

# ScoopUSA Black History Corner

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CAPRICORN - December 22 - January 19



## CAPRICORN – The Go Getter

*Patient and wise. Practical and rigid. Ambitious. Tends to be good-looking. Humorous and funny. Can be a bit shy and reserved, often pessimistic. Capricorns tend to act before they think and can be unfriendly at times. Hold grudges. Likes competition. Gets what they want.*

Turquoise was the stone for the month of December in ancient Mexico, turquoise was reserved for the gods and could not be worn by mere mortals. In the 13th century, turquoise was thought to protect its wearer from falling especially from horses. Legend says tears of joy combined with rain seeped into mother earth to become sky stone or turquoise. Native Americans believe that attaching turquoise to a bow would help the arrows hit their mark. In Tibet today, turquoise was by far the most popular of all materials used for personal adornment; it also plays an important part in religious ceremonies. Turquoise was discovered by the Egyptians around 3000 B.C. and was used in their finest jewelry and ornaments.

## December 20

*You are honest, trustworthy, constant and patient. You are methodical and accurate in your work; punctual in your appointments and fastidious in your duties. You are domestic, but enjoy many outside interests. You are very affectionate but not demonstrative.*

**1812** (Sakakawa Sacajawea) Sacagawea, Lemhi Shoshone Native American woman whose image appears on the one-dollar coin, dies in Fort Lisa, ND.

**1905** Lou Nelle Sutton, businesswoman and member of the Texas House of Representatives, was born in San Antonio, TX.

**1912** (Ernie Morrison) Sunshine Sammy, actor with the East Side Kids and the original Our Gang, was born in New Orleans, LA.

**1922** (Mahlon Newton) Mal Duckett, Negro League Baseball player, was born in Philadelphia, PA.

**1927** Philip Hurlic, actor (The Adventures of Tom Sawyer), was born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1930** (Auburn) Pat Hare, blues guitarist and singer, was born in Cherry Valley, AR.

**1931** Vernon Malone, member of the North Carolina General Assembly, was born in Wake Forest, NC.

**1931** (James Monroe King Warden) Abdullah H. Abdur-Razzaq, Malcolm X's associate, was born in Brooklyn, NY.

**1932** (Harrison) Leslie Adams, composer (choral) and music education, was born in Cleveland, OH.

**1935** William Julius Wilson, sociologist and board member of the Philadelphia base Public/Private Ventures, was born in Derry Township, PA.

**1939** (Agatha Nathalia) Kim Weston, singer (Take Me in Your Arms; Rock Me a Little While), was born in Detroit, MI.

**1942** (Robert Lee) 'Bullet Bob' Hayes, Olympic gold medalist and National Football League player, was born in Jacksonville, FL.

**1943** (Charles Herman) Charlie Williams, first African American umpire to work behind home plate in a World Series game, was born in Denver, CO.

**1943** Don Hamilton Barden, first African American casino owner in Las Vegas, was born.

**1946** Lloyd N. Mumphord, National Football League player, was born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1946** Rosita C. Youngblood, member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, was born in Philadelphia, PA.

**1949** Oscar Charles Gamble, Major League Baseball player, was born in Ramer, AL.

**1949** Cecil Clester Cooper, Major League Baseball player, was born in Brenham, TX.

**1955** Hollis Alphonso Copeland, National Basketball Association player, was born in Trenton, NJ.

**1957** Anita Ward, singer (Ring My Bell), was born in Memphis, TN.

**1957** Kevin Nathaniel House, National Football League player, was born in St. Louis, MO.

**1957** (Walter Sylvester) Big Un Page, double bass player with the Count Basie Orchestra, dies in New York, NY.

**1968** George Edward Chalmer Hayes, first African American to serve on the District of Columbia Public Utilities Commission, dies in Washington, DC.

**1969** Bobby Ray Phillips, II, National Basketball Association player, was born in Baton Rouge, LA.

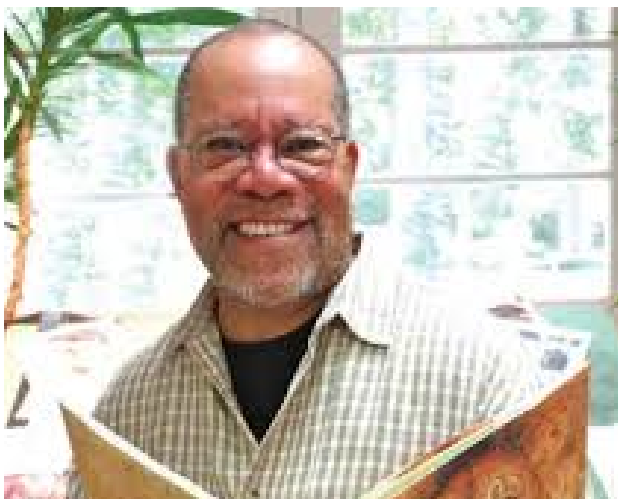
**1975** Derrick Jonathon Dial, National Basketball Association player, was born in Detroit, MI.

