

# ScoopUSA Black History Corner



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LIBRA - September 23 - October 22



**LIBRA - The Harmonizer**  
*Nice to everyone they meet. Can't make up their mind. Have own unique appeal. Creative, energetic and very social. Hate to be alone. Peaceful, generous. Very loving and beautiful. Flirtatious. Give in too easily. Procrastinators. Very gullible.*

The Opal is the stone for the month of October. Opal has been called the Cupid stone because it reflects the complexion of Eros, the Greek god of love. In the Middle Ages, opal was thought to render the wearer invisible, thus it was recommended for thieves to wear opals. Ancient Arab culture believed opals fell from heaven, acquiring their play of color from flashes of lightning. To the Romans, the opal was the symbol of hope and purity. They called it "Cupid Paederos", a child beautiful as love. The Roman senator Ninius chose to go into exile rather than surrender an opal to Mark Anthony and most opals are 50-65 million years old, dating back to the Cretaceous period when dinosaurs walked the earth.

## October 12

*You love work and play with enthusiasm and energy. You are proud and reserved, discreet in your associations and strive to attain high ideals. Choose a mate under your own sign and you will be happy.*

**1904** William Montague Cobb, first African American to earn a Ph.D. in anthropology, is born in Washington, DC.  
**1908** Ann Petry, novelist and short story writer (The Street) and the first African American author to sell over a million copies, is born in Old Saybrook, CT.

**1912** Mahala Ashley Dickerson, first African American female attorney in the state of Alabama, the second African American woman admitted to the bar in the state of Indiana and the first African American president of the National Association of Women Lawyers, is born in Montgomery, AL.

**1919** (Doris) Dorie Miller, first African American to be awarded the Navy Cross, is born in Waco, TX.

**1920** Alice Childress, novelist (A Hero Ain't Nothing But A Sandwich), is born in Charleston, SC.

**1925** Essie Mae Washington-Williams, teacher and writer and oldest and nature child of Strom Thurmond, Governor of South Carolina, is born in Edgefield, SC.

**1925** Charles Edward Gordone, first African American to receive the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, is born in Cleveland, OH.

**1926** John Irvin Kennedy, Major League Baseball player, is born in Jacksonville, FL.

**1929** (Napoleon Brown Goodson Culp) Nappy Brown, singer (Night Time is the Right Time), is born in Charlotte, NC.

**1932 (Richard Claxton) Dick Gregory, activist, comedian and nutrition advocate, is born in St. Louis, MO.**

**1932** (Samuel David Hicks) Sam Moore, singer (Hold On, I'm Coming) with the Sam & Dave, is born in Miami, FL.

**1935** Paul Nelson Humphrey, jazz and funk/R&B drummer (Let's Get It On), is born in Detroit, MI.

**1935** William Raspberry, Pulitzer Prize syndicated public affairs columnist, is born in Okolona, MS.

**1941** Craig Anthony Washington, US Representative from TX, is born in Longview, (Gregg County), TX.

**1942** (David Melvin English) Melvin Franklin, singer with the original Temptations, is born in Montgomery, AL.

**1949** (Curtis Stovall Anderson, broadcast journalist and chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland, is born in Chicago, IL.

**1957** Renee Chenault-Fattah, co-anchor of the WCAU NBC 10 News, is born in Littleton, CO.

**1961** Eugene Jacques Bullard, one of two known military pilots in World War I, dies in New York, NY.

**1964** Kurt Carr, Gospel music composer and performer, is born in Hartford, CT.

**1970** Charlie Ward, Jr., National Basketball Association player, is born in Thomasville, GA.

**1972** Walter Roland, jazz pianist, guitarist and singer, dies in Fairfield, AL.

**1972** (Yves Monesir) DJ Whoo Kid, host of Hollywood Saturdays (Sirius/XM Radio), is born in Queens Village, NY.

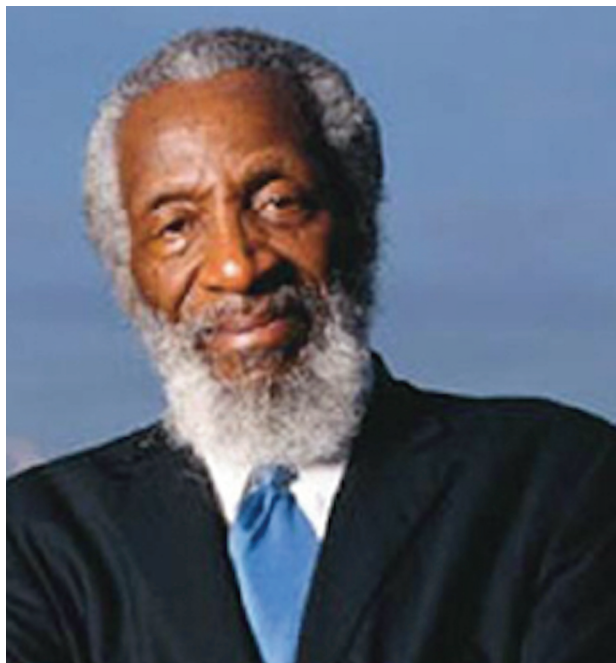
**1975** Ahmad (Ali Lewis), motivational speaker, author and hip-hop recording artist (Back In The Day), is born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1975** Marion Lois Jones-Thompson, track and field athlete, is born in Los Angeles, CA

