



# R.A.F.M.A.N Club Foundation, Inc.

## Retired Air Force, Marine, Army & Navy

Issue 197

June 8, 2024

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### Thanks

to all of you who continually contribute to the newsletter.

**\*All** Articles and credits are due by the **First Saturday of each month.**

—President Jarvis



**JUNETEENTH**  
**Galveston, Texas,**  
**June 19, 1865**

Rev. 05/30/2020...vwf



### Prayer for Gratitude to Christ

God my Father, I miss my earthly father dearly. Please help me to be grateful to You because I know that You will destroy death in the end, that no more will die, and that we will all be raised to live together forever. I know my earthly father is with You now, and I look forward to the day when I can be with You and see him, resurrected. Thank You for sending Jesus to make the way for us to be with You and to be able to see each other again. Amen.

\*\*\*

### We give our thanks, Creator God, for the fathers in our lives.

Fatherhood does not come with a manual, and reality teaches us that some fathers excel while others fail.

We ask for Your blessings for them all –

and forgiveness where it is needed. This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, and the ways – both big and small – they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach.

So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent – the strength of grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches – and the women of our families.

For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them to do well by their children and by You.

In Your Holy name, O God, we pray.

Amen. - Rev. Chuck Currie

\*[www.Christiantoday.com](http://www.Christiantoday.com)

THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN  
**THE RAFMAN CLUB, INC.**  
WILL CELEBRATE ITS



OCTOBER 27, 2024



RETIRED AIR FORCE, MARINE, ARMY, NAVY  
*"Men and Women Striving Together  
to Make This A Better Community for All Concerned."*



*\*Please mark your calendar and include us in your budget!*



# **RAFMAN CLUB FOUNDATION**

(Retired Air Force, Marine, Army, Navy)

## **NEW MEMBERS RECRUITING DRIVE AND VETERAN INFORMATION SEMINAR**

Date: Saturday, June 29, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Location: L. Claudia Allen Senior Center  
1840 Mable Buter Ave.  
Orlando, Florida 32805

- Come learn about the RAFMAN Club's mission, history, and accomplishments in the community.
- Join one of Orlando's oldest clubs for retired military veterans.
- On October 27, 2024, the club will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Do you have questions about your VA benefits? If so, people will be available to answer your questions and advise what services are available to you.

Refreshments will be served.



### President's Message

Greetings in the month of wonderful June, the month that also plays host to the ever-important national holidays of Father's day and Juneteenth. and if you live in Florida its also the start of hurricane season. Hope all is well and our newsletter find everyone in the best of health.

This year is extra special to the RAFMAN Club as we will reach a major milestone in the history of the Club, Currently, we are preparing to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October of this year. Our club members realize the importance of this anniversary and is working diligently to make this our best anniversary we have had. We are inviting all of you; those who were associated with the RAFMAN in some capacity in the past to keep in touch, support and help us celebrate this milestone in our club history.

May and June were high school and college graduation time in Florida and all over the country. We should all wish these students success in life because they are the future leaders of this country. If you are aware of the state of disarray this country is currently in then you know that we are going to need good people with good leadership skills; people who will put America first.

We have two very important days coming up Father's Day and Juneteenth. If I had anything to say about Father's day it would be that we have too many homes with missing father's and too many of our young ladies are having to raise kids by themselves. Do not forget Juneteenth and why its being celebrated. It a great time to learn more about black history.

Enjoy the summer, enjoy life, be active, and stay engaged. Be aware of what's taking place in this country, it is not all good. You can make a difference.

Arthur Jarvis, President  
RAFMAN Club Inc.

#### All Members Take Note: **Club Meeting**

**Saturday, June 8, 2024**

Host: RAFMAN Melvin Henry

#### **12:30 PM— Meet for Lunch**

8032 International Dr. Orlando

#### **3:00 PM — Club Meeting**

L. Claudia Allen Senior Center

1840 Mable Butler Ave.

Orlando, FL 32805

**Keep Safe!**

# Top leaderboard changes as Negro Leagues join Major League record

May 29th, 2024

Andrew Simon

@AndrewSimonMLB

www.twitter.com



Major League Baseball's single-season and career leaderboards now have a fresh look.

The changes occurred Wednesday, when MLB announced that Negro Leagues stats -- specifically from seven different Negro Leagues from 1920-48 -- have officially been added to its historical record. It was an effort both long overdue and many years in the making, coming thanks to the hard work of many dedicated researchers. In 2020, MLB recognized those seven leagues across that 29-year period as Major Leagues, but actually reaching the point where their numbers could be incorporated was a thorny task. That time has now arrived, though, with the assistance of Seamheads, Retrosheet, the Elias Sports Bureau (MLB's official statistician) and the independent Negro League Statistical Review Committee.

For a full explanation of this process from John Thorn, official MLB historian and chairman of the committee, [www.mlb.com/news/MLB-Negro-League-stats-added-after-Statistical-Review-Committee-announces-findings](http://www.mlb.com/news/MLB-Negro-League-stats-added-after-Statistical-Review-Committee-announces-findings).

Negro Leagues stats enter record

- [Everything to know as Negro Leagues stats join MLB record](#)
- [Gibson's incredible talent transcends even his legend](#)
- [Here are the top changes to statistical leaderboards](#)
- [Stat changes for 8 Hall of Famers who got their start in Negro Leagues](#)
- [10 hits added to Mays' ledger, but HR total stays at 660](#)
- [Baseball's record books are changing, and that's nothing new](#)
- [Findings from Negro Leagues Statistical Review Committee](#)
- [Updated all-time MLB leaderboards: Hitting | Pitching](#)
- [Official MLB press release](#)
- [Complete Negro Leagues coverage](#)



This effort is not over. In fact, researchers estimate that the 1920-48 Negro Leagues records are about 75% complete, and further updates could come in the future, if more verifiable information comes to light via box scores. It's also important to note that there is nothing new about historical records shifting over time. In fact, baseball history has always been a living, breathing thing.

Article Submitted by  
RAFMAN Donald Durant

## Ed Dwight was in line to be the first Black astronaut. History had other ideas

JULY 5, 2025:01 AM ET

By Mycah Hazel

In the 1960s, the U.S. was embroiled in a tense space race with the Soviet Union — and was losing. By the start of the decade, the Soviets had already sent the first satellite and the first man into space. So, on May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy made a pledge to the nation: The U.S. would land a man on the moon before the decade ended.

This challenge excited most Americans, but many Black people resented money being poured into the space race that could have gone to aid the cause of civil rights and help impoverished Black communities. At the same time, the Soviets were pointing to the racial inequality in the U.S. to show the superiority of the Communist system.

In an attempt to counter the Soviets and to increase support for the space race among Black Americans, some began urging the administration to send a Black person to space. Edward R. Morrow, then Director of the U.S. Information Agency wrote a memo to the White House saying, "Why don't we put the first non-white man in space?"

Edward J. Dwight, Jr. was a 27-year-old Air Force Captain at the time. Originally from Kansas City, he loved flying from a young age — so much so that he'd go on walks to the local airport with his mother every day.

"I was the only Black officer pilot just about every base I was stationed," Dwight recalled. And although being only 5 foot four, "I got awed after award and I was just happy as could be. I couldn't have had a better life."

