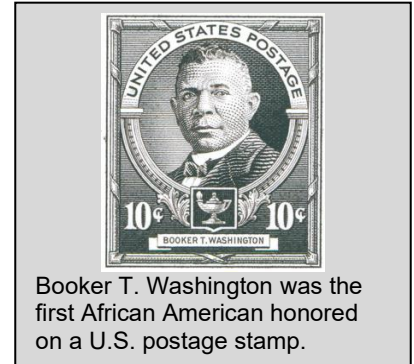


African American Subjects on United States Postage Stamps

The first U.S. stamp to honor an African American was the ten-cent Booker T. Washington stamp, issued in 1940. In 1978, the Postal Service initiated the Black Heritage stamp series, to recognize the achievements of individual African Americans.

Below is a list of stamps issued in honor of African Americans and their contributions. Stamps on which African Americans are part of a mixed scene — for example, the 15-cent "International Year of the Child" issued in 1979 — are not included.



<i>Subject</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Date Issued</i>
Booker T. Washington	10¢	April 7, 1940
13th Amendment	3¢	October 20, 1940
Dr. George Washington Carver	3¢	January 5, 1948
Centennial of Booker T. Washington	3¢	April 5, 1956
Emancipation Proclamation	5¢	August 16, 1963
Frederick Douglass	25¢	February 4, 1967
W. C. Handy	6¢	May 17, 1969
Henry Ossawa Tanner	8¢	September 10, 1973
Paul Laurence Dunbar	10¢	May 1, 1975
Salem Poor	10¢	March 25, 1975
Black Heritage: Harriet Tubman	13¢	February 1, 1978
Black Heritage: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	15¢	January 13, 1979
Black Heritage: Benjamin Banneker	15¢	February 15, 1980
Black Heritage: Whitney Moore Young, Jr.	15¢	January 30, 1981
Charles R. Drew, MD	35¢	June 3, 1981
Ralph Bunche	20¢	January 12, 1982
Black Heritage: Jackie Robinson	20¢	August 2, 1982
Black Heritage: Scott Joplin	20¢	June 9, 1983
Black Heritage: Dr. Carter G. Woodson	20¢	February 1, 1984
Black Heritage: Mary McLeod Bethune	22¢	March 5, 1985
Black Heritage: Sojourner Truth	22¢	February 4, 1986
Duke Ellington	22¢	April 29, 1986
Arctic Explorers: Matthew Henson	22¢	May 28, 1986
Black Heritage: Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable	22¢	February 20, 1987
Black Heritage: James Weldon Johnson	22¢	February 2, 1988

Black Heritage: A. Philip Randolph	25¢	February 3, 1989
Black Heritage: Ida B. Wells	25¢	February 1, 1990
Olympians: Jesse Owens	25¢	July 6, 1990
Black Heritage: Jan E. Matzeliger	29¢	September 15, 1991
Black Heritage: W.E.B. DuBois	29¢	January 31, 1992
Black Heritage: Percy Lavon Julian	29¢	January 29, 1993
Legends of American Music, Rock & Roll/Rhythm & Blues:		
Clyde McPhatter	29¢	June 16, 1993
Otis Redding	29¢	June 16, 1993
Dinah Washington	29¢	June 16, 1993
Joe Louis	29¢	June 22, 1993
Legends of American Music, Broadway Musicals:		
Porgy & Bess	29¢	July 14, 1993
Black Heritage: Dr. Allison Davis	29¢	February 1, 1994
Buffalo Soldiers	29¢	April 22, 1994
Legends of American Music, Popular Singers:		
Nat 'King' Cole	29¢	September 1, 1994
Ethel Waters	29¢	September 1, 1994
Legends of American Music, Jazz and Blues Singers:		
Mildred Bailey	29¢	September 17, 1994
Billie Holiday	29¢	September 17, 1994
Robert Johnson	29¢	September 17, 1994
'Ma' Rainey	29¢	September 17, 1994
Jimmy Rushing	29¢	September 17, 1994
Bessie Smith	29¢	September 17, 1994
Muddy Waters	29¢	September 17, 1994
Howlin' Wolf	29¢	September 17, 1994
Legends of the West:		
Jim Beckwourth	29¢	October 18, 1994
Bill Pickett	29¢	October 18, 1994
Black Heritage: Bessie Coleman	32¢	April 27, 1995
Civil War: Frederick Douglass	32¢	June 29, 1995
Civil War: Harriet Tubman	32¢	June 29, 1995
Legends of American Music, Jazz Musicians:		
Louis Armstrong	32¢	September 1, 1995
Louis Armstrong	32¢	September 16, 1995
Eubie Blake	32¢	September 16, 1995
John Coltrane	32¢	September 16, 1995
Erroll Garner	32¢	September 16, 1995
Coleman Hawkins	32¢	September 16, 1995
James P. Johnson	32¢	September 16, 1995
Charlie Parker	32¢	September 16, 1995
Charles Mingus	32¢	September 16, 1995
Thelonious Monk	32¢	September 16, 1995
'Jelly Roll' Morton	32¢	September 16, 1995
Black Heritage: Ernest E. Just	32¢	February 1, 1996

