

# Architects of Achievement

Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education, Inc. Newsletter



PBCOHE.org

PO BOX 7446, STEELTON, PA 17113

SPRING 2025

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear PBCOHE Family,

It is with joy and optimism that I greet and welcome you to 2025.

I am pleased to announce that our 2025 annual conference will be held at Arcadia University in Glenside. The conference will take place from May 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "**Facing Our Future Together: A New Way Forward.**" Please

keep an eye on your email as more detailed information will come to you shortly.

As I reflect on our history as a country and a people, I see what I would consider to be a beautifully complex and challenging picture. I see the struggle, frustration, and setbacks; yet I see perseverance and victory. History is a story; the systemic study of the past. And while we have never stood in this current space before, those who have come before us have. We know that history often repeats itself. How we handle and respond to things that are meant to destroy us dictates what will happen to future generations.

Our job is to unify, organize, strategize, implement, and act, just as our ancestors did. As a people, we are no strangers to oppression. What we have always done, and will continue to do, is make a way. We will make a way for

each other and for the next generation of brilliance coming behind us.

As we look around in this season, many things will change drastically and fairly quickly. While trying times may challenge us, I am proud to stand amongst a membership that is strong in character, resilient and dedicated to service through education. During these times, we will need each other a bit more. I encourage you to reach out to members you have not spoken to in a while to check in and/or reach out to invite a new face to the family.

As we face our future and move forward together, I am reminding everyone that unifying is necessary and we are stronger together. Be blessed as we stand firm and serve in the storm together!



For over 50 years, PBCOHE has served to ensure that the postsecondary educational needs of African Americans, and other underrepresented groups in the Commonwealth, are met. We're looking for the next generation of leaders to continue this important mission by seeking nominations and recommendations for the following Executive Council positions:

Elected positions (requires nomination and vote): VP/President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary

Appointed Chair positions (recommendation needed, vote not required): Journal Editor, Marketing and Fundraising, Education Policy, Membership, Newsletter Editor

For more information, or to express interest or recommend someone, please contact Dr. Danielle Martin, President, at [dnmartin@temple.edu](mailto:dnmartin@temple.edu) or Dr. Brenda Sanders Dédé, Executive Director, at [bsdede48@gmail.com](mailto:bsdede48@gmail.com).

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# SAVE THE DATE

Pennsylvania Black Conference on  
Higher Education, Inc.

Presents:

"Facing Our Future Together: A New Way Forward"

Annual Professional  
Conference

May 29 - 30, 2025

[pbcohe.org](http://pbcohe.org)

Hosted by:







# PBCOHE SHINES THE SPOTLIGHT ON....



## **DR. DANIELLE N. MARTIN PBCOHE PRESIDENT**

Dr. Danielle N. Martin, Academic Success Coordinator and Adjunct Assistant Professor at Temple University Harrisburg, will be awarded the Distinguished Educator Award by The Interdenominational Ministers Conference of Greater Harrisburg (IMC).

The award, recognizing and celebrating educators for their exceptional leadership and profound impact on shaping the minds of our current and future leaders, will be presented at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast being held on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel. (rescheduled from January 20, 2025).

This annual event is held to honor community leaders, civil rights activists, and those who embody the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and past civil rights leaders.

## **CONGRATULATIONS SHAMELL!**



**SHAMELL M. ROBERTS, Ed.D.**

**Delaware County  
Community College**

THE PENNSYLVANIA BLACK CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION, INC. RECOGNIZES AND CONGRATULATES EASTERN REGION MEMBER SHAMELL M. ROBERTS ON EARNING YOUR DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT.

YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION REACH BEYOND RECOGNITION OF THE LETTERS YOU HAVE EARNED AND SHOWS THE DEPTH OF CHARACTER AND COMMITMENT YOU WILL BRING TO YOUR FIELD.

WE EXTEND HEARTFELT WELL WISHES AS YOU MOVE INTO YOUR FUTURE AND FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS!

*“Education is the key to unlocking the world. It is the passport to freedom.”*

*— Oprah Winfrey*

# MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



Dr. Kevin LaVigne Antoine, JD, Associate Vice President for Student and Veteran Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer at Bucks County Community College, retired on February 20, after two decades of service in academia and public service. Dr. Antoine has served as the inaugural Chief Civil Rights Officer at SUNY Downstate, CUNY CSI, and Bucks County Community College.

As the inaugural Chief Civil Rights Officer, he played a role in shaping the landscape of higher education for underrepresented groups, creating the Dr. Martin Luther King Leadership Award, the government relations office at Bucks County Community College, and a strategic diversity plan at SUNY Downstate.

A former Fulbright Specialist Scholar, he conducted research that advanced global understanding of human rights issues. He earned his law degree from the College of William & Mary School of Law and completed a one-year Fellowship at the Harvard School of Public Health, where he researched discrimination in healthcare—a subject to which he devoted much of his career. Additionally, Antoine received his undergraduate education at the University of Southern Mississippi on an Air Force ROTC Scholarship.

He published his first book, “New Black Power: A Memoir of Kevin LaVigne Antoine”, which was recently featured in the Black-Owned Business Spotlight section of the Winter 2024 issue of *Architects of Achievement*. The book delves into the fascinating 1996 Mississippi Democratic primary for the majority-white Fourth Congressional District and how he challenged the National and Mississippi Democratic party’s establishment and became the first Black candidate to win the Democratic Nomination.

Dr. Antoine plans to focus on personal pursuits in retirement, including writing books, civil/human rights advocacy, traveling, and mentoring.

Dr. Antoine can be reached at [kevinantoine@icloud.com](mailto:kevinantoine@icloud.com).



Mr. Tre Coles began a new position at Carnegie Mellon University as the Associate Director of Masters Admissions in the Tepper School of Business. In his role as associate director, he serves as the lead recruiter for Tepper Future Business Leaders Deferred MBA Admissions Program.

Before joining CMU, Tre served as the Associate Director of Student Diversity Recruitment & Retention, Graduate Programs at the University of Pittsburgh Katz School of Business.

Tre received his bachelor’s degree in communication and media studies, marketing from the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and master’s degree in higher education from Penn State University.

Tre can be contacted at [trecoles@cmu.edu](mailto:trecoles@cmu.edu).

*Wishing you both the best for much happiness in your retirement and new position!*



# BLACK OWNED BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Now Available  
on Amazon

BLACK OWNED



available at **amazon**



Rebel Writes: A 90-Day Journal for Changemakers, is my 90-day guided journal for young changemakers!

Designed for high school and college students passionate about creating a more equitable and just world, Rebel Writes empowers you to dive deep into social justice themes, reflect on your purpose, and take action that makes a difference.

Each page is a step toward liberation, intersectionality, and community-building, with tools to help you build emotional resilience and practical advocacy skills. Whether you're just beginning your social justice journey or already advocating for change, this journal is your guide to becoming a catalyst for transformation. Are you ready to unleash your voice, step into your power, and create lasting impact? The time is now.

