



## BLACK HISTORY ESSAY AND VIDEO/ SLIDE CONTEST

### LIST OF AFRICAN AMERICAN INVENTORS RESEARCH

Select one of the African American Inventors from the list below to write your essay or do your slide presentation. Please follow the instructions and guidelines for submission of your work.

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|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Madame C.J. Walker        | invented cosmetics and hair care products   |
| 2. George Washington Carver  | invented over 300 uses of peanuts   |
| 3. Lonnie Johnson            | invented the Super Soaker toy   |
| 4. George Edward Alcorn, Jr. | invented the x-ray imaging spectrometer   |
| 5. Benjamin Banneker         | invented almanac & first fully functioning clock                                      |
| 6. Charles Drew              | invented a way to process and preserve blood plasma and blood storage (Blood Bank)    |
| 7. Thomas L. Jennings        | invented dry cleaning process   |
| 8. Elijah McCoy              | invented automatic lubricator for train engines                                       |
| 9. Garrett Morgan            | invented 3 position traffic signal and smoke hood predecessor to gas mask             |
| 10. James Edward M. West     | invented the electret transducer technology used in 90% of contemporary microphones   |
| 11. Lewis Howard Latimer     | invented evaporative air conditioner.   |
| 12. Patricia Era Bath        | discovered and invented device and technique for cataract surgery known as laserphaco |

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| <b>13. Mark Dean</b>                    | <b>invented color PC monitor and the first gigahertz chip</b>  |
| <b>14. Otis Boykin</b>                  | <b>invented a control unit for the pacemaker</b>   |
| <b>15. Granville Woods</b>              | <b>invented the synchronous multiplex railway telegraph and the figure eight roller coaster</b>                      |
| <b>16. Norbert Rillieux</b>             | <b>invented a process that revolutionized the refining of sugar known as the multiple effect evaporator</b>          |
| <b>17. Jan Ernst Matzeliger</b>         | <b>invented a shoe making machine</b>  |
| <b>18. Frederick McKinley Jones</b>     | <b>invented a refrigeration system for long haul trucks</b>  |
| <b>19. Sarah Elizabeth Jacobs Goode</b> | <b>invented a folding cabinet bed to fit in small homes</b>  |
| <b>20. Robert Carruthers</b>            | <b>invented the first Moon-based observatory, the Ultraviolet Camera/Spectrograph, used in the Apollo 16 mission</b> |
| <b>21. Sarah Boone</b>                  | <b>invented the ironing board</b>  |
| <b>22. Bessie Blount Griffin</b>        | <b>invented an electronic feeding device to help amputees feed themselves</b>  |
| <b>23. Andrew Jackson Beard</b>         | <b>invented an automatic railroad car coupler, rotary steam engine, flour mill and plow</b>                          |
| <b>24. Thomas L. Jennings</b>           | <b>invented dry scouring – a method for cleaning clothes that preceded modern-day dry cleaning</b>                   |
| <b>25. Richard Spikes</b>               | <b>invented automobile directional signals, railroad semaphore, automatic car washer, beer keg tap</b>               |
| <b>26. Joseph Winters</b>               | <b>invented wagon mounted fire escape ladder</b>   |
| <b>27. Ben Montgomery</b>               | <b>invented propeller for stem boats</b>   |
| <b>28. Annie Malone</b>                 | <b>invented cosmetics and hair care products and</b>   |

- 29. Henry Brown** invented the carbon paper storage box
- 30. Madeline Turner** invented the fruit press
- 31. Marie Van Brittan Brown** invented the first home security system
- 32. George Crum** inventor of the potato chip
- 33. Percy Lavon Julian** invented chemical synthesis of medicinal drugs such as cortisone, steroids, birth control pills, and physostigmine used to treat glaucoma
- 34. Mary B Davidson Turner** invented the adjustable sanitary belt
- 35. Shirley Jackson** research led others to invent touch tone phones, solar cells & fiber optic cables
- 36. Lisa Gelobter** invented shockwave technology that helped to develop web animation
- 37. Rufus Stokes** invented a gas purification device to reduce gas and ash emission of furnace and powerplant smoke stake emission
- 38. Meredith Gourdine** invented electrostatic precipitator systems that helped remove smoke from burning buildings
- 39. Valerie L. Thomas** invented the illusion transmitter that allowed images to be viewed in 3-D
- 40. John Henry Thompson** invented lingo programing used in Adobe Director