

## NATIONAL SYMBOLS

### *Emblems of Identity, Lineage, and Collective Standing*

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## INTRODUCTION

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The national symbols of the *United States of Black America (USBA)* are sacred declarations of identity, lineage, and sovereign authority. Each symbol is intentionally defined to reflect who we are as a people, what we carry through lineage, and how we mark our collective standing across generations.

These are not casual emblems. They are national standards that affirm our right to self-govern, honor ancestral memory, and establish visible markers of sovereignty and alignment. Within this document, national symbols include the *flag, seal, anthem, and motto*, each carrying encoded meaning rooted in ancestral struggle, intergenerational discipline, and structural clarity.

All national symbols are to be carried with reverence, not displayed for effect. They are not for profit, popularity, or performance. They mark what is sacred, guard what is ours, and designate the boundaries of lineage, identity, and sovereignty. To honor these symbols is to affirm covenant. To protect them is to uphold the nation.

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## NATIONAL FLAG

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The official flag of the United States of Black America is the **Black American Heritage Flag**, created in 1967 by *Melvin Charles and Gleason T. Jackson* to honor the unique history, resilience, and identity of Black Americans.

The flag features a diagonal black stripe between two red fields, with a central gold emblem composed of a fig leaf wreath and a blunted sword.

- **Red** represents the blood our people shed in every generation and our struggle for liberation.
- **Black** affirms the dignity, lineage, and cultural identity of Foundational Black Americans.
- **Gold** symbolizes the excellence, intellect, and promise we carry, even in the face of continued injustice.

The **fig wreath**, drawn from the fig tree cultivated by our ancestors in the American South, honors life, nourishment, and the generational wisdom that has sustained us.

The **blunted sword** signifies righteous power, defining our readiness to protect what is ours without becoming what we resist. Together, the colors and symbols declare not just who we are, but who we refuse to forget.

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### Guidelines for Use:

- The flag may be displayed in homes, classrooms, sacred sites, and gatherings that honor the lineage, legacy, and liberation of Foundational Black Americans (FBAs).

- Official versions must include the full gold emblem at center, without alteration.

Wherever this flag is raised, it signals covenant clarity, structural alignment, and our ongoing commitment to honor the legacy of those buried in the land before they were counted by the law. This is not a flag of general solidarity. It is a national standard for FBAs, whose heritage is both rooted and rising on American soil.

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## NATIONAL SEAL

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The **official seal** of the United States of Black America is a reimagined version of the Great Seal of the United States, redesigned to reflect our sovereignty, spiritual covenant, and intergenerational purpose.

- The **eagle** at the center of the seal represents enduring strength, leadership, and prophetic wisdom. Historically used by the United States to symbolize empire, the eagle is reclaimed here as a sign of endurance, intergenerational vision, and spiritual leadership.
- In its **left talon**, the eagle holds an olive branch with ten leaves, the **10 Guiding Principles of USBA**:

### 1. Self-Determination

We govern our own lives and name our own future. No institution or system may define who we are or dictate what we can become.

### 2. Collective Responsibility

We are accountable to one another for protecting the work, because our progress, stability, and future are shared as Foundational Black Americans.

### 3. Cultural Preservation

We honor our history and protect our culture from distortion or dilution. Our legacy is not for sale, and our expression must remain rooted in truth.

### 4. Covenant Accountability

We choose clarity over control and enforce alignment without performance. Covenant is the system, and alignment is the protection.

### 5. Spiritual Integrity

We move with discernment and honor the sacred without spectacle. Spiritual grounding is essential but must never be commodified or performed.

### 6. Intergenerational Wisdom

We build bridges between generations, not walls. Elders, adults, and youth are all necessary to carry vision, memory, and strategy forward.

### 7. Global Solidarity

We honor our unique lineage as Foundational Black Americans while standing in mutual respect and reciprocity with Black communities worldwide.