On November 4, 1961, he got a letter inviting him to join the astronaut training program. Unsure of what to do, he relied on his mother for advice.

"She was telling me some things about how the race could be uplifted by example and inspiration," Dwight recalled. "My mother was never wrong, so I just went for it."



Air Force Captain Edward J. Dwight, Jr. gets a hero's welcome from youngsters at Langdon Elementary School in Washington, D.C. in 1964.

Charles Del Vecchio/Washington Post via Getty Images

Dwight accepted the invitation, and was sent to the Aerospace Research Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base in California to begin training. The most successful trainees would be chosen to become astronauts.



Ed Dwight in January 1962. AP

"I had never faced competition like that," Dwight said of the training. Students would be put through grueling tests so instructors could study their physical and mental limits. "They'd blow your eardrums out to see how long it would take you to recover," Dwight recalled. "Those are the kinds of fascinating things they did to your body to see how far they could stretch it before it kind of broke."

While he was in training, Dwight received an onslaught of attention from Black magazines. "The first classes of astronauts were white male astronauts," said Laurens Grant, director of the documentary Black in Space: Breaking the Color Barrier. "The fact that possibly a Black man could be involved in this was so exciting and galvanizing, particularly for the Black community."

Dwight's astronaut candidacy became cover news on Black magazines such as Jet, Ebony and Sepia. Dwight also began having to make press appearances. "I would leave the base and make speeches to little kids that were around six years old,"

Dwight recalled. "And I thought, 'This is really, really cool!'"

Back at Edwards, however, Dwight says, "The instructors, the classmates, everybody at Edwards Air Force Base, were livid!" He recalls the thinking at the time was, "We're working our butts off so many days a week and this clown is going and giving speeches!" Chuck Yeager was commander of the program at Edwards. Yeager was already an icon, esteemed for breaking the sound barrier in 1947. As commander, his word had influence on who would be selected as an astronaut. According to Dwight, Yeager was the least fond of his popularity in the press.

"Chuck Yeager hated the whole idea of me making a speech to anybody," Dwight recalled. He said that Yeager would bring him in for tense meetings, trying to discourage him from finishing the training program.

Dwight also believes that Yeager was not fond of him from the beginning of his time in the training program. "I didn't learn about this 'til later," Dwight recalled. "Yeager called the students in, and these are my fellow students, and then said, 'You have to isolate him. Don't drink with him. Don't invite him to your parties.' The whole idea was to show these white students that we got to discourage him."

The person who told Dwight about Yeager's attempts to isolate him from the rest of his class has died. Yeager died in 2020, but wrote about Dwight in his autobiography. Addressing their relationship, Yeager wrote: "Ed Dwight was an average pilot with an average academic background. He wasn't a bad pilot, but he wasn't exceptionally talented either. Flying with a good bunch in a squadron, he would probably get by. But he just couldn't compete in the space course against the best of the crop of experienced military test pilots."

No astronauts or fellow trainees have verified Dwight's account of Yeager's treatment, although at least one friend, Woodson Fountain, a Black engineer who was at the base, remembers Dwight telling him about Yeager's treatment at the time.

Whether it was racism or Yeager's disdain of having to train someone under pressure from the Kennedy Administration, Grant said, "It just seemed like a completely complicated and fraught relationship between Chuck Yeager and Captain Ed Dwight."

The 14 selected astronauts, titled Astronaut Group 3, were announced on October 18, 1963. Ed Dwight was not on the list. Two of the selected, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins were among the crew of Apollo 11 in 1969, the first moon landing.

"NASA doesn't really have to explain who they select to become astronauts," Grant said. "So his whole candidacy is shrouded in some mystery."

Three years after his rejection, Dwight resigned from the Air Force. "I just erased that board," Dwight said. "I drove off that base and I pointed my car north to Denver and I couldn't look back."

Though Dwight never went to space, his candidacy has earned him increased respect in the space world. In 2020, the Air Force named Dwight an honorary member of the U.S. Space Force, and in 2021, NASA named an asteroid after him.

"I'm all over it," Dwight responded when asked if he still keeps up with all things space-related. As for his career, however, Dwight has since pivoted to the arts. He specializes in sculpting little-known Black historical figures — sort of like himself.

One of his sculptures, "Pioneer Woman," was sent to space on the vessel Orion as part of a test mission — sending artistic works into space as proof of the creativity that will come to space, once all humans are allowed to go.

This story was produced by Mycah Hazel of Radio Diaries. It was edited by Joe Richman, Deborah George, and Ben Shapiro. You can find a longer version of this story, and other stories like it, on the Radio Diaries Podcast.



Ed Dwight became a sculptor later in life.  
Cyrus McCrimmon/Denver Post via Getty Images

## Pioneering Black female pilot for Air Force, United Airlines lands final flight

Pioneering aviator Captain **Theresa M. Claiborne** has retired after 43 years of flying, first as a second lieutenant and the first Black female pilot in the U.S. Air Force, and then as a captain at United Airlines.

Claiborne was hired by United in January 1990 after seven years of active duty with the Air Force and 13 years in the Air Force Reserves. Her final landing for United Thursday at Newark, New Jersey's Newark Liberty International Airport marked her retirement after 34 years with the air carrier.

Claiborne has logged more than 23,000 career flight hours.



In this screen grab from a video, United Airlines pilot Theresa Claiborne is shown at her retirement party. © WABC

"I plan to spend my days inspiring young people to follow their dreams by turning them into goals, shattering glass ceilings, and defying all odds," Claiborne wrote, in part, in an Instagram post marking the occasion. "I'll be calling in my friends from all around the world to share their experiences to empower the next generation of trailblazers who are destined for greatness."

"It's been a pleasure to be your Captain and an absolute honor to fly the friendly skies," her post concluded

MORE: Airlines look to attract more diverse pilots amid shortage

Claiborne was one of 25 Black female pilots at United Airlines at the time of her retirement, according to her website. United's 2023

U.S. demographic data report shows that 15.1% of their frontline employees – which encompasses pilots, flight attendance, gate agents, baggage handlers and caterers – are Black or African American.

"Congratulations to Captain Claiborne on a remarkable career. Her legacy and impact are an inspiration to so many current and future aviators. United is a better airline thanks to her decades of service and leadership and we wish her nothing but the best in retirement," United CEO Scott Kirby said.

According to the most recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 93.7% of professional pilots in the U.S. are white and 92.5% are male. In 2022, Claiborne told ABC News that flight costs and generational and economic disadvantages are major factors in the lack of pilots of color. The average total cost for all training and licensing required by the FAA to become a commercial pilot is nearly \$100,000.

"That's a lot of money. And financial institutions are not jumping at the bit to loan that kind of money to an aviation student," Claiborne said. "We don't have these long generations of pilots in the family."

There are fewer than 200 Black women pilots in the U.S., according to the Sisters of the Skies Foundation, a nonprofit that Claiborne co-founded in 2016 that's dedicated to increasing that number through scholarships and mentorships.

**MORE:** Diversifying the flight deck: Less than 1% of US pilots are Black women

"I guess maybe I did make an impact, and that's important," Claiborne told New York's WABC TV. "When you put your heart and soul into something and it turns out that people appreciated it and people listened and got something out of it, it makes it all the better."

