



BLACK HISTORY MONTH QUOTES

Print these quotes to hang on bulletin boards, decorate an activity area, or use them to encourage residents and others to read and discuss the importance and meaning of the quotes.

“Never be limited by other people’s limited imaginations.”



— Dr. Mae Jemison, first African-American female astronaut

“I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.”



— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute.”



—Thurgood Marshall, first African American U.S. Supreme Court member

“Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated.”



— Coretta Scott King

“One day our descendants will think it incredible that we paid so much attention to things like the amount of melanin in our skin or the shape of our eyes or our gender instead of the unique identities of each of us as complex human beings.”



— Franklin Thomas, activist, philanthropist, and former president of the Ford Foundation

“My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together.”



— Desmond Tutu

**“Hold fast to dreams, for if
dreams die, life is a
broken winged bird
that cannot fly.”**



— Langston Hughes

**“Success is to be measured
not so much by the position
that one has reached in life as
by the obstacles which he has
overcome while trying
to succeed.”**



—Booker T. Washington

“We all have dreams. In order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.”



— Jesse Owens, world record setting Olympic athlete

“I have learned over the years that when one’s mind is made up, this diminishes fear.”



— Rosa Parks

“We have learned to fly the air like birds and swim the sea like fish, but we have not learned the simple art of living together as brothers. Our abundance has brought us neither peace of mind nor serenity of spirit.”



— Martin Luther King, Jr.

“He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life.”



— Muhammad Ali

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”



— Nelson Mandela

“The need for change bulldozed a road down the center of my mind.”



— Maya Angelou

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”



— Barack Obama

“Won’t it be wonderful when black history and Native American history and Jewish history and all of U.S. history is taught from one book. Just U.S. history.”



— Maya Angelou

“Every time you state what you want or believe, you’re the first to hear it. It’s a message to both you and others about what you think is possible. Don’t put a ceiling on yourself.”



— Oprah Winfrey

“I don’t want a Black History Month. Black history is American history.”



— Morgan Freeman

“Diversity is not about how we differ. Diversity is about embracing one another’s uniqueness.”

— Ola Joseph, author



“You’re not to be so blind with patriotism that you can’t face reality. Wrong is wrong, no matter who does it or says it.”

— Malcolm X



“I am lucky that whatever fear I have inside me, my desire to win is always stronger.”



— Serena Williams, world tennis champion

“Life is not a spectator sport. If you’re going to spend your whole life in the grandstand just watching what goes on, in my opinion, you’re wasting your life.”



— Jackie Robinson

“We all require and want respect, man or woman, black or white. It’s our basic human right.”

— Aretha Franklin



“You’ve got to learn to leave the table when love’s no longer being served.”

— Nina Simone

