

Florida African American History

1. Who was the Kingsley Plantation off highway A1A above Jacksonville named after?
 - Zephaniah Kingsley who married an African slave
2. Who is Zora Neale Hurston and where did she live?
 - An author, anthropologist and folklorist who lived in Eatonville, FL
3. What did Ponce de León name Florida when he reached the shores of Florida in 1513?
 - Pascua Florida which means feast of flowers in Spanish
4. Who were the Black Seminoles in the 1700s?
 - Runaway slaves and Native Americans who were escaping the Creek Native Americans called Seminoles, joined forces and created a new people.
5. What was Uncle Tom's Cabin about and who wrote it?
 - Showed how Simon Legree, a cruel owner of slaves hurts them without any mercy, written by Harriet Beecher Stowe in 1852.
6. Who was the first African American to win the Medal of Honor in the Battle of Olustee, 1864.
 - Sergeant William H, Carney
7. What were the "Black Codes" passed by Florida Legislature at the end of the Civil War in 1865?
 - The codes tried to keep the former slaves down and in a new kind of slavery. The state could put to death an African American who raped a white woman or who encouraged other in rebellion. It didn't allow African Americans to own guns, knives, or any other weapon. It allowed the police to arrest African Americans and sentence them to forced labor for up to a year.
8. Who was Robert Meacham?
 - He helped establish the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Florida during Reconstruction. His mother was a slave and his father was a white man.
9. Meacham become an AME pastor in what city after the Civil War ended in 1865?
 - Tallahassee
10. Who was the first African American woman principal of a Tampa school?
 - Christina Meacham, the daughter-in-law of Robert Meacham.

11. What was the name of the first African American owned newspaper in Gainesville and who was the owner?
 - The “New Era” owned by Josiah Walls in 1873.
12. Who was the last African American representing Florida until the November 1992 election that sent Corrine Brown, Alcee Hastings, and Carrie Meek to represent the state in Washington?
 - Josiah Walls
13. Who was Gibbs High School, the first African American High school in St. Petersburg, Florida named after?
 - Jonathan C. Gibbs
14. What is the name and location of the oldest independent institution of higher learning in Florida?
 - Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Florida
15. When did Edward Waters College open its doors?
 - 1866
16. What was Edward Waters College initially named and by who?
 - Brown Theological Institute, by Rev. William G. Stewart, the first AME pastor in the state
17. What were the other names of Edward Waters College?
 - East Florida Conference High School and East Florida Scientific and Divinity High School
18. Who is the 28th President of Edward Waters College?
 - Dr. Claudette Williams
19. Who donated \$1 million dollars to Edward Waters College during the 28th presidential inauguration?
 - CSX Corp. chief executive, Michael Ward
20. What is the meaning of Dr. Claudette Williams’ “Double E Principle?”
 - Excellence and Ethics. The Principle encourages the student’s desire and thirst for knowledge, unyielding commitment to service, and strong adherence to high ethical values.
21. Who was the first African American Hollywood star?
 - Lincoln Theodore Monroe Andrew Perry, better known as Stepin Fetchit of Key West Florida, the son of a cigar maker.

22. Stepin Fetchit's first big break was in what 1929 all-black talkie?
 - *Hearts in Dixie*
23. Who was the first African American Actor to win an Academy Award for his role in *Lilies of the Field*?
 - Sidney Poitier from Miami, Florida
24. What is the name of the daily African American newspaper that James Weldon Johnson established in Jacksonville?
 - The Daily American
25. What was the original name Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) in 1887?
 - State Normal College for Colored Students
26. Bethune-Cookman Institute was formed from the merger of what two schools?
 - Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls and Cookman Institute, a school for boys in Jacksonville, Fl.
27. Who was one of the founders of the Afro-American Life Insurance Company, who was born in 1865 in Madison, FL?
 - Abrams Lincoln Lewis
28. What school awarded Abrams Lincoln Lewis an honorary degree in 1936 for his generous contributions?
 - Wilberforce University
29. Who was Augusta Savage?
 - A sculptor born in Green Cove Springs, FL on February 2, 1900
30. Name two of Augusta Savage's sculptures.
 - *The Head of Dr. Du Bois*, *Lift Every Voice and Sing* and *Gamin*
31. Where and when was The Central Life Insurance Company founded?
 - In Tampa, FL in 1922
32. What was Eartha Mary Magdalene White's nick name and why?
 - "Angel of Mercy" because of her unselfish efforts to make life better for African Americans in Jacksonville, FL.