Order your copy today:

From my website: <https://danimartinedd.com/shop/rebelwrites/>

On Amazon: <https://a.co/d/g1sAiC2>

Let's ignite this revolution for equity and justice, one journal entry at a time.

# IN THE NEWS



CREDIT: ALUMNI.KNOXVILLECOLLEGE.EDU

## KNOXVILLE COLLEGE APPOINTS NEW PRESIDENT

Knoxville College, a historically Black college in Knoxville, TN, has appointed Dr. Rotesha Harris as its new president.

The school was established as a mission school in 1864 by R. J. Creswell of the United Presbyterian Church to educate the city's free Black and formerly enslaved people and is home to several buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the 126-year-old Elnathan Hall, which was destroyed in a fire on November 4, 2024.

Knoxville College lost its Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation in 1997 due to a combination of financial difficulties, declining enrollment and administrative challenges. By 2015 the school had an enrollment of just 11 students. Classes were suspended until Fall 2016 term with hopes of reorganizing, and in 2018, the school once again reopened, offering online courses, and graduated three students in 2022. It recently applied for accreditation with the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools.

Notable alumni include author, media commentator and talk show radio host Michael Eric Dyson and actor Palmer Williams Jr., who plays Curtis Payne's friend and barber Floyd on *Tyler Perry's House of Payne*.

## MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION DISCUSSING OFFERING 3-YEAR BACHELOR'S DEGREE

The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education is considering signing off on three-year bachelor's degrees.

With so many students today being concerned about the cost of education, this offering will trim off twenty-five percent of the full cost.

The new three-year bachelor's programs that some universities around the country are beginning to offer are sub-120 credits -- students will graduate with the same bachelor's degree as those who attended school for four years, but will have completed fewer credit hours to do so.



Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island became the first university in the U.S. to announce an in-person three-year bachelor's program launching next fall. Those students will be required to complete 90 to 96 credit hours and are only offered in the computer science, criminal justice, graphic design, and hospitality management degree programs. Merrimack College and New England College are also developing three-year bachelor's programs.



## PA NATIVE HAS ART FEATURED ON 2025 STAMP

A 1985 untitled drawing from Kutztown native Keith Haring is featured on the USPS's new Love stamp which was released in January.

Graduating from Kutztown Area High School in 1976, he attended the Ivy School of Professional Art in Pittsburgh before moving to New York City, where he gained notoriety from his spontaneous drawings in city subways. He would go on to create a mural on the Berlin Wall, design sets for MTV, and contribute a painting for Live Aid's iconic 1985 concert in Philadelphia.

After he was diagnosed with AIDS in 1988, he used his artwork to speak about his illness and inspire activism and awareness about AIDS. He died in 1990 of AIDS-related complications.



## NATION'S OLDEST FOLK FESTIVAL CANCELLED

Due to mounting financial challenges and dwindling attendance, the Kutztown Folk Festival, the oldest continuously operated folklife festival in the U.S., will not return in 2025 and, unless someone else steps in to take over, could be done for good.

The nine-day summer event held in Berks County would have celebrated its 75th anniversary this year. At its peak, the event drew more than 130,000 attendees. The annual budget in 2024 was \$1 million and since 2022, the event has lost \$347,000, as it doesn't have the same appeal to the younger generations that it did several years ago.

## MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR CREATES AI COURSE

A first-of-its-kind artificial intelligence course, constructed by Millersville University professor Dr. Oliver Dreon, is set to take off in the spring.

The course, aimed at teaching teachers and soon-to-be teachers how to teach about what AI is, as well as how to properly use it, detect it, and teach it to students in the classroom, is in its early adoption phase.

Dr. Dreon was approached by a group called the International Society for Technology and Education to develop a class for pre-service teachers and will be offered to teacher candidates across the U.S., Mexico, and other countries. It is expected that thousands from across the country will enroll.



CREDIT: MILLERSVILLE.EDU



CREDIT: DREXEL.EDU

## DREXEL UNIVERSITY NAMES NEW PRESIDENT AND ANNOUNCES LAYOFFS

Antonio Merlo, Ph.D., has unanimously been confirmed as the 16th president of Drexel University. He will assume his position on July 1, succeeding Interim President Denis P. O'Brien.

Dr. Merlo completed his undergraduate education in 1987, earning a Laurea summa cum laude in economics and social sciences from Bocconi University in Milan, before emigrating to the United States to continue his studies at NYU, where he obtained his doctorate in economics at New York University.

He is the current Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean of NYU's Faculty of Arts & Science and has had an extensive career in higher education, teaching at the University of Minnesota, NYU, Rice University, and the University of Pennsylvania.

The university has also announced that it will be laying off 60 employees this fall, citing budget cuts due to a decrease in student enrollment and increased operating costs. The layoffs will resolve an approximate 10% imbalance in its operating budget due, in part, on the "flawed rollout" of the FAFSA.

The revised FAFSA came out three months late and was followed by glitches. The Department of Education estimated approximately 30 percent of college applications were affected.

The university fell short, by about 500 students, of its enrollment goal this year, with the decline adding \$22 million to the current budget deficit.

## GOVERNOR SELECTS NEW EDUCATION SECRETARY

Gov. Josh Shapiro has selected former Beaver County superintendent, Dr. Carrie Rowe, to serve as the state's next Secretary of Education.

Currently deputy secretary, Dr. Rowe got her start as a Spanish teacher at Pittsburgh Public Schools, before moving to Beaver Area School District in 1999 to serve as district superintendent.

Former Secretary Khalid Mumin left the agency late last year for a role at MindUP, a program from the Goldie Hawn Foundation that trains teachers and schools in addressing student mental health.



CREDIT: PA.GOV





## PENN STATE SET TO CLOSE COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES

According to a letter from President Neeli Bendapudi, Penn State must close some of its Commonwealth campuses due to declining enrollment, with many of the counties that host these campuses expecting to decrease in population for the next 30 years.

The seven largest campuses – Abington, Altoona, Behrend, Berks, Brandywine, Harrisburg, and Lehigh Valley – will remain open, along with Great Valley and the special mission campuses – Penn State Dickinson Law, the College of Medicine, and the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

It was also noted that no campus identified for closure will close before the end of the 2026-27 academic year, allowing associate degree students enrolling in fall 2025 enough time to complete their degrees and 2+2 bachelor's degree students enough time to reach the point at which they would transition to another Penn State campus; the university will continue extending offers and admitting new students for fall 2025 at all campuses; and every student who begins a Penn State degree will have the opportunity to complete it at Penn State.

## PA COLLEGES RANKED AMONG THE BEST IN THE U.S.

Pennsylvania has long been recognized as being home to some of the best colleges around so it comes as no surprise that several of its universities have once again made it onto the list of top 100 schools in the country.

