



Black History Month 2025

African Americans and Labor

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of historian [Carter G. Woodson](#) and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month.

USRowing encourages all members of the rowing community to learn more through the resource guide below and to celebrate within their boathouses during February and beyond. Programs and organizations will become more inclusive and welcoming by respecting and valuing individuals in their rowing organizations.

WAYS TO CELEBRATE

At USRowing, we encourage our rowing leaders across the country to:

1. **Participate in an anti-racism activation** with: [A Long Talk About the Uncomfortable Truth](#)
2. **Learn about prominent members and organizations** making strides forward for communities in rowing: [Arshay Cooper](#), [Brannon Johnson](#) and [BLJ Community Rowing](#), Corinne Wiggins (aka [The Black Coxswain](#)), [Brick City Rowing](#), [B.R.A.I.D.](#), and [Unity Boat Club](#).

Positive Coaching Alliance Resources

- [The Power of Cultural Proficiency](#)
- [Cultural Proficiency Toolkit](#)
- [Tips for Coaching in a Culturally Responsive Way](#)
- [5 Tips for Removing Biases from Youth Sports Tryouts](#)
- [Creating Equitable Coaching Through Care](#)
- PCA also launched a new workshop that is now available! [Sports Equity: Increasing Access to Youth Sports](#)

Additional Resources to Explore

- Learn more about Black History Month and African American culture: [Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History & Culture](#)
- [Association for the study of African American Life and History](#)
- [HBCU Makes History with First Ever Varsity Rowing Program](#) (HBCU Gameday)
- [Unity Boat Club HOCR Representative](#)
- [BLJ: Black Rowing Club Provides Representation in the Sport](#) (Good Morning America)
- [The Barrier-Breaking Rowers of America's First All-Black Crew Team](#) (Smithsonian Magazine)
- TED: [Talks to Celebrate Black History Month](#)