33. Name four of Eartha Mary Magdalene White's contributions?
- The first woman to work for the Afro-American Life Insurance Company
 - President of the Union Benevolent Association, a charitable organization
 - Opened a home for the elderly in 1902
 - Opened the Clara White Mission in 1922
 - Responsible for getting the first playground built in the African American Community
 - A founding member and director of the Florida Anti-Lynching Crusaders Committee
 - Convinced the Florida Legislature to build a correctional institution for young girls, who had been often jailed with adult women
 - Became a member of the Women's Hall of Fame in 1986
34. Who was James Weldon Johnson?
- An administrator, author, composer, poet diplomat, attorney, scholar, and civil rights leader
35. What is the name of the National Negro Anthem and who composed it?
- Lift Every Voice and Sing, written by James Weldon Johnson and set to music by J. Rosamond Johnson
36. What was the Ocoee Riot of 1920?
- On November 2, 1920, in Ocoee, Florida, a small town near Orlando, African Americans went to the polls to vote. Whites were upset and attacked them. The section of town that African Americans lived in was destroyed. Houses and churches were burned.
37. What was the Rosewood Massacre of 1923?
- Rosewood was a small African American community on the Gulf Coast of Florida. On January 1, 1923, a white woman claimed an African American man attacked her. The entire community was tortured for a week. As many as 30 or 40 African American women and children were killed.
38. Who provided a train for the escape of the African American women and children of Rosewood?
- Two white brothers, John and William Bryce.
39. Who was James Robert Edward Lee, Sr.?
- President of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1924.

40. Under President Lee's leadership, what growth did Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College experience?
- He raised money from private organizations and persuaded the state legislature to give more money to the school
 - New buildings were constructed and existing facilities improved
 - Hired better-trained teachers and convinced the state legislature to increase their salaries
 - Reduced class size and improved the library
41. Who was Blanche Armwood?
- She was the first African American woman from Florida to graduate from an accredited law school, Howard Law School in Washington, D.C. in 1938.
 - An educator, administrator, and race leader
42. Who was Ms. Blanche Armwood's father?
- Levin Armwood, Jr., the first African American policeman in Tampa
43. What school did Ray Charles attend at the age of seven?
- The State School for the Deaf and the Blind in St. Augustine
44. What are some of the other cities in Florida Ray Charles lived in?
- Jacksonville, Orlando, and Tampa
45. Why did Vernon McDaniel, the principal of Washington High School in Pensacola file a suit against the Escambia County School Board in 1941?
- African American educators in Escambia, Brevard, Duval, Hillsborough, and Palm Beach counties went to the state courts to fight for better salaries. McDaniel asked that those who have equal work and qualifications earn the same salary.
46. What are "strawberry schools"?
- Since African American students attended school for a few months, school terms were planned to help area farmers.
46. Give an example of a "strawberry school"
- For example, Hillsborough county students went to school during the summer and picked strawberries in the winter and spring.
47. Who was Alonzo S. "Jake" Gaither?
- A football coach at FAMU during the 1950's who won the National Negro Collegiate Football Championship in 1950, 1954, 1957, 1959, & 1961.