**1977** (Eva LaDare) Karen Dyer, voice artist and actor (Gangster Squad), was born in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

**1981** Roy Eugene Williams, Jr., National Football League player, was born in Odessa, TX.

**1984** Leola Bell, Playboy Playmate of the Month for February 2012, was born in Rockville, MD.

**1986** Michael Griffith, hit by a car after being chased on the highway by white youths, dies in Howard Beach, NY.



Jerry Pinkney

**1988** Max Robinson, first African American broadcast network news anchor in the United States, dies in Washington, DC.

**1993** (Marlin Theodore) Pee Wee Carter, Negro League Baseball player, dies in Memphis, TN.

**1994** (Cornelius Coleridge) Dick Campbell, producer and director, dies in New York, NY.

**1995** (Dorita Walters) Madge Sinclair, actor (Coming to America), dies in Los Angeles, CA.

**2011** Lonnie Dixon, NCAA Division 1 men's basketball official, dies in Houston, TX.

**2012** Jimmy McCracklin, pianist, vocalist and songwriter (The Walk), dies in San Pablo, CA.

**2013** (Ricky Dunigan) Lord Infamous, rap artist (Three 6 Mafia), dies in Memphis, TN.

## December 21

*You are very optimistic, original in your ideas, determined, shrewd, and persevering and usually carry out your plans to a successful completion. You have many real friends and few enemies. You are domestic, fond of children, demonstrative in your love and generally cheerful.*

**1902** (William) Peetie Wheatstraw, blues singer and piano player, was born in Ripley, TN

**1905** (Babe Kyron Lemon Turner), blues musician and actor (The Blood of Jesus), was born in Hughes Springs, TX.

**1911** Josh Gibson, Negro League baseball player, was born in Buena Vista, GA.

**1919** Emmett John Rice, governor of the Federal Reserve System and economics professor, was born in Florence, SC.

**1919** George McKinley Treadwell, jazz trumpeter player, was born in New Rochelle, NY.

**1920** W.H. Sammona was awarded patent 1,362,823 for a straightening comb.

**1921** (Pinckney Benton Stewart) P.B.S. Pinchback, first African American to become governor of a US state (Louisiana), dies in Washington, DC.

**1925** (William Robert) Billy 'the kid' Emerson, preacher and singer songwriter (Red Hot), was born in Tarpon Springs, FL.

**1928** Larry Darnell, singer (For You My Love), was born in Columbus, OH.

**1931** David Nathaniel Baker, Jr., symphonic jazz composer, was born in Indianapolis, IN.

**1934** (Bennie Ross) Hank Crawford, alto saxophonist and songwriter, was born in Memphis, TN.

**1936** Alton R. Walldon, Jr., member of the New York State Senate and judge, was born in Lakeland, FL.

**1940** (Elrod Jerome) Ellie Hendricks, Major League Baseball player, was born in Glen Burnie, MD.

**1941** John Josephus Hicks, Jr. jazz pianist and composer, was born in Atlanta, GA.

**1941** Paulino Ortiz Casanova, Major League Baseball player, was born in Colon, Cuba.

**1941** (William) Peetie Wheatstraw, blues singer and piano player, dies in St. Louis, MO.

**1942** Carla Thomas, singer (Gee Whiz) (daughter of Rufus Thomas), was born in Memphis, TN.

**1943** Frederick M. Jones was awarded patent 2,337,164 for means for automatically stopping and starting gas engines.

**1943** (Gwen Mosley) Gwen McCrae, singer (Rockin' Chair) was born in Pensacola, FL.

**1945** George W. Faison, dancer choreographer and co-founder/producing artistic director of the Faison Firehouse Theater, was born in Washington, DC.

**1946** Robert Doyle Bullard, Dean of Jordan-Leland School of Public Affairs and Distinguished Professor at Texas Southern University, was born in Elba, AL.

**1946** Harvey Johnson, Jr., first African American mayor of Jackson, Mississippi, was born in Vicksburg, MS.

**1947** Elliott Maddox, Major League Baseball player, was born in East Orange, NJ.

**1948** Samuel Leroy Jackson, actor (Pulp Fiction, Jurassic Park, etc.), was born in Washington, DC.

**1949** Larry Bradford, Major League Baseball player, was born in Atlanta, GA.

**1953** (Bessie Regina Norris) Betty Wright, singer (Clean

Up Woman), was born in Miami, FL.

