

Black History Month October 2023

The theme of this year's Black History Month is Saluting our Sisters. It pays homage to black women who have had contributions ignored, ideas appropriated and their voices silenced. These are the key aspects to be considered in 2023:

“Sheroes Among Us” highlighting contemporary black women who are breaking barriers and shattering stereotypes in their respective fields;

“Pioneering Voices” featuring black women who have used their voices to speak out against injustice, with quotes from their speeches or writings;

“Innovators and Entrepreneurs” showcasing black women who have made significant strides in business and entrepreneurship;

“Breaking Barriers” featuring black women who have broken down barriers in sports, entertainment, politics and other fields;

“Women Who Move Mountains” celebrating black women who have made significant contributions to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields;

“Women Who Lead” showcasing black women who have made significant contributions to leadership and governance.

Black History Month 2023 Form Activities

<p>This year's theme Saluting our Sisters highlights the achievements and contributions of black women in Britain</p>	<p>Monday 2nd October</p> <p>Introduction to this year's theme</p> <p>https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-intros/celebrating-our-sisters-saluting-our-sisters-matriarchs-of-movements-wematter/</p>	<p>Tuesday 3rd October</p> <p>Claudia Jones, founder of Notting Hill Carnival</p> <p>https://www.bristol.ac.uk/history/public-engagement/blackhistory/snaps/hots/audiajones/</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxtGCe135Wg</p>	<p>Wednesday 4th October</p> <p>Get creative this month</p> <p>https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/black-history-month-poetry-competition-2023/</p> <p>Can you get involved in this national competition?</p>	<p>Thursday 5th October</p> <p>Olive Morris, community leader and activist</p> <p>https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/civil-rights-movement/how-olive-morris-fought-for-black-womens-rights-in-britain/</p>	<p>Friday 6th October</p> <p>Dame Linda Dobbs, judge</p> <p>https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/people/dame-linda-dobbs-dbe</p>
	<p>Monday 9th October</p> <p>Dame Sharon White, Chairman John Lewis Partnership</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCKJC9EAogE</p>	<p>Tuesday 10th October</p> <p>Janet Kay, musician</p> <p>https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/music-entertainers/londons-janet-kay-was-the-first-black-female-artist-to-have-a-reggae-number-1-in-the-uk/</p>	<p>Wednesday 11th October</p> <p>Betty Campbell, Wales' first black headteacher</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-58721710</p>	<p>Thursday 12th October</p> <p>Former Kendrick Student, founder of Chineke Orchestra Chi-Chi Nwanoku</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejnYiNMNWrg</p>	<p>Friday 13th October</p> <p>Barbara Walker, artist</p> <p>https://artuk.org/discover/stories/celebrating-black-british-artists-in-public-collections</p>
	<p>Monday 16th October</p> <p>Baroness Doreen Lawrence, campaigner</p> <p>https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/news/stephen-lawrence-day-2022/</p>	<p>Tuesday 17th October</p> <p>Dr Maggie Adurin-Pocock, space scientist</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00r33mq</p>	<p>Wednesday 18th October</p> <p>Bernadine Evaristo, writer</p> <p>https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writer/bernardine-evaristo</p>	<p>Thursday 19th October</p> <p>Diane Abbott, politician</p> <p>https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/diane-abbott-the-first-black-woman-to-be-elected-to-the-house-of-commons/</p>	<p>Friday 20th October</p> <p>Can you find out about...</p> <p>Dr Nike Folayan? Gisela Abbam? Margaret Busby? Nicola Adams? Dina Asher-Smith? Kanya King?</p>

Throughout history, women have faced a myriad of challenges on their path to leadership, but it's undeniable that for black women, the journey has been paved with additional trials born from racial prejudices. Yet, time and again, black women have risen above these challenges, marking their places in the annals of history with grace, resilience, and sheer brilliance. In saluting them, we not only celebrate their achievements but also underscore the importance of representation and inclusive leadership in modern society.

"Our journey towards equality will never be complete until we confront the obstacles that hold us back."

Dame Jocelyn Barrow

Dame Jocelyn Barrow's legacy is interwoven with her relentless pursuit for racial equality in the UK. As a foundational figure behind the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination, her advocacy was pivotal in shaping the Race Relations Act. Beyond legislation, she left an indelible mark on British broadcasting, championing the principles of diversity and inclusivity. Her Damehood stands as a testament to her profound impact, and though she may have passed, her contributions to British society will long be celebrated and remembered.

"Racism is a disease. And we have to work together to find a cure."

Baroness Lawrence

Dorset Lawrence, now known as Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon, is a testament to the power of resilience and advocacy. Following the tragic murder of her son, Stephen Lawrence, she channelled her grief into a relentless campaign for justice. This pursuit not only led to pivotal legal reforms but also established her as a potent voice against racial injustice. Elevated to the House of Lords, she continues her advocacy, ensuring that issues of race and inequality remain at the forefront of national discourse.