48. Who was known as the “World’s Fastest Human” in 1963 and how did he earn this title?
- Robert Lee “Bob” Hayes, at the National AAU Championship Meet, where he established a world record in the 100-yard dash clocked at the amazing speed of 9.1 seconds.
49. Who was Simuel Decatur McGill?
- An African American attorney born in Quincy, Florida in 1878. He won the freedom of four men who spent nine years on death row in the United States Supreme Court in *Chambers v Florida*
50. Who were the “Pompano Boys”?
- Four young African American men who were arrested without a warrant and although never formally charged with having committed a crime, were held for five days and nights. They were not allowed to contact their family or friends or an attorney. The “Pompano Boys” were tortured and forced to confess to a crime they did not commit.
51. What are the names of the “Pompano Boys”?
- Izell Chambers, Charlie Davis, Walter Woodward and Jack Williamson
52. What incident caused the Tallahassee Bus Boycott of 1956?
- Two FAMU students paid their fare to ride a bus. The only seats available were in the “white” section of the bus. The bus driver ordered them to stand in the “colored” section but they refused.
53. What were the demands of the FAMU students, African American ministers and community leaders of the Tallahassee Bus Boycott, 1956?
- Asked the bus company to adopt a first-come, first-served seat policy
 - White bus drivers be polite to African American customers
 - African American bus drivers be hired to drive the buses that went through the African American community
54. What was the slogan for the Tallahassee Boycott, 1956?
- “We would rather walk in dignity than ride in humiliation”
55. When did the Tallahassee Bus Boycott succeed in their demands?
- By May 1958
56. Why did African Americans initiate an economic boycott in St. Augustine, Florida during 1963-1964?
- To bring an end to segregated schools and other facilities

57. Who is Joseph W. Hatchett?
- Hatchett was born in Clearwater, Florida and became the first African American to serve on the Supreme Court in any Southern state
58. Who was Leander Shaw?
- Shaw was the first African American to serve as Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court
59. Who is Harry Kthaw Singletary, Jr.?
- Singletary grew up in Tarpon Springs, Florida and became the first African American to head the Florida Department of Corrections
60. Who was the first African American woman elected to the Florida Legislature?
- Gwen Cherry of West Palm Beach
61. What is the name of the fort established two miles north of St. Augustine for legally-sanctioned free black?
- Garcia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose (pronounced moh-say)
62. What was the name of the former slave, who was the captain of Fort Mose's militia and the settlement's leader?
- Francisco Menendez
63. Where is Jackie Robinson Memorial Ball Park located?
- Daytona Beach, Florida
64. What is the significance of the Jackie Robinson Memorial Ball Park?
- History was made because when he walked onto the field of the ball park as a member of the Brooklyn Dodgers, it was the first time an African American had played major league baseball.
65. Who was the president of the state conference of the NAACP in Florida during the 1940's and what was his slogan?
- Harry T. Moore; "A voteless citizen is a voiceless citizen."
66. What was the name of the minister who helped organize the bus boycott in Tallahassee in 1956?
- Rev. Charles Kenzie Steele
67. What is the effect of the 1964 Civil Rights Acts?
- This law made segregation illegal everywhere in the United States

68. Who and when was the first African American woman from Florida elected to the House of Representative?
- Carrie Meek in 1992
69. Where is American Beach?
- Located in Nassau county in Fernandina Beach
70. Who established American Beach and why?
- Abrams L. Lewis in the 1930's as a place for African Americans to vacation because of segregation
71. Where is Dorothy Thompson African American Museum located and what can be found there?
- Clearwater in Pinellas County. It has over 5,000 books by African American authors, records, tapes, art, newspaper, and artifacts from the First 75 families of African decent who settled in Clearwater
72. What church is the oldest black congregation in the city of Miami?
- Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
73. What is the Lyric Theater and who built it?
- The Lyric Theater is a two-story masonry vaudeville and movie theater built by prominent black entrepreneur Gedar Walker in 1915.
74. Where is the Lyric Theater located?
- Located in Miami's Overtown area, known as Colored Town in the early 20th century.
75. Bethel Baptist Institutional Church in Jacksonville had a mixed congregation until after the Civil War. What caused the black and white membership to split?
- A dispute arose over possession of the church and a legal battle lasted for several years.
76. What were the results of the 1868 court settlement with the members of Bethel Baptist Institutional church in Jacksonville?
- The church property was awarded to the white members and financial compensation and retention of the church name was awarded to the black members.
77. What was the name of the first medical facility built in Jacksonville in 1885?
- Brewster Hospital

