

The first African American player in Major League Baseball. He started playing first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, helping **end racial segregation** in professional sports.

## ROSA PARKS

*(1913-2005)*

A civil rights activist most known for her role in the **Montgomery bus boycott**. She engaged in **civil disobedience** to end segregation and inspired similar movements nationwide.





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