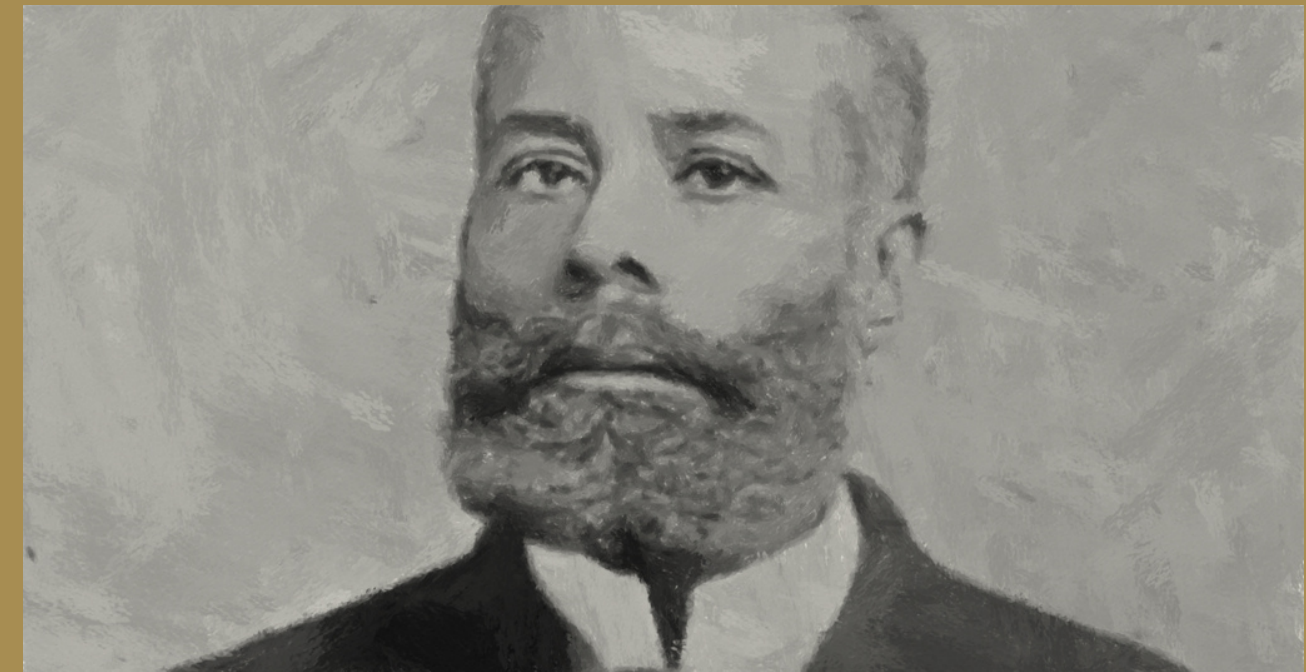


AFRICAN-AMERICAN INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS

*President Woodrow Wilson House Spring
Scholar Project*



PROJECT GOALS

- *Create interactive video experiences on social media for President Woodrow Wilson House followers.*
- *Create several biographies about African-American inventors and innovators from the 1910s to the end of the 1920s.*
- *Provide a contemporary lens researching important people from the past and giving realistically insightful documentation about their lives and legacy.*

GARRETT MORGAN



Garrett Morgan was an African-American inventor of countless inventions such as traffic signals, traffic lights, and gas masks, etc. His gas masks were used by soldiers battling in trenches during WWI. Traffic signals and stop lights are still used today. Morgan was also a prominent member of the African-American community in Cleveland, Ohio.

ALICE BALL

Alice Ball was an African-American Chemist and the creator of the "Ball Method" a cure for leprosy, that was used up to the 1940s throughout the world. Her research and creation of a solution that didn't cause harm to patients and helped ease the pain for many sufferers. Although she was never mentioned in the past for her contributions, today her story has finally begun to be heard all over the world.



EJLIAH

MCCOY

Elijah Mccoy was a Canadian inventor and engineer known for the invention of the Mechanical Lubrication System for trains. The invention was so successful, Mccoy, traveled until his last days all over the world teaching fellow train operators how to use his invention. Mccoy suffered through racial discrimination however, he quickly gained the respect of his peers, due to his determination and intelligence.



MADAM C.J. WALKER

Madam CJ Walker was a successful business owner and active member of the NAACP. Walker was one of the first women and African-American multi-millionaires, founder of the Madam CJ Walker company, and one of the first people to sell products for African-American hair. Walker was also an early advocate for the NAACP and constantly donated to causes for civil rights for African-Americans.



Eugene Bullard

Eugene Bullard was the first and only African-American pilot to serve during WWI. Bullard served for the French military and received various prestigious medals from the French government such as the Croix De Guerre, Knight of the légion d'honneur, and posthumously given a rank in the United States Air Force.



ANNE MALONE

Anne Malone was a successful self-made millionaire and one of the first women and African-Americans to own a successful company. Poro Company was named after the Mende word for devotional society. Malone was an avid supporter of civil rights and constantly donated to charities and programs that helped African-Americans. She also was once the boss of Madam C.J. Walker, before Walker went on to make her own company.



RICHARD

SPIKES

Richard Spikes was a teacher, a bar owner, and inventor of the pressured beer tap, railway signals, automotive gear shifts, and "fail-safe" brakes for buses. He was also an accomplished musician and his brothers were successful jazz pioneers.



MARJORIE JOYNER



Marjorie Joyner was a successful hair care expert and patented the Permanent Hair Weaving Curler in 1929. Her success with working and owning a hair salon lead her to work for Madam C.J. Walker Company. Under the company, Joyner, instructed students, was the national supervisor of the Madam CJ Walker Company and created various hair care treatments and inventions that were used by African American women and White women until the 1960s.

DAVID CROSTHWAIT

David Crosthwait could be considered the father of HVAC systems. Crosthwait created multiple HVAC systems, for major buildings such as the Rockefeller Center. Crosthwait was an electrical and mechanical engineer, and after retirement from the Durham Company, he became a professor at Purdue University for engineering.



PROJECT BEGINNINGS

- The first goals were to create an animated video for social or an expertly designed layout for the website. However, it was decided that it was better to express such stories in a more organized and professional way, but still maintaining a sense of curiosity and fun, by making the biographies like a sort of blog post.

PROJECT ISSUES

- Throughout the project, the main issue was researching and finding accurate and updated information to create the biographies for these inventors and innovators. Many sources were few and out of date, some were several decades old even up to a century old. Luckily, with thorough research, we were able to finish the biographies for each person with great source materials and information.

CONCLUSION

To Conclude I hope this project brings to light the many inventors and innovators as many were never given the respect and recognition that they truly deserved during their own lifetime. Thankfully, many institutions such as academic, government, and military, etc, have begun the process of awarding them with many honors and putting their name in history books.

THANK YOU

TO EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED OUT IN
PUTTING THIS PROJECT TOGETHER AND TO
ALL THE VALUABLE SOURCES THAT WERE SO
HARD TO FIND BECOMING AVAILABLE FOR
EVERYONE.