78. What is the name of the oldest building on the campus of Edward Water College and when was it built?
- Centennial Hall built in 1916
79. Historic Mt. Zion AME Church is the oldest black congregation in the city of Jacksonville. What is the architecture design?
- Romanesque Revival style
80. Who was Stanton High School in Jacksonville named after?
- Edwin M. Stanton, an abolitionist and secretary of war in the cabinet of Abraham Lincoln.
81. What was the purpose of the St. Michael's Creole Benevolent Association Hall, which was built in 1895-96 in the Pensacola area?
- The meeting hall served as the center for Creole social life for 80 years.
82. What is the symbolic meaning of Fort Gadsden Historic Memorial in Sumatra?
- Fort Gadsden Historic Memorial is symbolic of the cooperation and friendship that existed between African Americans and Seminoles of the Americans and Seminoles of the American Southeast in the early 1800s.
83. What was the other name for Fort Gadsden Historic Memorial?
- Negro Fort and British Fort
84. What is the name of the first and until 1962, only secondary school for black children in Lee, Collier, and Charlotte counties located in Fort Myers?
- Paul Lawrence Dunbar School
85. The Carnegie Library is the oldest building on the campus of FAMU. Who was it named after?
- Andrew Carnegie, a prominent industrialist and philanthropist, donated \$10,000 for the erection of the building.
86. Who was the founder of American Beach and when was he born?
- Abrams Lincoln Lewis in 1865
87. Where is American Beach located?
- American Beach is located in Nassau County...eight miles south of Fernandina Beach off Highway A1A on Amelia Island
88. What is the significance of American Beach in 1935?
- It was a summer haven for segregated Blacks in the South

89. A movie was made in 2007 about MayVynee Betsch, an environmentalist struggles to preserve American Beach. What was the name of the movie?
- The Beach Lady
90. Which one is not a Historically Black College, FAMU, Florida Memorial, Edward Waters College, Bethune Cookman University or the University of South Florida?
- University of South Florida
91. A member of St. Stephen AME in Jacksonville was a pioneer for bringing Girl Scouting to African American girls in the North Florida area. Who was she?
- Jessie Elizabeth Meuse
92. Who was Orange County Florida's first black female mayor?
- Francine Postell
93. What black female is serving a third term on Orange County Florida's School Board?
- Kathleen "Kat" Gordon
94. What was the name of the school that Mary McLeod Bethune started for daughters of African American railroad workers in 1904?
- Daytona Literary and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls
95. What is the definition of the Black Archives Research Center and Museum and where is it located?
- The archives and museum consists of a special collection of material about African Americans in Florida. The center and museum are located on the campus of FAMU in Tallahassee.
96. What was the name of the hospital that was located in Quincy on the corner of Roberts and Crawford Streets that has been turned into a private residence?
- William S. Stevens Hospital. William S. Stevens practiced medicine in Quincy for more than 50 years.
97. Arnett Chapel AME Church (Quincy) was constructed in 1938-39. How did it get its name?
- It was named for Rev. Benjamin W. Arnett, the Presiding Bishop in Florida from 1888-1892.

98. Finish this statement about two outstanding African Americans who attended Edward Waters College.
- A. Philip Randolph was **the founder of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters**
 - Dr. Andrew Robinson was **the Dean of the College of Education at the University of North Florida**
99. T. Thomas Fortune's life showed how far one can go with a good education, strong religion, and a good family life. Explain:
- He was born a slave in Marianna, Florida, but studied hard and became one of the most important newspaper writers in the United States.
100. African Americans in Florida have established a number of newspapers. Name five of them and tell where they are located.
- Broward Times in Coconut Creek
 - Westside Gazette in Ft. Lauderdale
 - Chronicle in Ft. Pierce
 - Daytona Times in Daytona Beach
 - Community Voice in Ft. Myers
 - North Florida Star News in Jacksonville
 - Miami Times in Miami
 - New American Press in Pensacola
 - Weekly Challenger in St. Petersburg
 - Tempo News in Sarasota