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Celebrities, athletes, and innovators legacies honored in virtual Black history experience

Microsoft celebrates Black History Month 2022 with the return of free interactive museum

More than a million young people worldwide will have access to Black history as a result of Microsoft's Legacy's interactive experience, which features award-winning athletes and entertainers such as **Michael B. Jordan**, **Sterling K. Brown**, actress **Zendaya**, singer/songwriter **John Legend**, comedian **Trevor Noah**, sports legend **Dwyane Wade** and other honorees.

In its second year, the virtual museum was created to offer an interactive learning experience of Black history for K-12 students across the country. In response to the pandemic, Microsoft launched the Legacy Project and virtualized eight historic museums to ensure there was access to information. Other Black history experiences include fireside chats, interactive activities and book readings.

"I'm incredibly proud of this year's program because we get the privilege of exposing students all over the world to the importance of Black history," says Shy Averett, senior manager of Microsoft's Diversity & Inclusion Community Program. "Through the Legacy Project we are showing them that Black history isn't limited to the past. It's alive and well, and they, too, play a part."

Stories and achievements of recognizable figures will be featured in areas such as business, entertainment, sports, technology and innovation, changemakers in education and justice and youth. Outside of the Legacy Project's museum, other experiences will let students revisit some of history's most pivotal moments and movements, such as:

- A virtual walk along Greenwood Avenue to learn about Black Wall Street and the Tulsa Massacre.
- A look at Nelson Mandela's fight against apartheid in South Africa.
- Rosa Parks' role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, where she took a seat to take a stand against sitting in the colored section on buses.
- An exploration of the continent of Africa at the Wonders of Africa Gallery.

Other lessons and experiences are also included.

Last year's program impacted more than a million students from the United States, Canada and Africa. Classes, schools, or groups of 20 or more participants may register for the free event at <https://aka.ms/BHM2022-RSVP>.

"What's so wonderful is that it takes learning to a whole new level," Averett adds. "The Legacy Project is an amazing educational opportunity that we are proud to make available to schools at no cost."

To request interviews or gallery tour, media outlets may contact Sandra Ware at (248) 417-2709 or Sandra@poweredtodream.com

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