

BLACK HISTORY – LEARN IT! LIVE IT! MAKE IT!

DR. BERNARD ANTHONY HARRIS



Dr. Bernard Anthony Harris, Jr. was an astronaut, medical scientist and management executive. He became the first African American to complete a spacewalk. Along with astronaut

Michael Foale, Harris tested a new insulation to protect astronauts from the cold.

He was a clinical scientist and flight surgeon at NASA before being selected to become an astronaut in 1991. He completed two space shuttle flights on *Columbia* and *Discovery*. While at NASA, he researched the effects of long-term weightlessness on the human body and developed in-flight medical devices to extend astronaut stays in space.

In 1998 he founded the Harris Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports math and science education as well as crime prevention for America's youth.

"I firmly believe that we're born with certain skills and talents and we use our brains to learn others and to enhance those things we come into this life with. And if you match your head, what you want to do, with your heart, it makes a difference."

KATHERINE JOHNSON



Katherine Johnson, a mathematician, was known for verifying the calculations made by electronic

computers of John Glenn's 1962 launch to orbit and the 1969 Apollo 11 trajectory to the moon. However, 1961 she had made critical technical contributions which included calculating the trajectory of the 1961 flight of Alan Shepard, the first American in space. She also worked on the space shuttle program and the Earth Resources Satellite and encouraged students to pursue careers in science and technology.

Prior to those accomplishments, she graduated from high school at 14 and from college at 18. Katherine was picked to be one of three Black students to integrate the all-white West Virginia University Graduate School. She became the first woman to be admitted in the Space Task Group and its team meetings. She was also the first woman who received credit as the author of a research report.

She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, by President Barack Obama on Nov. 24, 2015. *"Know how to learn, than want to learn."*

TRIVIA QUESTIONS (answers are not found above)

1. In which city did the National Guard try to prevent nine Black students from attending or segregated schools in 1957?
a. Topeka, KN b. Little Rock, AR c. St. Louis, MO d. Fayetteville, AR
2. Dr. Daniel Hale Williams established the first Black hospital in this city.
a. Chicago b. Kansas City c. St. Louis d. Boston
3. Who is known as the father of Black History?
a. Carter G. Woodson b. Martin Luther King c. Nelson Mandela d. Booker T. Washington

ANSWERS 1.B,2.A,3. A