Folk Heroes: John Henry	32¢	July 11, 1996
Legends of American Music, Big Band Leaders: Count Basie	32¢	September 11, 1996
Black Heritage: Benjamin O. Davis, Sr.	32¢	January 28, 1997
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	32¢	October 22, 1997
Black Heritage: Madam C. J. Walker	32¢	January 28, 1998
Celebrate the Century-1900s: W. E. B. DuBois, Social Activist	32¢	February 3, 1998
Celebrate the Century-1910s: George Washington Carver	32¢	February 3, 1998
Celebrate the Century-1920s: Jazz Flourishes	32¢	May 28, 1998
Legends of American Music, Folk Musicians:		
Leadbelly	32¢	June 26, 1998
Sonny Terry	32¢	June 26, 1998
Josh White	32¢	June 26, 1998
Legends of American Music, Gospel Singers:		
Mahalia Jackson	32¢	July 15, 1998
Roberta Martin	32¢	July 15, 1998
Sister Rosetta	32¢	July 15, 1998
Clara Ward	32¢	July 15, 1998
Celebrate the Century-1930s: Jesse Owens	32¢	September 10, 1998
Black Heritage: Malcolm X	33¢	January 20, 1999
Celebrate the Century-1940s: Jackie Robinson	33¢	February 18, 1999
Celebrate the Century-1950s: Desegregating Public Schools	33¢	May 26, 1999
Celebrate the Century-1960s: "I Have A Dream"	33¢	September 17, 1999
Celebrate the Century-1980s:		
"The Cosby Show"	33¢	January 12, 2000
Hip-hop Culture	33¢	January 12, 2000
Black Heritage: Patricia Roberts Harris	33¢	January 27, 2000
Legends of Baseball:		
Josh Gibson	33¢	July 6, 2000
Satchel Paige	33¢	July 6, 2000
Jackie Robinson	33¢	July 6, 2000
Black Heritage: Roy Wilkins	34¢	January 24, 2001
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	34¢	October 21, 2001
Black Heritage: Langston Hughes	34¢	February 1, 2002
Masters of American Photography: James VanDerZee	37¢	June 13, 2002
Women in Journalism: Ethel L. Payne	37¢	September 14, 2002
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	37¢	October 10, 2002
Black Heritage: Thurgood Marshall	37¢	January 7, 2003
Literary Arts: Zora Neale Hurston	37¢	January 24, 2003
Black Heritage: Paul Robeson	37¢	January 20, 2004
American Choreographers: Alvin Ailey	37¢	May 4, 2004
Distinguished Americans: Wilma Rudolph	23¢	July 14, 2004

Literary Arts: James Baldwin	37¢	July 23, 2004
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	37¢	October 16, 2004
Black Heritage: Marian Anderson	37¢	January 27, 2005
Arthur Ashe	37¢	August 27, 2005
To Form a More Perfect Union:		
Selma March	37¢	August 30, 2005
Montgomery Bus Boycott	37¢	August 30, 2005
Greensboro Lunch Counter Sit In	37¢	August 30, 2005
Freedom Riders	37¢	August 30, 2005
Little Rock Nine	37¢	August 30, 2005
Civil Rights Act of 1964	37¢	August 30, 2005
Brown v. Board of Education	37¢	August 30, 2005
Executive Order 9981	37¢	August 30, 2005
March on Washington	37¢	August 30, 2005
Voting Rights Act of 1965	37¢	August 30, 2005
Black Heritage: Hattie McDaniel	39¢	January 25, 2006
Sugar Ray Robinson	39¢	April 7, 2006
Distinguished American Diplomats: Clifton R. Wharton Sr.	39¢	May 30, 2006
Baseball Sluggers: Roy Campanella	39¢	July 15, 2006
American Treasures: Gee's Bend Quilts	39¢	August 24, 2006
Black Heritage: Ella Fitzgerald	39¢	January 10, 2007
Black Heritage: Charles W. Chesnutt	41¢	January 31, 2008
Vintage Black Cinema:		
<i>The Sport of the Gods</i>	42¢	July 16, 2008
<i>Black and Tan</i>	42¢	July 16, 2008
<i>Princess Tam-Tam</i>	42¢	July 16, 2008
<i>Caldonia</i>	42¢	July 16, 2008
<i>Hallelujah</i>	42¢	July 16, 2008
Civil Rights Pioneers:		
Mary Church Terrell and Mary White Ovington	42¢	February 21, 2009
J.R. Clifford and Joel Elias Spingarn	42¢	February 21, 2009
Oswald Garrison Villard and Daisy Gatson Bates	42¢	February 21, 2009
Charles Hamilton Houston and Walter White	42¢	February 21, 2009
Medgar Evers and Fannie Lou Hamer	42¢	February 21, 2009
Ella Baker and Ruby Hurley	42¢	February 21, 2009
Richard Wright	61¢	April 9, 2009
Black Heritage: Anna Julia Cooper	44¢	June 11, 2009
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	44¢	October 9, 2009
Distinguished Sailors: Doris Miller	44¢	February 4, 2010
Black Heritage: Oscar Micheaux	44¢	June 22, 2010
Negro Leagues Baseball: Rube Foster	44¢	July 15, 2010