"Justice should be colour-blind, but that doesn't mean we should be blind to the importance of diversity on the bench."

Dame Linda Dobbs

A historic figure in the British judiciary, Linda Dobbs set a precedent as the first non-white high court judge in the UK. Her appointment wasn't just a personal milestone but a significant marker for diversity and representation within the legal sector. Through her unwavering commitment to justice and equity, Dobbs showcased the importance of bringing diverse perspectives to the bench, enriching the judicial process.

"I didn't think I would be accepted as Mayor because I was black. But people told me that the year I was mayor, was a beautiful year...a special year."

Valda James

In 1988, Valda Louise James achieved a landmark by becoming Mayor of Islington, having been the council's first black female member in 1986. Migrating to Britain in 1961, she faced the challenges of single motherhood amidst poverty, supporting her family via roles in catering, nursing, and dressmaking. Valda applied her knowledge and experience of being a single parent to her invaluable work on the Social Services committee.

"We need more leaders who will stand up for justice, fairness, and human rights."

Baroness Valerie Amos

From politics to international diplomacy, Baroness Valerie Amos has made her mark with grace and determination. As the first black woman to serve in a British Cabinet and later as the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, she has consistently pushed for global change. Her tenure in the UN saw her addressing some of the world's most pressing humanitarian crises, underscoring her commitment to

"My purpose is to create positive change for my city, my people, my culture."

Joanne Anderson

Joanne Anderson's tenure as Liverpool's mayor, from her historic election to her departure in 2023, has been a beacon of progress and representation. As the city's first black female mayor, Anderson's leadership echoed the importance of diversity in governance, reflecting Liverpool's rich tapestry of cultures and identities. Through her term, Anderson brought forth initiatives and perspectives that aimed at keeping Liverpool a vibrant, inclusive, and forward-looking city, setting an inspiring precedent for future leaders.

2023
SALUTING!
SISTERS

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Black women have emerged as luminaries in business and entrepreneurship, showcasing unparalleled talent. Their endeavours epitomise grit, innovation, and an unyielding drive to challenge established norms. Recognising their achievements not only applauds individual successes but also carves a path for future generations. The trailblazing women highlighted here have broken barriers, ignited change, and crafted a lasting legacy. To these remarkably talented women, we salute you.

Vanessa Kingori MBE

"Success is not about who you are but what you become."

Vanessa Kingori MBE is a paragon of success in the world of publishing and media. Her ascent to the role of Publisher of British Vogue marked a significant milestone as the first black woman to hold the position. Through her strategic acumen and dedication, Vanessa has not only redefined the fashion industry's narrative but has also become an embodiment of how determination and talent can lead to profound influence.



Sharmadean Reid

"Creativity is intelligence having fun."

Sharmadean Reid is a beacon of creative entrepreneurship, having founded WAN Nails and BeautyStack. Her journey epitomises the fusion of innovation and business acumen, breaking barriers and reshaping the beauty industry. Through her ventures, Sharmadean has empowered women while reimagining the beauty landscape, all the while demonstrating the power of combining creativity with strategic thinking.

Kanya King CBE

"Follow your passion, not just the latest trends."

Kanya King CBE has shaped the music industry through her visionary leadership of the MOBO Awards. Her commitment to celebrating diversity and elevating black excellence in music has left an indelible impact. Kanya's journey reflects the power of entrepreneurship to drive change and inspire generations through creative platforms.

Izzy Obeng

"The world needs more people who dare to take the unconventional path."

Izzy Obeng's impact in entrepreneurship and education is profound. As the founder of Foundervine, she empowers underrepresented communities in tech and entrepreneurship. Izzy's journey exemplifies the potential of bridging the gap between education and business, transforming lives and industries along the way.

Jacky Wright

"Inclusion drives innovation"

Jacky Wright, ascending the echelons of Microsoft's leadership, stands as a beacon of unwavering commitment and brilliance. Now at McKinsey, her dedication to fostering innovation while ardently championing diversity serves as a profound inspiration. Her journey is a testament to the impact of resilience, vision, and a deep commitment to inclusivity. Through her exemplary achievements, she illustrates that with purpose and tenacity, transformative change is not just possible—it's imminent.

Karen Blackett OBE

"Champion those who are coming behind you. Use your voice, use your influence."

In British media, Karen Blackett is a beacon of inspiration. As Chairwoman of Group M, she combines business savvy with dedication to diversity. Her pioneering spirit sets a standard, championing British values of integrity and societal impact. Globally lauded, her influence resonates beyond boardrooms,

Sharon White DBE

"True leadership is when you can help others be at their best."

Sharon White DBE has made waves in both public service and business. Her tenure as the CEO of Ofcom and her leadership of John Lewis & Partners underscore her strategic vision and adaptability across diverse sectors. Sharon's journey serves as a testament to the versatility and impact of leadership that transcends boundaries.