The annual rankings, published by [U.S. News and World Report](#), placed the University of Pennsylvania in the top ten, coming in at number ten. According to a study conducted and published by [Research.com](#), who ranked the university at number seven, cited “The University of Pennsylvania has a rich legacy of academic excellence and innovation. Its alumni include eight signers of the Declaration of Independence, 12 signers of the Constitution, 25 Nobel laureates, and three United States Supreme Court justices.”



Other PA universities to rank in the [U.S. News and World Report](#) top 100 were Carnegie Mellon University #21, Lehigh University #46, Villanova University #58, Penn State University #63, University of Pittsburgh #70, Drexel University #86, and Temple University #98.

The top three colleges were Harvard University in 3<sup>rd</sup>; Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2<sup>nd</sup>; and Princeton University in 1<sup>st</sup>.



## FLORIDA STUDENTS GIVING UP SATURDAYS TO LEARN BLACK HISTORY

Students in Florida are giving up their Saturday mornings to learn about African American history at the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum in Delray Beach and in similar programs at community centers across the state.

Although Florida has required public schools to teach African American history for the past 30 years, many families no longer trust the state’s education system to adequately address the subject, as it seems to be limited to heroic figures such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks and rarely extends beyond Black History Month.

The teaching of African American history remains inconsistent across Florida classrooms, inadequate in the eyes of some advocates, and is under fire by the administration of Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis, who has championed efforts to restrict how race, history and discrimination can be talked about in the state’s public schools.

In 2022, the governor signed a law [restricting certain race-based conversations](#) in schools and businesses and prohibits teaching that members of one ethnic group should feel guilt or bear responsibility for actions taken by previous generations. Last year, the administration [blocked a new Advanced Placement course](#) on African American Studies from being taught in Florida, saying it violates state law and is historically inaccurate.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER CREATES TIK TOK'S FIRST HBCU

Richmond, VA sixth grade math teacher Cierra Hinton noticed her algorithm was different after the US TikTok ban was lifted on January 19. She began seeing Black professors sharing their coursework as if they were in a classroom. The catalyst of this, Dr. Leah Barlow — a professor at North Carolina A&T — kicked off a movement, Users dubbed the movement [#TikTokUniversity](#), with her Intro to African American Studies series. The platform has been viewed 300M+ times on TikTok.

Tagged [HillmanTock](#), professors and subject matter experts share their own “college course” under the HillmanTok University moniker; a name inspired by the fictional university from the sitcom ‘A Different World’.



CREDIT: ESSENCE.COM

HillmanTok University has a dedicated [TikTok page](#) and [official website](#). It even has a school emblem and mascot, and currently offers more than [400 courses](#), where interested students can sign up now.



CREDIT: ROGER IDENDEN

## FORMER PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER PASSES AWAY AT 100

James Earl “Jimmy” Carter Jr., who was president during the 444-day Iran Hostage Crisis, died in December. He was 100 years old.

The longest-living president in American history, passed away peacefully, roughly 22 months after entering hospice care, at his home in the small town of Plains, Georgia, where he and his wife, Rosalynn, who died at 96 in November 2023, spent most of their lives.

President Carter was born October 1, 1924 in Plains, spending his early years in nearby Archery, where his family was a minority in the mostly Black community. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1946 and married Rosalynn Smith that same year.

Before becoming president, he served as a state senator of Georgia from 1963 to 1967 and governor of Georgia from 1971 to 1975. While president, he created the Department of Education, strengthened the social security system, and appointed record numbers of women and minorities to government jobs. He also established diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the People’s Republic of China, facilitated the Camp David Peace Accords between Israel and Egypt, persuaded the Senate to consent to a treaty promising to return the Panama Canal to Panamanian control, and signed a follow-on nuclear arms control agreement with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, known as SALT II. Heralded for being an international peacemaker and champion of democracy, public health, and human rights, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

He is survived by his children — Jack, Chip, Jeff, and Amy; 11 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

## FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE TO CUT POSITIONS

Franklin & Marshall College has announced plans to cut positions due to declining enrollment.

Over the past two years, to adjust the operating budget to align with the school’s current size and better navigate the evolving higher education landscape, the college has reduced the number of visiting, adjunct, and open tenure-track faculty positions with the current cuts, to occur in April, eliminating several currently filled professional staff positions.



In addition to reducing its workforce, the college plans to increase revenue with initiatives like recruiting more effectively and encouraging more transfer student enrollment. The college already benefits from a partnership that leases off-campus residential spaces to the Pennsylvania College of Art & Design.

It was also announced that president Barbara Altmann will retire at the end of this school year. City College of New York Dean Andrew Rich has been selected as her replacement.





## COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY – CLEARFIELD TO CLOSE

Commonwealth University of PA has announced that they will be ceasing their operations at the Clearfield Campus at the end of the 2026-27 academic year.

Fall of 2025 will be the final semester for students to begin programs. Students who are currently enrolled will be able to continue their programs as scheduled. Faculty and staff members will be offered the opportunity to work at the Lock Haven campus upon closure.

The university noted that a comprehensive study of the Clearfield location was conducted in 2024 and “[despite efforts to stabilize the Clearfield location](#) before and since integration, the analysis revealed no path forward for creating or maintaining financial sustainability.” Adding that for the last five years, they’ve averaged 302 students and have been running on a deficit of more than \$1,600,000.



CREDIT: SPELMAN.EDU

## SPELMAN COLLEGE PRESIDENT RESIGNS

After taking a sudden leave of absence in October 2024, Dr. Helene Gayle, president of Spelman College, will not return and stepped down permanently from her role in November.

Dr. Gayle was appointed as the eleventh president of Spelman College in 2022. Originally trained as a public health physician, she spent over 20 years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and served as CEO of CARE and The Chicago Community Trust.

Roz Brewer, a Spelman alumna and former chair of the college’s board of trustees, will continue to serve as interim president.

## PHILADELPHIA EAGLES WIN SUPER BOWL LIX

To avenge the heartbreaking loss suffered just two years ago at Super Bowl LVII, the Philadelphia Eagles defeated the Kansas City Chiefs, in a blowout game with a final score of 40-22, and denying the Chiefs a chance at becoming the first team to win three straight Super Bowls.

Congratulations to QB Jalen Hurts and RB Saquon Barkley on being named game MVP and AP Offensive Player of the Year, respectively.

More than 65,000 fans filled Caesars Superdome in New Orleans, with an estimated 127.7 million tuning in on their television sets and streaming platforms, making it the most watched Super Bowl of all time.



Fans were treated to performances by Jon Batiste, Trombone Shorty, Lauren Daigle and Ledisi, who are all Louisiana natives. Rapper Kendrick Lamar headlined the halftime show, which viewers described as impactful and controversial, and featured cameo appearances by SZA, Samuel L. Jackson and Serena Williams.