(Editor's note: A previous version of this story erroneously stated that Capt. Claiborne was the first Black female pilot for United Airlines.) ABC News' Ayesha Ali contributed to this report. **Visit ABC News**

# West Point graduates being asked to tackle threats 'like none before'

May 26, 2024 at 4:00 a.m.

by [The Associated Press](#)

A graduating cadet, right, presents a class gift to President Joe Biden at the U.S. Military Academy commencement ceremony, Saturday, May 25, 2024, in West Point, N.Y. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

WEST POINT, N.Y. (AP) -- President Joe Biden on Saturday told graduates of the U.S. Military Academy that their class is being called upon to tackle threats across the globe and preserve the country's ideals at home "like none before."



Biden said the phrase, the class motto, was apt for the sorts of challenges they will take as newly minted Army second lieutenants, from supporting Ukraine's defense against Russia's invasion to facilitating humanitarian assistance into Gaza and defending Israel from attacks by Iran.

"There's never been a time in history when we've asked our military to do so many different things in some many different places around the world, all at the same time," Biden said.

Speaking at sun-swept West Point, Biden reaffirmed that he will not allow American service members on the battlefield in Ukraine, but said their work to equip and train Ukrainian forces has "stepped up and stopped" Russian President Vladimir Putin's "brazen vision" for Europe. Biden praised U.S. forces for helping Israel repel a massive drone and ballistic missile attack last month from Iran and working to deescalate the conflict.

Speaking before the graduating cadets took their commissioning oaths, Biden reminded them that they were swearing fidelity not to a person or political party, but to the Constitution. As other speakers alluded to partisan rancor and political division across the nation, Biden said, "Hold fast to your values that you learned here at West Point."

"Ideas need defenders to make them real," Biden said. "That's what you are all about. You must keep us free at this time like none before."

Biden highlighted the rates of sexual assault and harassment in the military declined for the first-time last year in a decade, calling it "long past time," but said even more work was necessary.

The president stood for more than an hour returning a salute from and shaking the hands of each graduate. Biden, as is customary, also absolved cadets of minor offenses committed during their time at the academy, adding with a laugh, "the superintendent can clarify what minor means."

Graduating cadets stand during the playing of the national anthem at the U.S. Military Academy commencement ceremony, Saturday, May 25, 2024, in West Point, N.Y. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)



Certainly! **The West Point Class of 2024** was a remarkable group. Here are some key details about their graduation:

- The class consisted of **1,036 cadets** who received diplomas.
- Among them were **150 members** who attended the U.S. Military Preparatory school, **64 class members** with prior service, and nine with combat experience.
- Additionally, **96 members** of the class were children of West Point graduates, and 14 of those had both parents who were grads.
- There were **12 international cadets** in the class.
- Nearly **76 percent** of the class branched into **Combat Arms**.
- **182 cadets** committed to additional service obligations.
- All **50 states** were represented during graduation.
- Skyler Chauff held both the highest cumulative Cadet Performance Score (overall) and the highest cumulative Quality Point Average.
- Jacob Woodruff earned the highest cumulative Military Program Score, and Dawson Stec had the highest cumulative Physical Program Score<sup>1</sup>.

Furthermore, West Point is increasingly welcoming diverse students. In the class of 2024, **37 percent** identified as nonwhite, compared to about 25 percent a decade ago<sup>2</sup>. It's encouraging to see progress toward greater diversity and representation within the military academies.

## VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS WAS THE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER AT THE US AIR FORCE ACADEMY GRADUATION 2024



**Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 9:30am**

Location: U.S. Air Force Academy

Graduation Week is comprised of many activities and events across the U.S. Air Force Academy. Cadets and their guests take part in receptions, award ceremonies, baccalaureate services, concerts, parades, air demonstrations, and commissioning ceremonies.

The week culminates at Falcon Stadium with the Graduation Ceremony. Speakers rotate between the President of the United States, Vice President, Secretary of Defense, and Secretary of the Air Force. At the close of the ceremony, cadets are dismissed and ceremoniously toss their caps into the air. Cheers and celebration are quickly silenced by the roar of the legendary Thunderbirds flying overhead to honor the graduating class.

The Class of 2024 included 70% men and 30% women, a gender breakdown similar to that of recent years, USAFA data shows. Still, the graduating class is less racially diverse than others in recent years, at a time when the Air Force is trying to overcome gender and racial disparities within its ranks.

In 2022 and 2023, 31% of USAFA graduates were minorities; that number fell to 25% in 2024. This year's graduates include 136 Asian cadets, 127 Hispanic cadets, 70 cadets who identify with at least two races, 65 Black cadets, 23 Pacific Islanders and seven Native Americans.

## Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin

offered an encouraging, humorous commencement address.



[\\*WATCH LIVE: Defense Secretary Austin gives Naval Academy commencement address \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

“As you face great challenges ... you are the embodiment of strength,” Del Toro said.

“I am absolutely delighted to join you on this proud day. It is great to be here, even though the first guy that I met said, ‘Beat Army,’” quipped Austin, a retired Army four-star general.

He acknowledged the challenges the graduating midshipmen faced.

“Class of 2024 didn’t have an easy road to get to this day,” Austin said.

Liberty was rare during the class of 2024’s plebe year because of the pandemic, Austin said.

Midshipmen used unconventional tactics to protest this lack of freedom, such as throwing printers out of the windows. One intrepid member of this class even climbed onto the Naval Academy Chapel Dome to put a printer on top, Austin said.

“It’s pretty impressive considering how long it took class of 2024 to climb Herndon,” Austin joked.

Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro said the midshipmen will be problem-solvers, diplomats and, most important, leaders.

The top three graduates are all commissioning as Navy ensigns. They are Robert Edward Klanac of Strongsville, Ohio, an operations research with honors major; Ian Thomas Dinmore of Odenton, a chemistry major; and Samuel Saem Shin of Northbrook, Illinois, an operations research with honors and mathematics with honors major.

Austin remembered two midshipmen who died, Luke Bird and Mason Halsey. Honorary members of the class include the families of Bird and Halsey and Command Master Chief Karim Cole.

With the class of 2024, some 91,000 midshipmen have graduated from the academy since 1845, including President Jimmy Carter. More than 6,700 women have graduated since 1980.

Austin paused to acknowledge Carter, who at 99 is in hospice care at his home in Plains, Georgia. A building at the academy that was named for a leader in the Confederate navy was renamed for Carter last year.

## Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin

"As one of your predecessors once said, 'We must adjust to changing times and still hold on to unchanging principles.' That was President Jimmy Carter, class of 1947," Austin said to applause. "I am proud that one of this school's most distinguished alumni, a man of deep faith and a champion of human rights, is now honored on the yard with the naming of Carter Hall."

According to an academy news release, midshipmen study subjects including small arms drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering, naval weapons and leadership. They receive a bachelor of science upon graduating and receive commissions as ensigns in the Navy or second lieutenants in the Marine Corps and serve at least five years as officers.

"The United States has the most capable Navy and Marine Corps in the world and, make no mistake, we're going to keep it that way," Austin said. "And you are going to keep it that way."

The iconic hat toss originated in 1912 and has become the traditional ending to commissioning ceremonies.