**1979** Julia Amanda Perry, composer of classical music, (The Cask of Amontillado) dies.

**1979** Adrian Lemar Wilson, National Football League player, is born in High Point, NC.

**1986** Marcus Terrell Paulk, rap artist, dancer and actor (Moesha), is born in Los Angeles, CA.



**Richard Claxton (Dick) Gregory**

**1994** (Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mosé) Fort Mose Historical State Park, first free African American settlement legally sanctioned in what would become the United State, is designated as a US National Historic Landmark.

**1999** (Wilton Norman) Wilt Chamberlain, National Basketball Association player, dies in Bel Air, CA.

**2004** Lawrence Edward Roberts, Sr., pilot, Colonel in the US Air Force, a Tuskegee Airmen and father of Robin Roberts (newscaster on ABC), dies in Biloxi, MS.

**2005** (Cynthia Delores Nottage) C. Delores Tucker, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, dies in Norristown, PA.

**2011** (Victor) Vic Miles (Levy, Jr.) reporter and news anchor, dies in New York, NY.

**Birthdays:** Necia, singer with For Real and Garfield Bright, singer with Shai.

*You have the qualities of a great leader. You can grasp any situation quickly and accurately and your judgment is good. You have an excellent memory, lean readily and can command the attention and respect of others. You require a strong love and like attention.*

## October 13

**1906** J. Saunders Redding, critic and writer (On Being Negro In America), is born in Wilmington, DE.

**1909** (Arthur) Art Tatum, jazz pianist, is born in Toledo, OH.

**1914** Garrett A. Morgan is awarded patent 1,113,675 for a breathing device.

**1922** Nate 'Sweetwater' Clifton, first African American to sign a contract with the National Basketball Association, is born in Little Rock, AR.

**1923** Dorothy Lee Bolden-Thompson organizer of the National Domestic Workers of America, Inc., is born in Atlanta, GA.

**1926** Raymond Matthews Brown, jazz bassist, is born in Pittsburgh, PA.

**1926** Jesse LeRoy Brown, first African American naval aviator, is born in Hattiesburg, MS.

**1929** Harold Willard Bradley, Jr. National Football League player and actor, is born in Chicago, IL.

**1932** (John Dillard) Johnny Lytle, jazz drummer and vibraphonist, is born in Springfield, OH.

**1934** Paul Boutelle, Socialist Workers Party candidate for US Vice President in 1968, is born in New York, NY.

**1936** Shirley Bunnie Foy, jazz singer, percussionist, is born in Harlem, NY.

**1936** Donald Franchot McHenry, ambassador and permanent representative in the United Nations, is born in St. Louis, MO.

**1938** (Roland Snellings) Askia Muhammad Touré, poet, essayist and editor (Journal of Black Poetry, Black Dialogue and Black Star), is born in Raleigh, NC.

**1938** Shirley Caesar, gospel singer, is born in Durham, NC.

**1940** (Ferrell) Pharoah Sanders, jazz saxophonist, is born in Little Rock, AR.

**1946** (Grady) Demond Wilson, actor (Sanford & Son), is born in Valdosta, GA.

**1949** Leona Mitchell, operatic soprano, is born in Enid, OK.

**1949** Ray Brown, Jr., jazz and blues pianist, is born in New York, NY.

**1952** Beverly Johnson, model and actor, is born in Buffalo, NY.

**1957** (Roy Wilfred Wooten) Future Man, musician and member of the jazz quartet Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, is born in Hampton, VA.

