

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Student Spotlight



What does Black History Month mean to you?

“Black History to me is grandma's house every weekend for family dinner. That secret handshake you have with your best friend from childhood. The laugh you share from a joke only y'all understand. It's familiarity, it's connection, it's home, it's the culture. It's a love story.”

How do you observe Black History Month?

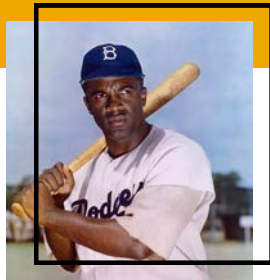
“We are a close family so we spend a lot of the month getting together at birthday dinners, cookouts, and kickbacks, settling scores in Uno and Spades. Lots of love, lots of food, laughs, music, pop sleeping in front of the tv with the game on and cards slapping tables.”

What do you want people to know about Black History Month?

“It exists! And it is inspirational to not just black people but all people. The diaspora could've sunk us but it didn't. And this is how we rose.”

Which historical black figure inspires you the most and why?

“I wanted to be Jackie Robinson so bad. Baseball is my favorite sport - I played all my life. What I love about Jackie then is still what I love about him now. Jackie knew he belonged in the league. And no one was going to tell him he didn't because he was black.”



Jackie Robinson
First black Major League Baseball Player

What black voices should be highlighted this month?

“I've always been a big fan of Simone Biles. She faced challenges with her mental health on the biggest stage in the world and caught a lot of criticism for putting herself first. I think her decision to value her mental health so she could be the world's greatest gymnast is a valuable lesson for black people today.”



Simone Biles
Most Decorated Gymnast in History

Zachary Mann

Program:

Surgical Technology

Home Campus:

Murphy

Student Organizations:

SkillsUSA

Fun Fact:

I spent 5 years performing as a cowboy in a comedy show at Six Flags and other theme parks in the US.