The Philadelphia Eagles weren’t the original team in Philadelphia, it was the Frankford Yellow Jackets. Before Bert Bell decided to create the Philadelphia Eagles, the Yellow Jackets were playing in the NFL since 1924 and even winning the 1926 NFL Championship. The Yellow Jackets were thriving until the Great Depression when two fires damaged their stadium resulting in them going bankrupt. In 1933, Bert Bell and Lud Wray bought the Yellow Jackets and instead of sticking with the Frankford name, they decided to use Philadelphia. Bell’s wife lent him money to purchase the football team due to the fact she saw potential in the sport. The only order of business to take care of is the nickname and Bell wasn’t keeping Yellow Jackets. Bell allegedly saw a billboard that had the New Deal National Recovery Act emblem which was an eagle. The Eagles would switch owners as Bell and Art Rooney would become the new owners of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Alexis Thompson would go on to own the Philadelphia Eagles.

abc27.com/sports



## UNIVERSITIES PAUSE PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

The universities of Pennsylvania and Pittsburgh will cut admissions across graduate and doctoral programs, in the wake of Donald Trump's proposed \$240 million funding reduction from the National Institutes of Health, with some cuts coming after students have been notified of their acceptance to their program.

The proposed cut — a 15% cap on indirect costs — could stunt the development of graduate programs and cost Penn about \$240 million and Pitt \$183 million annually. Indirect costs cover research-related expenses such as sophisticated lab equipment and building leases.

For every research grant dollar awarded, Pitt receives 59 cents for indirect related costs, for which the NIH is seeking to cut payments to 15 cents for every dollar awarded. Universities with higher indirect costs would see bigger cuts. Because of a lawsuit bought by Penn and 12 other universities, including Carnegie Mellon, against the NIH, a Massachusetts judge has temporarily halted the changes. A ruling is expected soon.

## PENN STATE THON SETS NEW RECORD

Beginning 6 p.m. Feb. 21 and ending 4 p.m. Feb. 23, more than 700 students danced and stood without sleep for 46 hours at the Bryce Jordan Center for Penn State's 53<sup>rd</sup> annual THON event.

As the world's largest student-run philanthropy, THON raises millions of dollars each year for Four Diamonds, to fund pediatric cancer research and support children and families fighting childhood cancer; this year setting a new record by raising more than \$17 million, surpassing last year by more than \$780,000. Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$236 million for Four Diamonds.



CREDIT: PSU.EDU



CREDIT: BLACKNEWS.COM

## NJ STUDENT ACHIEVES PERFECT SAT SCORE

Approximately two million students take the SAT every year with less than one percent, or fewer than 1,000, achieving a perfect score.

Sahli Negassi, a 17-year-old senior from West Orange High School in New Jersey, did just that. After taking the test and scoring a 1590, he thought he could do better and decided to take the test again, this time achieving a perfect 1600.

Sahli credits much of his success to his father, who nurtured his love for learning early on by teaching him to read before he entered school. Never taking a test prep class, Sahli studied every day, when his schedule allowed, using free online resources and, some days, going to school at 7 a.m. and leaving at 9.

His plans are to attend Harvard and become an engineer or lawyer.

## ALBRIGHT COLLEGE MAKES CUTS

Over the past year, Albright College has cut 53 positions, canceled some academic majors, and considered selling property and art, to close a \$20 million deficit, caused by declining enrollment worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the next few years, the school will phase out economics and philosophy majors and incorporate new majors like cybersecurity, vocal performance, and music production and establish new business tracks like human resources management. The class eliminations were based on low enrollment in those courses, while additions were based on student interest and employment demands.







## March

## *Women's History Month!*

**3/2/25**

### **Old School Hip Hop Sunday Funday**

Santander Arena, 700 Penn Street, Reading

Show time: 3:00pm - Doors open at 2:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$49

For info/tickets: <https://www.santander-arena.com/events/detail/old-school-hip-hop-sunday-funday>

**3/7/25**

### **We The People First Friday: Ubuntu African Storytelling & Wanawake Art**

The Ware Center, 42 North Prince Street, Lancaster

Show time: 6:00pm

Admission is free and open to the public

For info/tickets: <https://artsmu.com/event/mar-2025-first-friday/the-ware-center/>

**3/7/25 & 3/9/25**

### **River City Stories**

West Shore Theatre, 317 Bridge Street, New Cumberland

Show times: March 7 – 7:00pm; March 9 – 1:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$10

For info/tickets: <https://www.westshoretheatre.org/tickets/#march>

**3/8/25**

### **Ladies R&B Kickback Concert Part 2**

The Liacouras Center, 1776 North Broad Street, Philadelphia

Show time: 8:00pm - Doors open at 7:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$60

For info/tickets: [https://www.liacourascenter.com/events/Ladies\\_RnB\\_Kickback\\_Concert\\_Part\\_2](https://www.liacourascenter.com/events/Ladies_RnB_Kickback_Concert_Part_2)

**3/8/25**

### **Preacher Lawson: Funny As Bleep Tour**

The Sherman Theater, 524 Main Street, Stroudsburg

Show time: 8:00pm - Doors open at 7:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$37

For info/tickets: <https://shermantheater.com/event/preacher-lawson-funny-as-bleep/sherman-theater/>

**3/9/25 – 3/10/25**

### **Avery\*Sunshine**

City Winery Pittsburgh, 1627 Smallman Street, Pittsburgh

Show time: 7:30pm - Doors open at 6:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$45

For info/tickets: <https://citywinery.com/pittsburgh/events>

**3/14/25**

### **The Millennium Tour 2025**

The Liacouras Center, 1776 North Broad Street, Philadelphia

Show time: 8:00pm - Doors open at 7:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$69

For info/tickets: [https://www.liacourascenter.com/events/The\\_Millennium\\_Tour\\_2025](https://www.liacourascenter.com/events/The_Millennium_Tour_2025)

**3/14/25**

**Jay Pharoah**

Live! Casino & Hotel Philadelphia, Live! Event Center, 900 Packer Avenue, Philadelphia

Show time: 8:00pm - Doors open at 7:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$24.99

For info/tickets: <https://philadelphia.livecasinohotel.com/events-and-shows/jay-pharoah>

**3/15/25**

**I Love The 90's Tour**

Wind Creek Event Center, 77 Wind Creek Boulevard, Bethlehem

Show time: 8:00pm - Doors open at 6:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$59.50

For info/tickets: <https://www.windcreekeventcenter.com/events/i-love-the-90s-tour/>

**3/15/25**

**The 3rd Annual Little Layers of Black History (A Family Friendly Event)**

Milton Hershey School, Purcell Friendship Hall, 109 McCorkle Road, Hershey

Event time: 2:00pm - 6:30pm

Admission fee: Adult \$40 (ages 9+) | Youth \$25 (ages 4-9) | Infant Free (ages 0-3)

For info/tickets: <https://www.layersofblackhistory.com/events>

**3/20/25**

**Syncopated Ladies**

Appell Center for Performing Arts, Strand Theatre, 50 North George Street, York

Show time: 7:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$36.75

For info/tickets: <https://appellcenter.org/show/syncopated-ladies/>

**3/22/25**

**CapLive: The Soul Rebels**

Appell Center for Performing Arts, Capitol Theatre, 50 North George Street, York

Show time: 7:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$30

For info/tickets: <https://appellcenter.org/show/caplive-the-soul-rebels/>

**3/22/25**

**Blake Shelton Friends & Heroes 2025**

Penn State University, Bryce Jordan Center, 720 Curtin Road, State College

Show time: 7:00pm - Doors open at 5:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$49