**1958** Harry (The Black Panther) Wills, boxer, dies in New York, NY.

**1959** (Florence Delorez Griffith) Florence Griffith Joyner track and field athlete, was born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1963** Clifford 'Grandpappy' Gibson, blues singer and guitarist (Hard Headed Blues), dies in St. Louis, MO.

**1966** Harvey Walden, IV, Marine drill instructor actor and television celebrity (Celebrity Fit Club), was born in Chicago, IL.

**1971** Charlie Fugua, guitarist with The Ink Spots, dies in New Haven, CT.

**1971** Ora Mae Washington, professional tennis player 'Queen of Tennis' was born in Germantown, Philadelphia PA.

**1975** Jemele Juanita Hill, sports journalist (The Atlantic), was born in Detroit, MI.

**2000** (Florynce Rae) Flo Kennedy, lawyer and actor (The Landlord) and author (Color Me Flo: My Hard Life and Good Times) dies.

## December 22

*A keen sense of humor was your chief characteristic. You are generous, kind-hearted, affectionate and careful to never hurt another's feelings. You are sociable vivacious and energetic, independent and commanding. Through your efforts you will have a happy home life.*

**1905** James A. Porter, Chairman of the Arts Department at Howard University, was born in Baltimore, MD.

**1907** Irene Britton Smith, music teacher and composer (From Spirituals to Symphonies), was born in Chicago, IL

**1913** Dudley Brooks, jazz pianist, was born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1918** Talley Beatty, choreographer (Your Arms Too Short to Box with God), was born in Cedar Grove, LA.

**1921** Pierre Caliste Landry, slave, attorney and Methodist Episcopal minister (first African American to be elected as mayor of Donaldsonville) and member of the Louisiana State Senate, dies in Louisiana.

**1924** Arthur Fletcher, "father of affirmative action," was born in Phoenix, AZ.

**1934** Wallace Henry Thurman, author (The Blacker The Berry), dies in New York, NY.

**1938** Sylvester Potts, singer with The Contours, was born in Detroit, MI.

**1939** (Gertrude Pridgett) Ma Rainey, blues singer, dies in Rome, GA.

**1939** Jerry Pinkney, illustrator of children's book and the African American US postage series, was born in Philadelphia, PA.

**1940** Janet Langhart, model, television journalist and author (Anne and Emmett), was born in Indianapolis, IN.

**1940** (Elrod Jerome) Ellie Hendricks, Major League Baseball player, was born in Charlotte Amalie, US Virgin Islands.

**1946** (Donald Weems) Kuwasi Balagoon, member of the Black Liberation Army, was born.

**1948** (Cherlyne Theresa) Lynne Thigpen, actor (Carmen Sandiego), was born in Joliet, IL.

**1951** Crystal Davis Peoples-Stokes, member of the New York State Assembly, was born in Buffalo, NY.

**1951** (Jacob Daniel) Dan 'Jake' Martin, actor (Malcolm in the Middle), was born.

**1953** Bern Nadette Stanis (Stanislaus), actor (Good Times), was born in Brooklyn, NY.

**1954** (Kenneth Francis) Ken Landreaux, Major League Baseball player, was born in Los Angeles, CA.

**1955** Lonnie Smith, Major League Baseball player, was born in Chicago, IL.

**1956** Percival Everett, novelist (The Weather and Women Treat Me Fair: Stories), was born in Fort Gordon, GA.

**1958** George DeWitt Wright, Major League Baseball player, was born in Oklahoma City, OK.

**1960** Tyrell Biggs, professional heavyweight boxer, was born in Philadelphia, PA.

**1960** Jean-Michel Basquiat, graffiti artist, was born in Brooklyn, NY.

**1960** (Luther R. Campbell) Luke Skywalker, actor and rap artist with 2 Live Crew (As Nasty As We Wanna Be), was born in Miami, FL.

**1963** Roy Palmer, jazz trombonist, dies in Chicago, IL.

**1964** (Michael Ray) Mike Jackson, Major League Baseball player, was born in Houston, TX.

**1969** Michelle Thomas, actor (The Cosby Show and Family Matters), dies in New York, NY.

**1970** Grady Brewer, Light Middleweight professional boxer, was born in Lawton, OK.

**1972** Darian 'Big Tigger' Morgan, television and radio personality (106 & Park), was born in The Bronx, NY.

**1973** Stanley Jerome Pritchett, National Football League player, was born in Atlanta, GA.

**1986** Jeffery Wood, rap artist and actor (In The House), was born in San Diego, CA.

**1986** Hulan Jack, Borough President of Manhattan dies in New York, NY.

**1989** (Maniche Gauthier) Ma'Niche, singer (Glasses Up), was born in New York, NY.

**1989** Jordin Brianna Sparks, singer and winner of American Idol, was born in Phoenix, AZ.

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