Before 1912, Naval Academy graduates had to serve two years in the fleet as naval cadets or midshipmen before being commissioned as officers in the Navy or Marine Corps. They needed to keep their midshipman hats for their sea tour, so they were not allowed to toss them. In a spontaneous move during graduation in 1912, the new officers tossed their old hats into the air. This gesture became the symbolic visual of what we see today.

Graduates walk to their seats before the ceremony begins. (Kaitlin Newman/The Baltimore Banner Newman/The Baltimore Banner) Midshipmen cheer as they watch their friends walk down the stairs to their seats before the ceremony begins. (Kaitlin Newman/The Baltimore Banner. The Blue Angels fly over the graduates during commencement. (Kaitlin Newman/The Baltimore Banner).

## National Day of Remembrance of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

### Veterans Return to Normandy to Celebrate

Thursday, June 6th, 2024 marks the [80th anniversary of D-Day](#) landings that took place along the Normandy coast during WWII. Ultimately, D-Day led to the liberation of Europe. This celebration comes upon us as the remaining survivor pool continues to dwindle, highlighting the importance of carrying on their stories, and the ideals that they upheld. Today, we're going back in time and remembering this important event in history on the eve of the 80th D-Day anniversary.

Read more: [Surviving veterans of D-Day invasion return to Normandy for 80th anniversary | American Military News](#)

### Remembering D-Day: A closer look at one of WWII's most chaotic and pivotal battles

By Kelly Hayes

Updated June 6, 2022 6:20am CDT

<https://www.fox9.com/tag/Military> / FOX TV Digital Team

### What is D-Day? An explainer on the massive WWII invasion of Normandy

**OMAHA BEACH, Normandy - On June 6, 1944**, the largest air, land and sea invasion in military history took place on the Normandy coast of France. The Battle of Normandy, often referred to as D-Day and codenamed "Operation Overlord," has been described by historians as a major turning point for the Allied forces in World War II.

The 150,000 Allied troops, made up of American, British and Canadian forces, landed on the beaches of Nazi-occupied France and were then able to push inland to Western Europe.

The bravery displayed by these troops has been depicted in many books and films, including "Saving Private Ryan" and the book-turned-HBO miniseries "Band of Brothers."

### The planning of D-Day!

Go to your source of History and Research this Historic Day in World War II



## Six African Americans Among the 32 Rhodes Scholars From the United States

*November 21, 2023*

Recently, the Rhodes Trust announced the 32 American winners of Rhodes Scholarships for graduate study at Oxford University in England. Rhodes Scholarships provide all expenses for two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England and may allow funding in some instances for four years. Being named a Rhodes Scholar is considered among the highest honors that can be won by a U.S. college student.

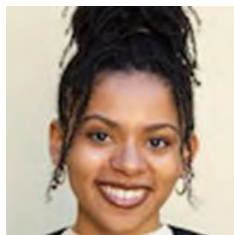
The scholarships were created in 1902 by the will of Cecil Rhodes, an industrialist who made a vast fortune in colonial Africa. According to the will of Rhodes, applicants must have “high academic achievement, integrity of character, a spirit of unselfishness, respect for others, potential for leadership, and physical vigor.” Applicants in the United States may apply either through the state where they are a legal resident or where they have attended college for at least two years.

In 1907, Alain LeRoy Locke, later a major philosopher and literary figure of the Harlem Renaissance, was selected as a Rhodes Scholar to study at Oxford University. It is generally believed that at the time of the award, the Rhodes committee did not know that Locke was Black until after he had been chosen. It would be more than 50 years later, in 1963, that another African American would be named a Rhodes Scholar. Other African Americans who have won Rhodes Scholarships include Randall Kennedy of Harvard Law School, Kurt Schmoke, former mayor of Baltimore, and Franklin D. Raines, former director of the Office of Management and Budget and former CEO of Fannie Mae. In 1978 Karen Stevenson of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was the first African-American woman selected as a Rhodes Scholar.

This year more than 2,500 students began the application process; 862 were endorsed by 249 different colleges and universities. Committees of Selection in each of 16 U.S. districts interviewed the strongest applicants. All districts interviewed at least 14 finalists.

Including this year's cohort, 3,642 Americans have won Rhodes Scholarships, representing 327 colleges and universities.

Typically the Rhodes Trust does not reveal the race or ethnicity of scholarship winners. Of this year's 32 Rhodes Scholars from the United States, it appears that six are African Americans.



**Tatyana N. Brown**, from San Antonio, Texas, graduated from New York University Abu Dhabi in 2022 with a bachelor's degree in social research and public policy. She is now a Henry Luce Scholar in Taiwan working at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum. At Oxford, she will pursue a master's degree in comparative social policy and a master's degree in visual, material, and museum anthropology.



**Donovan D. Dixon**, of Philadelphia graduated from New York University in 2023 with a bachelor's degree in public policy. He served as an intern for the Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. As a Rhodes Scholar, he will pursue a master's degree in comparative social policy.



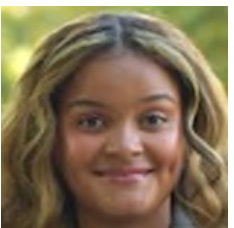
**Victoria Harwell**, from Denver, Colorado, is a senior at Washington University in St. Louis, majoring in African and African American studies and environmental analysis. At Oxford, Harwell will pursue a master's degree in African studies and a master's degree in nature, society, and environmental governance.



**Madison M. Jennings** is a senior at Agnes Scott College in Georgia, where she is majoring in political science. She is president of the pre-law society and an intern at the Carter Center, where she has worked on issues ranging from supporting civil society organizations in Liberia to identifying policing alternatives in Georgia. In England, she will study for a master's degree in public policy and a master's degree in public policy research.



**Isabella G. Sullivan**, of San Antonio, Texas, is a senior at the United States Military Academy where she majors in international history. She serves as the deputy brigade commander of the Corps of Cadets and is a two-time captain of the women's volleyball team at West Point. Sullivan will study for a master's degree in evidence-based social intervention and policy evaluation at Oxford.



**Jacqueline N. Testamark**, from Levittown, New York, is a senior at Yale University majoring in classical civilizations and history. Much of her academic work has centered on examining minority histories in classical art and literature. At Oxford, Testamark will pursue a master's degree in the history of art and visual culture.



Orange County Public Schools / Departments / Public Relations / Super Scholars

[www.ocps.net/departments/public\\_relations/super\\_scholars](http://www.ocps.net/departments/public_relations/super_scholars)

The show hosted by Nancy Alvarez from WESH 2 News premiered, Tuesday, May 7, 7:00 p.m.



Each year, OCPS celebrates its "Super Scholars," those graduating seniors who were accepted into the nation's top 20 colleges and universities (as ranked by *U.S. News and World Report*) and U.S. service academies.

## **RECOGNITION SHOW : 2024 ORANGE COUNTY SUPER SCHOLARS**

### **Top 20 National Universities**

Princeton University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, Stanford University, Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, California Institute of Technology, Duke University, Brown University, Johns Hopkins University, Northwestern University, Columbia University, Cornell University, University of Chicago, University of California, Berkeley, University of California, Los Angeles, Rice University, Dartmouth College, Vanderbilt University, University of Notre Dame.