## 8. Innovation with Purpose

We adapt, create, and build with strategy, not trends. Innovation must be mission-driven and rooted in systems that last.

## 9. Healing and Wholeness

We do not normalize pain. Wellness is our responsibility. Individual and communal healing are necessary for sustainable sovereignty.

## 10. Quiet Power

We do not need visibility to be effective. We protect our power from performance. Stealth, wisdom, and internal clarity will always matter more than platform or approval.

- In its **right talon**, the eagle clutches three arrows representing life, liberty, and the pursuit of restoration—our sovereign inalienable rights.
- The **shield** on the eagle's chest bears the colors of the Black American Heritage Flag—red, black, and gold. The center is shaped like a “T,” signifying trust as the foundation of protection, discernment, and clarity.
- On either side of the inner circle, **two stars** represent the *past and future* of Foundational Black Americans as generational centers of global influence.
- Above the eagle's head are **three stars**, signifying *mind, body, and soul*—a sacred alignment of the human spirit.
- Rising above the eagle's head are **seven rays**, symbolizing God's divine covenant with FBAs: a promise of completion, protection, and spiritual covering over the USBA nation.

The ten principles are not abstract values. They are encoded into the seal to represent the moral, civic, and structural priorities of FBAs. They guide our institutions, shape our leadership, and ground our national integrity.

The seal holds more than symbolism. It is a sacred map, naming our identity, carrying our charge, and pointing us forward. Every detail is intentional, marked by covenant and built to endure.

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### Guidelines for Use:

- The seal is reserved for official USBA documents, toolkits, ceremonies, and FBA communications.
- Any reproduction must preserve the full design and meaning—no edits, filters, or overlays.
- Use for merchandise, media, or promotional items is prohibited without written approval.
- The seal is trademark protected to prevent misuse, distortion, or unauthorized association.

This seal confirms structural alignment. It marks the work as sacred and sovereign.

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## NATIONAL ANTHEM

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### **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

*Written by James Weldon Johnson (lyrics) and J. Rosamond Johnson (music)*

The official anthem of the United States of Black America is “***Lift Every Voice and Sing.***” Known globally as the *Black National Anthem*, this sacred hymn transcends performance and operates as invocation, remembrance, and covenant affirmation.

Written in 1900, the anthem is a call to spiritual fortitude and structural clarity. It echoes the ancestral charge to rise with dignity, endure with faith, and build with purpose. Within USBA, the anthem is not used for entertainment or applause. It is sung or played in sacred observance, covenant ceremonies, intergenerational gatherings, and moments of structural recommitment.

Its verses speak of hope born from suffering, light emerging through storms, and the unyielding presence of God in the fight for freedom. As such, it is treated as a sacred rite of collective memory and alignment.

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#### **Guidelines for Use:**

- The anthem may be sung or played at public events, gatherings, classrooms, and covenant ceremonies.
- Within USBA, it is treated with reverence, not performance.
- Use is encouraged during Founder’s Day, pledge recitations, and intergenerational events.
- Musical adaptations are allowed, but original lyrics must remain unchanged.

This is a hymn of memory and alignment. Use it to uplift, not entertain.

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## NATIONAL MOTTO

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### **“A nation within a nation.”**

*Historic phrase adopted as the official USBA motto*

This phrase has long been used by thinkers, organizers, and spiritual leaders to affirm the distinct political and cultural identity of Foundational Black Americans within the borders of the United States. USBA adopts this language not as theory, but as jurisdictional clarity.

It reflects our refusal to be assimilated into systems that were not built for us and our commitment to govern what we have already been given by covenant, inheritance, and righteous order.

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**Guidelines for Use:**

- Printed on USBA documents, correspondence, educational tools, and ceremonial materials.
- Integrated into signage, media, and USBA branding to reinforce structural sovereignty.
- Must always be presented in full—never shortened, stylized, or altered.

This is not a slogan. It is a declaration. It designates our authority.

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