For info/tickets: <https://bjc.psu.edu/blake-shelton>

**3/28/25**

**Tyler, The Creator: Chromakopia The World Tour**

PPG Paints Arena, 1001 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh

Show time: 7:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$43

For info/tickets: <https://www.ppgpaintsarena.com/events/detail/tyler-the-creator>

**3/28/25 – 3/30/25**

**Bruce Bruce**

Punch Line Philly, 720 Curtin Road, State College

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$43

For info/tickets: <https://www.punchlinephilly.com/shows>



## March - May

**3/12/25 – 5/28/25**

### **Black Newsbeat with Dr. Kimeka Campbell**

Open Stage of Harrisburg, Court Street Cabaret, 25 North Court Street, Harrisburg

Show times: 7:00pm

Admission fee: \$10

For info/tickets: <https://www.openstagehbg.com/shows/bnb>

**3/25/25 – 4/6/25**

### **& Juliet**

Academy of Music, 240 South Broad Street, Philadelphia

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Check website for ticket prices

For info/tickets: <https://www.ensembleartsphilly.org/series-and-subscriptions/broadway-series/and-juliet>

**3/25/25 – 4/27/25**

### **In The Heights**

Bristol Riverside Theatre, 120 Radcliffe Street, Bristol

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Check website for ticket prices

For info/tickets: <https://brtstage.org/shows/in-the-heights/>

**3/25/25 – 5/4/25**

### **Dreamgirls**

Walnut Street Theatre, Mainstage, 825 Walnut Street, Philadelphia

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Check website for ticket prices

For info/tickets: <https://www.walnutstreettheatre.org/season/show/dreamgirls>

## April

## *Black Women's History Month!*

**4/3/25 – 4/4/25**

### **Je'Caryous Johnson Presents Jason's Lyric Live!**

Miller Theater, 250 South Broad Street, Philadelphia

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Check website for ticket prices

For info: <https://www.ensembleartsphilly.org/tickets-and-events/ensemble-arts-philly-presents/jecaryous-johnson-presents-jasons-lyric>

**4/4/24**

### **Elizabethtown College 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Justice Fair**

Elizabethtown College, Bowers Fitness Center, 905 East Cedar Street, Elizabethtown

Event time: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Admission is free and students, faculty, staff, and administrators are encouraged to attend.

To register: <https://forms.office.com/r/WHW6tHYFWY>

**4/5/25**

### **CranFest**

Cranberry Twp Municipal Center Gymnasium, 2525 Rochester Road, Cranberry Twp

Event time: 11:00am - 3:00pm

Admission is free and open to the public

For info: <https://www.cranberrytownship.org/1420/CranFest>

**4/10/25**

**It Is What It Is Live featuring Mase, Cam and Stat**

Academy of Music, 240 South Broad Street, Philadelphia

Show time: 8:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$45.75

For info/tickets: <https://www.ensembleartsp Philly.org/tickets-and-events/ensemble-arts-philly-presents/it-is-what-it-is-live>

**4/12/25**

**York Symphony's JOHN WILLIAMS FOREVER! French Connections with Branford Marsalis**

Appell Center for Performing Arts, Strand Theatre, 50 North George Street, York

Show time: 7:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$11

For info/tickets: <https://appellcenter.org/show/york-symphonys-john-williams-forever-french-connections-with-branford-marsalis/>

**4/17/25**

**R.E.S.P.E.C.T. – A Celebration of the Music of Aretha Franklin**

The Pullo Center, Penn State York, 1031 Edgecomb Avenue, York

Show time: 7:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$35

For info/tickets: <https://pullocenter.york.psu.edu/respect/>

**4/17/25**

**Mary J. Blige – The For My Fans Tour with Ne-Yo and Mario**

Wells Fargo Center, 3601 South Broad Street, Philadelphia

Show time: 7:00pm - Doors open at 6:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$69

For info/tickets: <https://www.wellsfargocenterphilly.com/events/detail/mary-j-blige-4-17-25>

**4/25/25**

**The Temptations and the Four Tops**

Wind Creek Event Center, 77 Wind Creek Boulevard, Bethlehem

Show time: 8:00pm - Doors open at 6:00pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$39.40

For info/tickets: <https://www.windcreekeventcenter.com/events/the-temptations-and-the-four-tops/>

**April - May**

**4/25/25 – 5/11/25**

**Sister Act**

The Playhouse at Allenberry, 1559 Boiling Springs Road, Boiling Springs

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Check website for ticket prices

For info/tickets: <https://keystonetheatrics.com/>

**May**

**5/1/25**

**Kane Brown The High Road Tour**

Penn State University, Bryce Jordan Center, 720 Curtin Road, State College

Show time: 7:00pm - Doors open at 5:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$49.50

For info/tickets: <https://bjc.psu.edu/kane-brown-1>

**5/3/25**

**Paige Hernandez – All The Way Live!**

Appell Center for Performing Arts, Strand Theatre, 50 North George Street, York

Show time: 11:00am

Admission fee: \$15

For info/tickets: <https://appellcenter.org/show/paige-hernandez-all-the-way-live/>

**5/16/25 – 5/17/25**

**South Central PA PeopleFest**

Codorus State Park, 2600 Smith Station Road, Hanover

Check website for hours of operation

Admission is free and open to the public

For info: <https://www.hanoverdiversity.org/events>

**5/17/25**

**The Mann’s HBCU Festival**

The Mann Center, 5201 Parkside Avenue, Philadelphia

Event time: 11:00am – 5:00pm

Admission is free and open to the public. Advanced registration is required.

For info/registration: <https://manncenter.org/hbcu>

**5/23/25 – 5/24/25**

**Ain’t Too Proud – The Life and Times of the Temptations**

Warner Theatre, 809 French Street, Erie

Show times: 7:30pm - Doors open at 6:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$44

For info/tickets: <https://www.erieevents.com/events/event/05/23/2025/aint-too-proud-the-life-and-times-of-the-temptations>

**5/24/25 – 5/26/25**

**Artsfest**

Riverfront Park, Harrisburg

Event time: Check website for daily hours of operation

Admission is free and open to the public

For information: <https://harrisburgpa.gov/special-events-2/artsfest-2/>

**5/25/25**

**Unity Music Fest**

The Forum Auditorium, 500 Walnut Street, Harrisburg

Show time: 6:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$40

For info/tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/unity-music-fest-2025-tickets-1071946303249>