### **Top 20 Liberal Arts Colleges**

Williams College, Amherst College, U.S. Naval Academy, Pomona College, Swarthmore College, Wellesley College, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Bowdoin College, Carleton College, Barnard College, Claremont McKenna College, Grinnell College, Middlebury College, Wesleyan University, Davidson College, Hamilton College, Harvey Mudd College, Smith College, Vassar College.

### **U.S. Service Academies**

U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, U. S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy

**Amherst College**

- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River

**Barnard College**

- Brooke Chepenik, Winter Park
- Gabi Fabozzi, Boone
- Sophia Malkani Dias, Horizon

**Brown University**

- Cai Bates, Edgewater
- Alejandro Bello, Timber Creek
- Kaitlyn Budhai, Evans
- Coral Gimbernard, Dr. Phillips
- Meghana Konda, Lake Buena Vista

**Carleton College**

- Miranda Asad, Lake Nona
- Evensia Chery, Ocoee
- Sophia Hilmer, Winter Park
- Ethan Korkes, Apopka
- Mikayla Matthews, Ocoee
- Elijah Nuebel, Apopka
- Kishen Sukhu, Ocoee

**Claremont McKenna College**

- Jacob Davis, Apopka
- Sophia Malkani Dias, Horizon

**Columbia University**

- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Sharanya Chatterjee, Freedom
- Brooke Chepenik, Winter Park
- Ashlynnne Graham, West Orange

**Cornell University**

- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Delaney Brinton, Winter Park
- Kamal Harris, Olympia
- Amira Razack, Lake Nona

**Dartmouth College**

- Claire Dvorak, Olympia
- Eduardo Gutierrez, Cypress Creek
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River

**Davidson College**

- Camille Espinos, Dr. Phillips
- Courtney Johnson, Jones
- Jack Leary, Winter Park
- Brayden Pryor, Dr. Phillips

**Duke University**

- Cai Bates, Edgewater
- Sam Bernbaum, Winter Park
- Michelle Giffoni-Albor, Lake Nona
- Andre Graves, University
- Victoria Justiniano, Colonial
- Suhaib Mansour, East River
- Anamarie Martinez, Boone
- Bejthara Mauvais, Windermere
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Scarlett Seyler, Boone

**Grinnell College**

- Evensia Chery, Ocoee
- Reece Storey, Winter Park

**Hamilton College**

- Elliana Kirby, Edgewater
- Brayden Pryor, Dr. Phillips
- Ritchell Registre, Apopka

**Harvard University**

- Sam Bernbaum, Winter Park
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Kaden Shields-Dutton, Edgewater
- Camren Ware, Olympia

**Johns Hopkins University**

- Mirah Blanchard, Winter Park
- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Nghia Dang, Oak Ridge
- Ethan Korkes, Apopka
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Anna Pantano, Lake Nona
- Sebastian Santa, Freedom
- Nicholas Shikano, Dr. Phillips
- Owen Zhu, Winter Park

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

- Jesus Caraballo Anaya, Freedom
- Sharanya Chatterjee, Freedom
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Sebastian Santa, Freedom

**Middlebury College**

- Evensia Chery, Ocoee
- Jacob Davis, Apopka
- Brian Duong, Lake Buena Vista
- Milani Ellis, Dr. Phillips
- Lyse Garilus, Dr. Phillips
- Alexander Green-White, Lake Buena Vista
- Savannah Kantor, Ocoee
- Issac Knight, Apopka
- Ethan Korkes, Apopka
- Diego Mosqueda-Sandoval, Ocoee
- Anthony Lim, Ocoee
- Huy Nguyen, Ocoee
- Richard Nguyen, Ocoee
- Absalina Plaisir, Ocoee
- Brayden Pryor, Dr. Phillips
- Matthew Scalzo Costa, Horizon
- Nathan Tran, Ocoee

**Northwestern University**

- Oluwatunmise Afolabi, West Orange
- Cai Bates, Edgewater
- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Evensia Chery, Ocoee
- Alyssa Connelly, University
- Sanaa Douglas, Evans
- Elijah Nuebel, Apopka
- Samuel Nuebel, Apopka
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Dylan Rodriguez, East River
- Tonisha Saint Fleur, Olympia

**Pomona College**

- Ashlynnne Graham, West Orange



**2024 OCPS**  
**Super**  
**SCHOLARS**

**Princeton University**

- Andre Graves, University
- Miguel Palacios, Freedom
- Ashtyn Sims, Windermere
- Elan Zhang, Dr. Phillips

**Rice University**

- Zachary Cohen-Neamie, Winter Park
- Belinda Rodriguez-Vasquez, Dr. Phillips

**Smith College**

- Lisa Nguyen, Ocoee

**Stanford University**

- Ashley Ding, Lake Nona
- Benjamin Graham, Boone
- Jayden Moore, Lake Nona
- Alexis Sapp, Evans

**Swarthmore College**

- Keyla Imbert Suarez, Oak Ridge
- Courtney Johnson, Jones
- Diego Mosqueda-Sandoval, Ocoee

**U.S. Air Force Academy**

- Noah Daniels, Winter Park
- Guy Fox, Lake Nona
- Elias Lopez, West Orange
- Laila Reyes Rivera, Colonial
- Rachael Yim, Dr. Phillips

**U.S. Coast Guard Academy**

- Jordan Blais, Winter Park

**U.S. Military Academy at West Point**

- Joshua Lee, Timber Creek
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Aiden Pezzutti, Timber Creek

**U.S. Naval Academy**

- Kayana Adlam, Boone
- Madden Bourst, Olympia
- Darren Nguyen, West Orange
- Sandy Scott, Olympia

- Taylor Woerner, Colonial

**University of California - Berkeley**

- Sara Casey, Windermere
- Amelie Halon, Winter Park
- Arjun Nanduri, Lake Nona

**University of California - Los Angeles**

- Stephanie Altemburger, Timber Creek
- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Cindy Doan, University
- Amelie Halon, Winter Park
- Maddox Hunziker, Winter Park
- Suhaib Mansour, East River
- Arina Nemati, University
- Emerson Self, Edgewater
- Breonne Trotman, Cypress Creek
- Ethan Wiseman, Winter Park

**University of Chicago**

- Tristan Kidwell, Windermere

**University of Notre Dame**

- Samantha Fernandez, East River
- Mariana Florez Aramburo, Cypress Creek
- Diego Mosqueda-Sandoval, Ocoee
- Samuel Nuebel, Apopka
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Kamila Rodriguez, Cypress Creek
- Stella Xu, Winter Park

**University of Pennsylvania**

- Sam Bernbaum, Winter Park
- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Evensia Chery, Ocoee
- Samuel De La Espriella, Lake Nona
- Ashlynnne Graham, West Orange
- Valeria Mercado, Cypress Creek
- Matthew Nguyen, Apopka
- Mariana Nijensohn, Windermere
- Bryce Ownby, Olympia
- Brayden Pryor, Dr. Phillips

**Vanderbilt University**

- Sam Bernbaum, Winter Park
- Alanii Cason, Ocoee
- Brooke Chepenik, Winter Park
- Keyla Imbert Suarez, Oak Ridge
- Haris Kajevic, East River
- Arjun Nanduri, Lake Nona
- Jaycie Nguyen, Colonial