Since 2011, all commemorative stamps for the First-Class Mail one-ounce rate have been Forever stamps, equal in value to the current First-Class Mail one-ounce price. The value given in parentheses was the price of the stamp when first issued.

Latin Music Legends: Celia Cruz	(44¢)	March 16, 2011
Jazz	(44¢)	March 26, 2011
Black Heritage: Barbara Jordan	(44¢)	September 16, 2011
Romare Bearden (four designs)	(44¢)	September 28, 2011
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	(44¢)	October 14, 2011
Black Heritage: John H. Johnson	(45¢)	January 31, 2012
American Treasures: William H. Johnson	(45¢)	April 11, 2012
Twentieth-Century Poets:		
Gwendolyn Brooks	(45¢)	April 21, 2012
Robert Hayden	(45¢)	April 21, 2012
Miles Davis	(45¢)	June 12, 2012
Major League Baseball All-Stars:		
Larry Doby	(45¢)	July 20, 2012
Willie Stargell	(45¢)	July 20, 2012
Innovative Choreographers: Katherine Dunham	(45¢)	July 28, 2012
Civil Rights: Emancipation Proclamation	(45¢)	January 1, 2013
Civil Rights: Rosa Parks	(46¢)	February 4, 2013
Modern Art in America: Aaron Douglas	(46¢)	March 7, 2013
Black Heritage: Althea Gibson	(46¢)	August 23, 2013
Civil Rights: The 1963 March on Washington	(46¢)	August 23, 2013
Music Icons: Ray Charles	(46¢)	September 23, 2013
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	(46¢)	November 26, 2013
Black Heritage: Shirley Chisholm	(49¢)	January 31, 2014
Literary Arts: Ralph Ellison	91¢	February 18, 2014
Music Icons: Jimi Hendrix	(49¢)	March 13, 2014
Distinguished Americans: C. Alfred "Chief" Anderson	70¢	March 13, 2014
Celebrity Chefs: Edna Lewis	(49¢)	September 26, 2014
Wilt Chamberlain	(49¢)	December 5, 2014
Black Heritage: Robert Robinson Taylor	(49¢)	February 12, 2015
Maya Angelou	(49¢)	April 7, 2015
Black Heritage: Richard Allen	(49¢)	February 2, 2016
Music Icons: Sarah Vaughan	(49¢)	March 29, 2016
Holiday Celebrations: Kwanzaa	(47¢)	October 1, 2016
Black Heritage: Dorothy Height	(49¢)	February 1, 2017
The Snowy Day (4 designs)	(49¢)	October 4, 2017
Celebrating African American Heritage and Culture	(49¢)	October 13, 2017
Black Heritage: Lena Horne	(50¢)	January 30, 2018
Kwanzaa 2018	(50¢)	October 10, 2018

Black Heritage: Gregory Hines	(55¢)	January 28, 2019
Music Icons: Marvin Gaye	(55¢)	April 2, 2019
Black Heritage: Gwen Ifill	(55¢)	January 30, 2020
Voices of the Harlem Renaissance:		
Nella Larsen	(55¢)	May 21, 2020
Alain Locke	(55¢)	May 21, 2020
Arturo Schomburg	(55¢)	May 21, 2020
Anne Spencer	(55¢)	May 21, 2020
Hip Hop:		
MC	(55¢)	July 1, 2020
B-Boy	(55¢)	July 1, 2020
Graffiti Artist	(55¢)	July 1, 2020
DJ	(55¢)	July 1, 2020
Kwanzaa 2020	(55¢)	October 13, 2020
Black Heritage: August Wilson	(55¢)	January 28, 2021
Black Heritage: Edmonia Lewis	(58¢)	January 26, 2022
Kwanzaa 2022	(60¢)	October 13, 2022
Black Heritage: Ernest J. Gaines	(63¢)	January 23, 2023
Toni Morrison	(63¢)	March 7, 2023
John Lewis	(66¢)	July 21, 2023
Black Heritage: Constance Baker Motley	(68¢)	January 1, 2024
Underground Railroad:		
Harriet Tubman	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
William Still	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
Harriet Jacobs	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
Jermain Loguen	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
Lewis Hayden	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
Frederick Douglass	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
William Lambert	(68¢)	March 9, 2024
Hank Aaron	(73¢)	July 31, 2024