<p><b>Women's HERstory Trivia</b>  1 - A, 2 - C, 3 - C, 4 - B, 5 - A, 6 - B, 7 - B, 8 - B, 9 - C, 10 - A</p> <p><b>PA Trivia</b>  1 - 1787; 2 - Philadelphia; 3 - York; 4 - Quaker Oats; 5 - Flood; 6 - James Buchanan, Joe Biden; 7 - 4 - PA, KY, MA, VA; 8 - Mountain Laurel; 9 - 67; 10 - Hannah Callowhill Penn; 11 - Woods or Forest; 12 - Kennett Square; 13 - Lancaster; 14 - Wanamaker's; 15 - Phillipsburg</p> <p><b>Fill in the Blanks</b>  1-Jury, 2-Betsy, 3-Cosby, 4-Motto, 5-Mount, 6-French, 7-Second, 8-Hershey, 9-Oil Well, 10-Quakers, 11-Seasons, 12-Shawnee, 13-Atlantic, 14-Colonies, 15-Computer, 16-Delaware, 17-Franklin, 18-Allentown, 19-Groundhog, 20-Libraries, 21-Three Mile, 22-Gettysburg, 23-Harrisburg, 24-Pittsburgh, 25-Technology, 26-Valley Forge, 27-Independence, 28-Philadelphia</p>
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5/28/25

**Post Malone with Jelly Roll and special guest Sierra Ferrell**

Hersheypark Stadium, 100 Hersheypark Drive, Hershey

Show time: 7:30pm

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$79

For information: <https://www.hersheyentertainment.com/hersheypark-stadium/events/post-malone-with-jelly-roll/>

5/29/25 – 5/31/25

**54<sup>th</sup> PBCOHE Annual Conference**

Arcadia University, 450 South Easton Road, Glenside

Time: Thursday, May 29, 12:00pm – Friday, May 30, 11:00pm

Registration fee: Check website for registration fees

For information: <https://www.pbcohe.org/2025-annual-conference.html>

To register online: <https://bit.ly/PBCOHE54>

**May - June**

5/20/25 – 6/1/25

**Some Like It Hot**

Forrest Theatre, 1114 Walnut Street, Philadelphia

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Check website for ticket prices

For info/tickets: <https://www.ensembleartsp Philly.org/series-and-subscriptions/broadway-series/some-like-it-hot>

5/28/25 – 6/1/25

**African American Cultural Alliance 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Cultural Fair & Parade**

Reservoir Park, 832 East Orange Street, Lancaster

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission is free and open to the public.

For information: <https://www.aacal.org/event-details/african-american-fair-parade-2025-05-28-18-00>

5/31/25 – 6/21/25

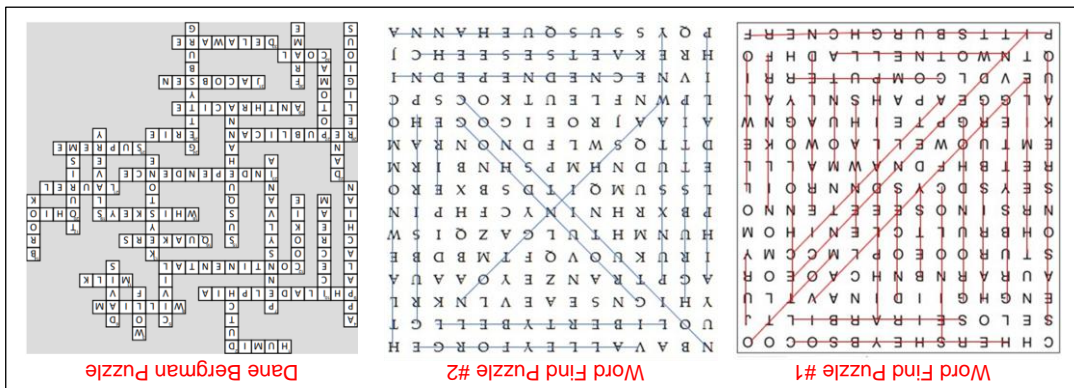
**The Colored Museum**

Open Stage of Harrisburg, Capital Blue Cross Main Stage, 25 North Court Street, Harrisburg

Show times: Check website for performance times

Admission fee: Tickets starting at \$25

For info/tickets: <https://www.openstagebg.com/shows/thecoloredmuseum>





# SPRING is in the Air



Have you ever wondered where the phrase “April showers bring May flowers” got its origin?

The phrase was coined from a poem written sometime in the mid-1500s by English poet Thomas Tusser titled “A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry” but his poem was not quite the same as the expression we all know from childhood. His was:

*Sweet April showers  
Do spring May flowers.*

Tusser’s point in including this poem in his compilation was to remind his readers that often good things come from things that seem uncomfortable or bad at the time. Haven’t we all experienced a gloomy, rainy spring that seems too wet, cold, and muddy to enjoy? By learning this little rhyme, we are reminded the spring rains are necessary for the rebirth of plants after the long, cold winter.

In addition to awaiting the arrival of spring is setting our clocks forward one hour, or “springing ahead”, for Daylight Saving Time, which this year will start at 2:00am on Sunday, March 9 and end on Sunday, November 2, when clocks “fall back” to Standard Time.

The idea behind daylight saving time is that it allows us to use natural daylight better, although the practice was first suggested in an essay by Benjamin Franklin in 1784 and was implemented nationally in the United States on March 31, 1918, as a wartime effort, during World War I, to save an hour’s worth of fuel each day to light lamps and coal to heat homes. The reason the clock changes at 2:00am on Sunday is that was when they would interrupt the least amount of train travel around the country.

Moving clocks forward one hour in the spring provides more daylight in the evenings during the warmer months and moving clocks back one hour in the fall provides more daylight during the winter mornings. Over 70 countries use daylight saving time with many having different beginning and end dates.

The only U.S. regions that do not participate in daylight saving time are Hawaii, parts of Arizona, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Daylight saving time has long been the topic of debate throughout the country as many people wonder why it must happen. Over the past decade, several states (Colorado, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Idaho, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Wyoming, Delaware, Maine, Oregon, Tennessee, Washington, and Florida) have either passed resolutions or enacted legislation to have year-round daylight saving time, thus eliminating the need to “spring ahead” and “fall back”.

## March is Women's History Month

2025 Theme: Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations

## April is Black Women's History Month

2025 Theme: Black Women: Continuing the Fight for Equity, Knowing Our Worth, Trusting Our GOD

Kimberlé Crenshaw



Loretta Ross



Viola Fletcher



Toni Stone



Peggy McIntosh



Eloise Pepion Cobell



Flossie Wong-Staal



Romay Davis



### **KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW**

2024 National Women's Hall of Fame Inductee - Co-founder and Executive Director of the African American Policy Forum, a gender and racial justice legal think tank, and the founder and Executive Director of the Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies at Columbia Law School. She is a trailblazing scholar, advocate, and professor whose ideas have reshaped the landscape of critical race theory and Black feminist legal theory.

### **VIOLA FLETCHER**

The oldest known living survivor of the Tulsa race massacre of 1921, turning 110 on May 10, 2024.