**Vassar College**

- Karina Ferreira, Timber Creek
- Sophia Hilmer, Winter Park
- Elijah Nuebel, Apopka
- Brayden Pryor, Dr. Phillips
- Kishen Sukhu, Ocoee
- Helen Thornberry, Winter Park

**Wellesley College**

- Sophia Malkani Dias, Horizon
- Lisa Nguyen, Ocoee

**Wesleyan University**

- Athanel Brooks, Evans
- Elijah Nuebel, Apopka
- Brayden Pryor, Dr. Phillips

**Williams College**

- Kishen Sukhu, Ocoee

**Yale University**

- Olivia Barton, University
- Mateo Bodon, Freedom
- Reilly Harris, Winter Park
- Diego Mosqueda-Sandoval, Ocoee
- Matthew Nguyen, Apopka
- Carlos Nunez-Sosa, East River
- Thony Ramos, Apopka



Orange County  
Public Schools

445 W. Amelia St., Orlando

FL 32801 – 407.317.3200



## *The Tiger's Roar!*



Mr. Norwood  
Principal

### **Jones High School Community Brief Saturday, June 1, 2024**

Dear Mr. Jarvis,

#### ***Congratulations Class of 2024!***

Congratulations to our senior class as they have completed the end of their K-12 educational journey this past week at what was a fabulous graduation ceremony (highlights below)! Although this may seem like the end, it is truly just the beginning for our Class of 2024 Tigers. Our new graduates have acquired a first rate high school education during their time at JHS and they are now prepared to move on to even bigger challenges. Once again, we wish all of our graduates the best of luck and don't forget, "Once a Tiger, Always a Tiger!"

May is traditionally one of the busiest months of the entire school year beginning with spring exams and a host of year-end special events running all month long. Through this period, our amazing teachers kept introducing new content while reviewing important material ahead of testing. Thank you to all of our educators and staff for their commitment and effort on behalf of our students. You are all heroes as every school day you have dedicated yourselves to the noble cause of serving, mentoring, and educating students; the future leaders of our great nation.

In this final *Tiger's Roar!* issue, I would also like to thank all of our Jones families, community members, and partners for the major piece you played in this successful 2023-2024 school year. Jones High School is built upon relationships, continuous improvement, and doing what's best for our Tigers and without this kind of support, it is difficult to provide the quality education our kids deserve.

#### **Congratulations Seniors!**

Class of 2024 Report Card:

- 91% graduation rate
- 1 Gates Scholar
- 1 Super Scholar—Courtney Johnson
- 6 Bright Futures Scholars
- 23 military commitments
- 52 full-ride academic or athletic scholarships
- 97 students successfully completed their industry certifications
- 125 National Honor Society students (3.50 GPA and a minimum of 30 community service hours)
- 683 college acceptances
- \$35,048,614 in scholarships 88% FAFSA completion rate (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)



Orange County  
Public Schools

Tigers support Superintendent Dr. Vazquez in her final community message

# US teens say they have new proof for 2,000-year-old mathematical theorem

## New Orleans students Calcea Johnson and Ne’Kiya Jackson recently presented their findings on the Pythagorean theorem

**Ramon Antonio Vargas** in New Orleans

Fri 24 Mar 2023 15.36 EDT

Two **New Orleans** high school seniors who say they have proven Pythagoras’s theorem by using trigonometry – which academics for two millennia have thought to be impossible – are being encouraged by a prominent US mathematical research organization to submit their work to a peer-reviewed journal.

Calcea Johnson and Ne’Kiya Jackson, who are students of St Mary’s Academy, recently gave a presentation of their findings at the American Mathematical Society south-eastern chapter’s semi-annual meeting in Georgia.

They were reportedly the only two high schoolers to give presentations at the meeting attended by math researchers from institutions including the universities of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana State, Ohio State, Oklahoma and Texas Tech. And they spoke about how they had discovered a new proof for the Pythagorean theorem.



How to read the news like a mathematician – from the budget and HS2 to Covid and sport

The 2,000-year-old theorem established that the sum of the squares of a right triangle’s two shorter sides equals the square of the hypotenuse – the third, longest side opposite the shape’s right angle. Legions of schoolchildren have learned the notation summarizing the theorem in their geometry classes:  $a^2+b^2=c^2$ .



Ne’Kiya Jackson, left, and Calcea Johnson recently presented their findings at the American Mathematical Society’s south-eastern chapter’s semi-annual meeting. Photograph: WWL-TV

As mentioned in the abstract of Johnson and Jackson’s 18 March mathematical society presentation, trigonometry – the study of triangles – depends on the theorem. And since that particular field of study was discovered, mathematicians have maintained that any alleged proof of the Pythagorean theorem which uses trigonometry constitutes a logical fallacy known as circular reasoning, a term used when someone tries to validate an idea with the idea itself.

Johnson and Jackson’s abstract adds that the book with the largest known collection of proofs for the theorem – Elisha Loomis’s *The Pythagorean Proposition* – “flatly states that ‘there are no trigonometric proofs because all the fundamental formulae of trigonometry are themselves based upon the truth of the Pythagorean theorem’.”

Calcea Johnson and Ne’Kiya Jackson are being encouraged to submit their work to a peer-reviewed journal...

“There’s nothing like it – being able to do something that people don’t think that young people can do,” Johnson said to the station. “You don’t see kids like us doing this – it’s usually, like, you have to be an adult to do this.”

Alluding to how St Mary’s slogan is “No excellence without hard labor,” the two students credited their teachers at the all-girls school in New Orleans’s Plum Orchard neighborhood for challenging them to accomplish something which mathematicians thought was not possible.

“We have really great teachers,” Jackson said to WWL during an interview published Thursday.

WWL reported that Jackson and Johnson are on pace to graduate this spring, and they intend to pursue careers in environmental engineering as well as biochemistry.

St Mary’s Academy administrators did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Friday. Prominent alumnae of the school include judge Dana Douglas, who is the first Black woman to serve on the bench of the federal fifth circuit court of appeals, and renowned restaurateur Leah Chase.

Catherine Roberts, executive director for the American Mathematical Society, said she encouraged the St Mary’s students to see about getting their work examined by a peer-reviewed journal, even at their relatively young age.

“Members of our community can examine their results to determine whether their proof is a correct contribution to the mathematics literature,” said Roberts, whose group hosts scientific meetings and publishes research journals.

Roberts also said American Mathematical Society members “celebrate these early career mathematicians for sharing their work with the wider mathematics community”.

“We encourage them to continue their studies in mathematics,” Roberts added.

But, the abstract counters, “that isn’t quite true”. The pair asserts: “We present a new proof of Pythagoras’s Theorem which is based on a fundamental result in trigonometry – the Law of Sines – and we show that the proof is independent of the Pythagorean trig identity  $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$ .” In short, they could prove the theorem using trigonometry and without resorting to circular reasoning.

Johnson told the New Orleans television news station WWL it was an “unparalleled feeling” to present her and Jackson’s work alongside university researchers.

I hope you appreciated this article. Before you move on, I wanted to ask if you would consider supporting the Guardian’s journalism as we enter one of the most consequential news cycles of our lifetimes in 2024.

With the potential of another Trump presidency looming, there are countless angles to cover around this year’s election – and we’ll be there to shed light on each new development, with explainers, key takeaways and analysis of what it means for America, democracy and the world.