**1957** Reginald Wayne Theus, National Basketball Association player, is born in Inglewood, CA.

**1960** Keith Manning Baldwin, National Football League player, is born in Houston, TX.

**1960** Darren Craig Lowe, National Hockey League player, is born in Toronto, Ontario Canada.

**1961** Derek Ricardo Harper, National Basketball Association player, is born in Royston, GA.

**1962** (Crystal Walker) T'Keyah Crystal Keymah, writer and actor (In Living Color), is born in Chicago, IL.

**1962** Jerry Lee Rice, National Football League player, is born in Starkville, MS.

**1964** (Christopher Karlton) Chris Gwynn, Major League Baseball player, is born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1965** Harris Kimberly Faulkner, newscaster and television hos for Fox News Channel, is born in Atlanta, GA.

**1968** Tisha Campbell, actor in the sitcom (Martin and My Wife & Kids), is born in Oklahoma City, OK.

**1970** (Melton) Mel Jackson, actor (Deliver Us From Eva), is born in Chicago, IL.

**1978** Marie Ferdinand-Harris, Women's National Basketball Association player, is born in Miami, FL.

**1979** Clarence Muse, lawyer and actor who played in 218 movies his last (Car Wash), dies in Perris, CA.

**1980** Ashanti Shequoiya Douglas, actor and singer (Foolish), is born in Glen Cove, NY.

**1986** Raquel Lee, actor (The Amanda Show), is born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1987** Red Miller, singer (Bewildered), dies.

**1987** Chris Smith, National Basketball Association player, is born in Millstone, NJ.

**1992** Dantrell Davis killed in gang crossfire while walking to an elementary school in Cabrini Green housing project in Chicago, IL.

**1993** John Glover Jackson, historian, teacher and writer (Was Jesus Christ a Negro?), dies.

**1993** Wade Flemons, musician and vocalist with Earth, Wind and Fire, dies in Battle Creek, MI.

**2005** Vivian Malone Jones, the first of two African American women to enroll in the University of Alabama, dies in Atlanta, GA.

**2010** General Norman Johnson, songwriter (Bring The Boys Home) and singer with the band Chairman of the Board, dies in Atlanta, GA.

*You are abrupt and impulsive and sometimes act without considering the consequences. You should marry someone who is easy going and dependable to complement your nature. You are capable of a great and enduring love.*

## October 14

**1902** (William Boyd) Allison Davis, first African American on the faculty at the University of Chicago, is born in Washington, DC.

**1922** Jimmy Liggins, guitarist, bandleader and singer (Cadillac Boogie), is born in Newby, OK.

**1926** Emmitt James Douglas, president of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), is born in Neweliton, Tensas Parrish, LA.

**1926** James 'Son' Thomas, Delta blues singer, is born in Leland, MS.

**1930** Robert Parker, musician and singer (Barefootin), is born in New Orleans, LA.

**1930** (Joseph Desiré Mobutu) Mobutu Sese Seku Kuku Ngbendu wa Za Bango, president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is born in Lisala, Belgian Congo.

**1940** Tommy Harper, Major League Baseball player, is born in Oak Grove, LA.

**1945** (Elmer) Pha Terrell, jazz singer, dies in Los Angeles, CA.

**1946** (Albert) Al Oliver, Jr., Major League Baseball player, is born in Portsmouth, OH.

**1947** Norman Harris, guitarist, producer, songwriter and founding member of MFSB at Philadelphia International label is born.

**1952** Rick Aviles, comedian and actor (Ghost), is born in New York, NY.

**1954** Willie Mayes Aikens, Major League Baseball player, is born in Seneca, SC.

**1957** Kenny Neal, blues guitar player, singer and actor (Mule Bone), is born in New Orleans, LA.

**1959** (Alphonse) Alphonso Trent, jazz pianist and bandleader, dies in Arkansas.

**1964** Chris Thomas King, blues musician and actor (O Brother, Where Art Thou?), is born in Baton Rouge, LA.

**1965** (Layvonne) Karyn White, singer (Super Woman), is born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1967** Stephen A. Smith, sports journalist (ESPN First Take), is born in The Bronx, NY.

**1969** William McKinney, jazz drummer and bandleader (McKinney's Cotton Pickers), dies in Cynthiana, KY.

**1971** Midre Almeric Cummings, Major League Baseball player, is born in St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

**1978** (Terry Raymond, IV) Usher, singer, is born in Dallas, TX.

**1979** (Rodney) Boss Bailey, National Football League player, is born in Folkston, GA.

**1996** (Constance) Connie Enola Morgan, the third woman to play professional baseball in the Negro League, dies

**1999** Julius Kambarage Nyerere, president of Tanzania and previously Tanganyika dies in London, England.

**2000** Jaden Harmon, actor (One Tree Hill), is born in Houston, TX.

**2007** (Kenneth Donnell Moore) Big Moe, rap artist (City of Syrup), dies in Houston, TX.

*Know your History and Culture. If you do not know where you come from, you cannot and will not know where you can go.*