### **PEGGY MCINTOSH**

2024 National Women's Hall of Fame Inductee - American feminist, anti-racism activist, scholar, speaker, and senior research scientist of the Wellesley Centers for Women. She is the founder of the National SEED Project on Inclusive Curriculum (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity).

### **DR. FLOSSIE WONG-STAAAL (1946 – 2020)**

2019 National Women's Hall of Fame Inductee - A world-renowned virologist and molecular biologist, whose team of scientists at the U.S. National Cancer Institute were the first to molecularly clone HIV and to elucidate the complex structure of its genome. This accomplishment was instrumental in proving HIV to be the cause of AIDS, and in the subsequent development of diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for the disease.

### **LORETTA ROSS**

2024 National Women's Hall of Fame Inductee – Academic and activist who has dedicated many years to advocating for women's rights and reproductive justice. Co-founder of SisterSong and Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective and founder of the National Center for Human Rights Education in Atlanta.

### **TONI STONE**

First woman to play in the Negro Leagues, playing second base for the Indianapolis Clowns - the position played by Hank Aaron before he joined the Milwaukee Braves (now the Atlanta Braves). Her life inspired the play *Toni Stone*, which was based on her autobiography *Curveball: The Remarkable True Story of Toni Stone*, which was a New York Times Critics Pick and named the Best New Play of 2019 by The Wall Street Journal.

### **ELOUISE PEPION COBELL (1945 – 2011)**

2024 National Women's Hall of Fame Inductee (posthumous) - Known as "Yellow Bird Woman," was an entrepreneur, banker, advocate, and member of the Blackfeet Nation who fought tirelessly for government accountability and for Native Americans to have control over their own financial future.

### **ROMAY DAVIS**

Member of the 6888<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Directory Battalion, the only all-Black, all-female unit to serve overseas during World War II and one of the last surviving members, before passing away on June 21, 2024 at the age of 104. The remarkable challenges and accomplishments of the battalion are the subject of the 2024 Tyler Perry film *The Six Triple Eight*.

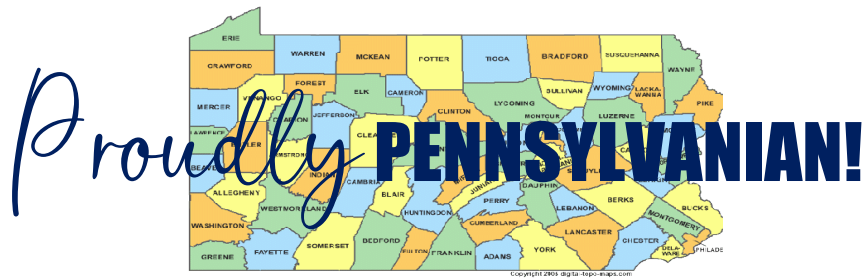


# Women's "HERstory" Month Trivia

(Answers found on page 17)

- Who was the first woman to co-anchor a news show?
  - Barbara Walters
  - Jessica Savitch
  - Diane Sawyer
- Who is known for being the first African American prima ballerina?
  - Misty Copeland
  - Carmen de Lavallade
  - Janet Collins
- Which scientist was the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize and the first person to receive two Nobel Prizes?
  - Jane Adams
  - Nadia Murad
  - Marie Curie
- Which mathematician was known as 'the human computer' and helped calculate trajectories for the first man in space?
  - Kitty O'Brien Joyner
  - Katherine Johnson
  - Sally Ride
- Malala Yousafzai is the world's youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate for her work in which cause?
  - Education of women and children
  - Promoting the rights of refugees
  - Contribution to sustainable development
- Who was the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for literature?
  - Gwendolyn Brooks
  - Toni Morrison
  - Alice Walker
- Who was the first woman to be inducted into the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame?
  - Janis Joplin
  - Aretha Franklin
  - Joni Mitchell
- Jane Austen's most famous novels include *Pride and Prejudice*, *Persuasion*, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Jane Eyre
  - Wuthering Heights
  - Emma
- Which singer won the Grammy Award for Album Of The Year most often (3 times)?
  - Adele
  - Taylor Swift
  - Beyonce'
- Which soldier fought in the American Revolutionary War disguised as a man?
  - Deborah Sampson
  - Ruby Bradley
  - Opha May Johnson





Pennsylvania is primarily known for its rich American history, including being the birthplace of the United States, hosting the signing of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution in Philadelphia, the pivotal Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War, and being home to important figures like Benjamin Franklin.

But here are some interesting facts about Pennsylvania that you may not have known or learned in school - inventions, technology, culture, medicine, people – that are all proudly Pennsylvanian!

- Pennsylvania was not named by, or after, founder William Penn, but by King Charles II, who had given the land to Penn in 1681 to satisfy a debt the king had with Penn's father, Admiral Sir William Penn. The king wanted it named after Penn's father and Penn wanted to call it "New Wales", to which the king's secretary, who was a Welshman of the Orthodox religion, objected. So, the king chose Pennsylvania, which translates to "Penn's Woods".
- The Pennsylvania Dutch aren't really Dutch at all. After migrating to America from Germany, they were called Pennsylvania Deutsch, which is the German word for Germanic people. Eventually, the English language converted Deutsch into Dutch.
- There is only one town in Pennsylvania: Bloomsburg. Everywhere else is either a city, borough, or township.
- Bubble gum was invented in Philadelphia in 1928 at the Fleeer Chewing Gum Company. Fleeer had been trying for years to create a gum thin enough that it could be used to blow bubbles, but it was Fleeer's accountant, Walter Diemer, that finally cracked the recipe. Diemer's original gum turned out a dull, non-appetizing gray, so he added pink dye to the concoction, as it was the only color he had on hand. And thus, the traditional pink bubble gum—soon to be named "Dubble Bubble"—was born.
- The Big Mac was invented in Uniontown in 1967. McDonald's franchise owner, Jim Delligatti, created the double-decker sandwich to appeal to local steelworkers who didn't feel full enough after eating a regular McDonald's burger.
- The banana split was invented in 1904 at a pharmacy in Latrobe. David Strickler, a soda jerk at the Latrobe pharmacy, wanted to build a sundae that would attract the students from nearby Saint Vincent College so he sandwiched three scoops of ice cream between a banana which he split in half lengthwise then covered it all with more fruit, marshmallow sauce, and crushed nuts.
- The first computer in the world – the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC) – was invented at the University of Pennsylvania in 1946.
- The first MAC (now ATM) machine was launched in 1979 in Philadelphia.
- The smiley face emoticon was invented in Pittsburgh by Carnegie Mellon University Professor Scott Fahlman in 1982.
- The polio vaccine was created in Pittsburgh in 1955 by Dr. Jonas Salk. Children in the city were the first to be given the new vaccine.
- Hugh J. Ward invented Bingo in Pittsburgh in the early 1920s. He originally called the game Beano and used beans as markers.