From Elon Musk to the Murdochs, a small number of billionaire owners have a powerful hold on so much of the information that reaches the public about what’s happening in the world. The Guardian is different. We have no billionaire owner or shareholders to consider. Our journalism is produced to serve the public interest – not profit motives.

And we avoid the trap that befalls much US media: the tendency, born of a desire to please all sides, to engage in false equivalence in the name of neutrality. We always strive to be fair. But sometimes that means calling out the lies of powerful people and institutions – and making clear how misinformation and demagoguery can damage democracy.

From threats to election integrity, to the spiraling climate crisis, to complex foreign conflicts, our journalists contextualize, investigate and illuminate the critical stories of our time. As a global news organization with a robust US reporting staff, we’re able to provide a fresh, outsider perspective – one so often missing in the American media bubble.

Around the world, readers can access the Guardian’s paywall-free journalism because of our unique reader-supported model. That’s because of people like you. Our readers keep us independent, beholden to no outside influence and accessible to everyone – whether they can afford to pay for news, or not.

If you can, please consider supporting us just once, or better yet, support us every month with a little more.

*Thank you. Betsy Reed*

## Jaylen Brown's Remarkable Academic Achievements Are Going Viral

Story by Matt Audilet

When Jaylen Brown entered the league as a member of the NBA's 2016 draft class, many teams were excited about what the Cal Berkley star could bring to the table.

But, one anonymous GM worried that Brown was "too smart" for the NBA.

So, how smart is the Boston Celtics All-Star? In addition to his incredible achievements on the court, Brown has an equally impressive resume in the academic world.

After graduating at the top of his high school class, Brown took a masters-level course in Berkeley's Cultural Studies of Sport in Education program during his freshman year at Cal — all while maintaining his status as a star player for the Golden Bears.

Brown is an avid chess player, fluent in Spanish and knows how to play multiple instruments. In 2018, Brown gave a lecture at Harvard entitled "One and One with Jaylen Brown: Athlete and Intellectual." The NBA star also has a fellowship at MIT's Media Lab and was offered an internship with NASA.

Brown has been a Vice President of the NBA Players Association since 2019, making him the youngest player to hold that title.

On Tuesday night, Brown and the Celtics will face off against the Indiana Pacers in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference Finals.



Dec 14, 2023; Boston, Massachusetts, USA; Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) and guard Jaylen Brown (7) on the court against the Cleveland Cavaliers in the second half at TD Garden. David Butler II-USA TODAY

## Haines City High School Class of 2020 Makes History With 1st African-American Valedictorian, Salutatorian

BY [STEPHANIE CLAYTOR](#) POLK COUNTY

PUBLISHED 5:31 PM ET MAY 22, 2020

**HAINES CITY, Fla.** — The Haines City High School senior class is making history this year with its top two students.



### What You Need To Know

Valedictorian Myles McCants credits much of his success to his mother

Salutatorian Aria McDaniel competed in volleyball, weightlifting, track

McCants heading to USF, McDaniel off to UF

This year's valedictorian, Myles McCants, is the first African American male at Haines City High to achieve the honor. His friend, Aria McDaniel, the salutatorian, is also African American.

Guidance counselors say to have both the valedictorian and salutatorian be African American is a first, as well.

McCants said the two been competing for their class' top honor for years.

"We didn't talk about our GPA's on purpose because we knew where our ranks were," he explained.

He went on to attribute much of his success to his mother, who was strict about his grades and took his cellphone away if he came home with anything less than a high A.

"If I had a 90 in the class, I wasn't going anywhere until the grade was up," said McCants.

To keep those grades up, he said he sacrificed sports except for golf, electing to spend his time taking dual enrollment courses, instead.

## *Haines City High School*

"Basketball was taking up a lot of my time," McCants said. "So after freshman year I had to go more toward golf because they were a little more flexible with their schedule."

McCants is the senior class president, too.

Meanwhile, Aria McDaniel was co-captain of the school's volleyball team, captain of the weightlifting team, and she ran track while still rising to second in her class.

"It makes me feel great," McDaniel told us. "I worked a long time very hard towards it."

McCants is headed to University of South Florida to study political science. He wants to become a contract lawyer.

McDaniel, on the other hand, is headed to the University of Florida to study biology. She hopes to become a pediatrician.

Both students will give a speech during Haines City High School's graduation ceremony, scheduled for June 18 at Publix Field at Joker Marchant Stadium.

## **IMPORTANT JUNE DAYS IN U.S. MILITARY HISTORY**

Since the early 1800s, there has been a rich military history of ongoing battles full of victories and losses. We cannot recount every day—so instead, we're going to give the high points that are most celebrated in June. With this in mind, we will remember the fallen and give support by educating ourselves on our given liberties and the sacrifices made to have them. Here are the important June days in U.S. military history.

### **MAIN OBSERVED HOLIDAYS IN JUNE**

First, we have "Don't Give Up the Ship" Day on June 1<sup>st</sup>. While under the command of James Lawrence in the War of 1812, the U.S. Navy was under siege by Royal Britain, and these were the last words of our fallen captain.

D-Day Invasion is celebrated on June 6<sup>th</sup>, which marks the storming of Normandy, France, by British, Canadian, and American troops in WWII. President Eisenhower put in his executive order on this day, which many sacrificed their lives for the liberation of France and the French people of Europe.

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, Bunker Hill Day is observed to commemorate the Battle of Bunker Hill. This battle took place as Boston was under siege during the Revolutionary War. This battle was particularly brutal and set the stage for what would be a very close war.

Flag Day is observed on June 14<sup>th</sup> as the adoption of the U.S. flag, which originally carried the thirteen stars and stripes to remember the original thirteen colonies. On this day, our nation adopted its official flag. You might find unique

original replicas in military uniform stores along with other memorabilia.

Pause for the Pledge Day is also observed on June 17. In 1777, the first continental congress of the United States adopted the U.S. ensign as our country's flag. And thus, the Pledge of Allegiance followed suit.

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, we also observe the birthday of the U.S. Army. During the beginning of the Revolutionary War, Americans from all thirteen colonies rallied together to form the first army in the States.

June 23<sup>rd</sup> marks the birthday of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. And while it wasn't a fully active component right away, it would eventually become just as equal with all other military branches of service for both active duty and reserves.

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, PTSD Awareness is observed, which highlights those who have gone to war and have been affected by post-traumatic stress disorder. This is a disease caused by excessive trauma, so on this day, we recognize those survivors.

Operation Red Wings Observance happens on June 28<sup>th</sup>. This day is for remembering a tight group of Navy SEALs who were behind enemy lines, flying at altitudes of 10,000 feet in Hindu Kush, Afghanistan, during a very important reconnaissance mission.

So, while there are hundreds more historical and important days in the month of June reserved as U.S. military history, these are seen as the most known. It is important that we take moments like these to appreciate our narrative so we can understand what the U.S. symbolizes and how far we've come since the inception of the United States of America.



## Juneteenth

United States holiday

[www.britannica.com/print/article/1450905](http://www.britannica.com/print/article/1450905)

Also known as: Black Independence Day, Emancipation Day, Jubilee Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day

What does Juneteenth celebrate?

Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, celebrates the end of slavery in the United States

In 1863, during the American Civil War, Pres. Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which declared more than three million enslaved people living in the Confederate states to be free. More than two years would pass, however, before the news reached African Americans living in Texas. It was not until Union sol-

diers arrived in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, that the state's residents finally learned that slavery had been abolished. The formerly enslaved immediately began to celebrate with prayer, feasting, song, and dance.

The following year, on June 19, the first official Juneteenth celebrations took place in Texas. The original observances included prayer meetings and the singing of spirituals, and celebrants wore new clothes as a way of representing their newfound freedom. Within a few years, African Americans in other states were celebrating the day as well, making it an annual tradition. Celebrations have continued across the United States into the 21st century and typically include prayer and religious services, speeches, educational events, family gatherings and picnics, and festivals with music, food, and dancing.

Juneteenth became a state holiday in Texas in 1980, and a number of other states subsequently followed suit. In 2021 Juneteenth was made a federal holiday, in part because of the actions of activist Opal Lee to raise awareness. The day is also celebrated outside the United States, being used by organizations in a number of countries to recognize the end of slavery and to honor the culture and achievements of African Americans.

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## Local Juneteenth Celebration 2024

Next date: Saturday, June 15, 2024 | 02:00 PM to 07:00 PM

Senator Geraldine F. Thompson's Office, the City of Orlando and the Association to Preserve African Society, History and Tradition, Inc. (PAST) invite you to the Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 15 from 2 - 7 p.m. at Camping World Stadium, East Plaza Lounge.

Join our community to celebrate freedom and unity at our Juneteenth Celebration, a day of music, dance, food, and cultural celebration as we honor Black history in the United States. Let's come together to commemorate this important moment in history and embrace the spirit of unity and liberation.

Free and open to the public. Complimentary parking is available in Lot 6 on Rio Grande Avenue.

RSVP is encouraged. Visit: [www.orlando.gov/Events/Juneteenth-2024](http://www.orlando.gov/Events/Juneteenth-2024)

For more information, please contact Senator Geraldine F. Thompson's Office at [850.487.5015](tel:850.487.5015) or email [brien.michael@flsenate.gov](mailto:brien.michael@flsenate.gov).

SENIORS' SUMMER PROM  
L. Claudia Allen Senior Center on  
Saturday June 1, 2024



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS  
DINNER  
June 1, 2024

[\\*https://www.100bmgo.com](https://www.100bmgo.com)





## Sick n' Shut-ins:

Thanking God for His keeping power.

## To Bereaved Families:

Our Prayers and Condolences to Families Everywhere: loved ones who have passed away due to natural death, sickness, hurricanes, tornados, wars, hate crimes, and mass shootings around the world.



## **Liked and Loved by God**

*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart. Jeremiah 1:5*

It feels like “likes”—you know, that little thumbs-up on Facebook—have always been with us. But it turns out that this virtual symbol of affirmation has only been around since 2009.

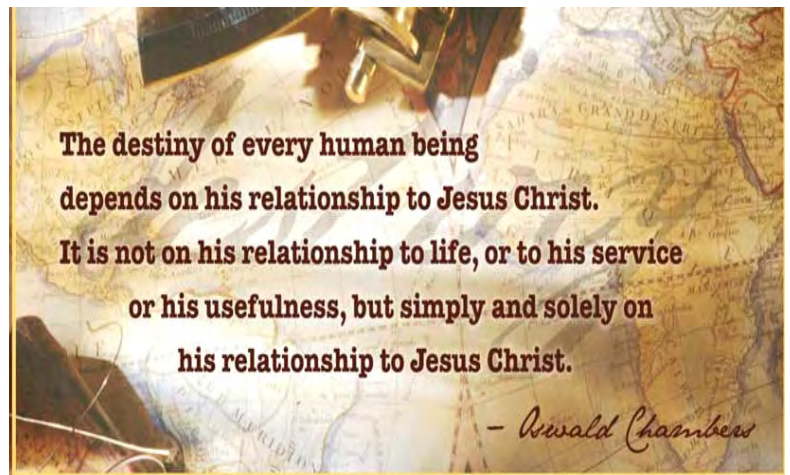
The “like” designer, Justin Rosenstein, said he wanted to help create “a world in which people uplift each other rather than tear each other down.” But Rosenstein came to lament how his invention might have enabled users’ unhealthy addiction to social media.

I think Rosenstein’s creation speaks to our hard-wired need for affirmation and connection. We want to know that others know us, notice us—and, yes, like us. The “like” is fairly new. But our hunger to know and be known is as old as God’s creation of man.

Still, the like button doesn’t quite get the job done, does it? Thankfully, we serve a God whose love goes so much deeper than a digital nod. In Jeremiah 1:5, we witness His profoundly purposeful connection with a prophet whom He called to Himself. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart.”

God knew the prophet even before conception and designed him for a life of meaning and mission (vv. 8-10). And He invites us too into a purposeful life as we come to know this Father who so intimately knows, loves, and likes us.

By Adam R. Holz



## **SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 1:1-10**

1 The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, one of the priests at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. 2 The word of the Lord came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, 3 and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, down to the fifth month of the eleventh year of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile. **The Call of Jeremiah**

4 The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew[a] you, before you were born I set you apart;

I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

6 “Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

7 But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. 8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

9 Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. 10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**PRAY:** Father, help me to rest in Your love and calling on my life, to know that You care for me intimately as You shape me for each of the days You’ve planned for me.

Scripture—<https://www.biblegateway.com...NIV>  
<https://odb.org/>

Their mission is to make the life-changing wisdom of the Bible understandable and accessible to all.

**Our Daily Bread Ministries —Posted June 5, 2024.**

Their mission is to make the life-changing wisdom of the Bible understandable and accessible to all.

**JUNE 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PTSD Awareness Month				Veteran.com COMMUNITY		1
2	3	4 Mary Stoves	5 Mary Dixson	6 D-Day	7	8
9	10	11	12 Women Veterans Day	13 Bunker Hill Day	14 ARMY BIRTHDAY U.S. FLAG DAY	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20	21	22
23 Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday	24	25	26	27 PTSD Awareness Day Martha Moore	28	29
30						

<https://militarybenefits.info/national-vietnam-war-veterans-day/>  
<https://www.hfotusa.org/important-military-holidays-and-observances-fo3r-2024/>  
<http://www.holidays-and-observances.com/military-holidays.html...>  
<https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/2024>

**JULY 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 National Hire A Veteran Day	26	27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
28 National Buffalo Soldiers Day	29 Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary	30	31		Veteran.com COMMUNITY	

RETIRED...

**R.A.F.M.A.N Club Foundation, Inc.**



Motto:

"Men Striving Together to Make This A Better  
Community for All Concerned."

The RAFMAN Club Foundation is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization that consist of military veterans providing academic scholarships to students, social service for senior citizen, youth mentoring and civic outreach for those in need within the Central Florida Community.

R.A.F.M.A.N Club Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 555883

Orlando, FL 32855-5883

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Email: [RAFMANclub@bellsouth.net](mailto:RAFMANclub@bellsouth.net)

Website: [www.RAFMANclubfoundation.org](http://www.RAFMANclubfoundation.org)

Alternate/ President Arthur Jarvis: (407) 426-1266



R.A.F.M.A.N Club Foundation, Inc.

P. O. Box 555883

Orlando, FL 32855-5883

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