- The first piano in America was built in Philadelphia in 1775.
- The Philadelphia Zoo was the first zoo to open in the country. It was first chartered in 1859, but it's opening was delayed until 1874 due to the Civil War. When it first opened, it cost 25 cents to enter.
- Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia was the first hospital in the United States, founded in 1751 by Dr. Thomas Bond and Benjamin Franklin.
- Pennsylvania leads the country in a lot of things, including the number of licensed hunters, pretzel bakeries, sausage production, covered bridges, and rural population.
- The Nickelodeon in Pittsburgh was the world's first commercial movie theater, opening in 1905.
- Baseball Hall of Famers Stan Musial and Ken Griffey, Jr. were both born in Donora, on September 21 (but 49 years apart). Musial played on a high school basketball team with Griffey's grandfather.
- You're probably familiar with these famous Pennsylvanians: Will Smith, Kobe Bryant, Taylor Swift, and Bill Cosby. But did you know, actors Richard Gere (Philly) and Billy Porter (Pittsburgh), singers Jim Croce (Philly) and John Legend (Springfield), actresses Sharon Stone (Meadville) and Tina Fey (Upper Darby Twp), Princess of Monaco Grace Kelly (Philly), Tae Bo creator Billy Blanks (Erie), and author-activist Noam Chomsky (Philly), are all from Pennsylvania?







# PENNSYLVANIA STATE TRIVIA

*How well do you know Pennsylvania history?*

(Answers found on page 17)

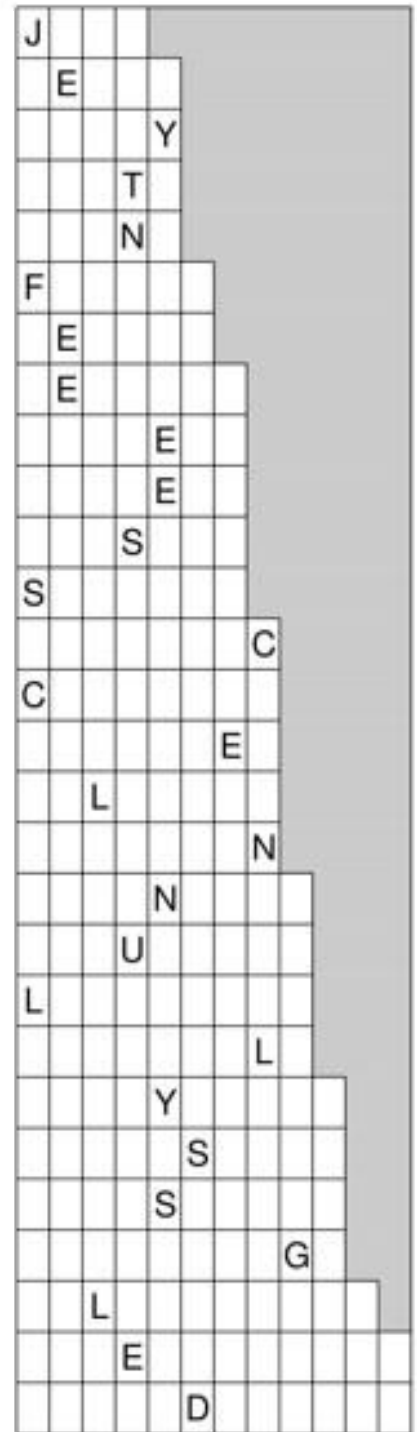
1. What year did Pennsylvania become a state? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the largest city in Pennsylvania based on population? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Hershey's is, of course, located in Hershey, PA, but one of its most iconic products, a peppermint patty coated in dark chocolate, was invented in what town 36 miles away? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Dating back to 1877, the advertising mascot of the namesake brand of what PepsiCo subsidiary has been a figure inspired by drawings of Pennsylvania founder William Penn? \_\_\_\_\_
5. The town of Johnstown in western PA is most notable in U.S. history for being the site of what type of disaster in 1889, which killed nearly 2,000? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which two presidents were born in Pennsylvania? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Pennsylvania is one of how many commonwealth states in the nation? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Although Governor Gifford Pinchot preferred the azalea, this flower was selected as Pennsylvania's state flower during his term in 1933. \_\_\_\_\_
9. How many counties does Pennsylvania have? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Who is considered Pennsylvania's first woman governor? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Pennsylvania is made up of two words. Penn is for Sir Admiral William Penn and "sylvania", which is a Latin word meaning what? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What Pennsylvania city is known as the Mushroom Capital of the World? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Other than Harrisburg and Philadelphia, this city served as state capital of Pennsylvania. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Philadelphia had the first department store in the U.S. What was the name of it? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What Pennsylvania town was the first ever to be illuminated by electricity in 1881? \_\_\_\_\_



# PA FILL-IN THE BLANKS

(Answers found on page 17)

1. Early state history included freedom of religion and rights to trial by \_\_\_\_
2. The first U.S. flag was sewn by \_\_\_\_ Ross in Philadelphia
3. Famous Pennsylvanians include Bill \_\_\_\_, Jimmy Stewart, and Arnold Palmer
4. State \_\_\_\_: "Virtue, Liberty, and Independence"
5. \_\_\_\_ Davis is the highest point in the state at 3,213 feet elevation
6. The \_\_\_\_ and Indian War was fought in Pennsylvania from 1754-1763
7. Pennsylvania became the \_\_\_\_ state on December 2, 1787
8. \_\_\_\_ Foods Corporation has made the state a leader in chocolate production
9. The first successful \_\_\_\_ was drilled near Titusville in 1859
10. Established as a haven for \_\_\_\_, the colony supported the people's rights
11. Pennsylvania has wide variations in weather between the \_\_\_\_
12. The Leni-Lenape and \_\_\_\_ were one of the native tribes in the region
13. The only original colony without any coastline on the \_\_\_\_ Ocean
14. Founded by William Penn in 1681; one of the original 13 \_\_\_\_
15. ENIAC, the world's first \_\_\_\_, was built at the Univ. of Pennsylvania in 1946
16. The \_\_\_\_ River forms the eastern border of the state
17. Statesman, scientist, and inventor Benjamin \_\_\_\_ lived in Philadelphia
18. Largest cities: Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, \_\_\_\_, Erie, and Upper Darby
19. Punxsutawney Phil looks for his shadow every February 2, or "\_\_\_\_ Day"
20. Steel tycoon Andrew Carnegie's wealth built over 2,500 of the world's \_\_\_\_
21. In 1979, a nuclear power plant accident occurred at \_\_\_\_ Island
22. In July 1863, \_\_\_\_ became one of the bloodiest battles ever fought
23. The state capital on the Susquehanna River
24. City where 19<sup>th</sup> century fortunes were made in the steel industry
25. Amish farms have been tended without modern \_\_\_\_ for 300 years
26. In 1777-78, George Washington's men spent a hard, cold winter in \_\_\_\_
27. The Declaration of \_\_\_\_ was signed in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776
28. Home of Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and cheesesteak sandwiches



# PA WORD FIND – PUZZLE #1

(Answers found on page 18)

WORD LIST	
JURY	ALLENTOWN
HERSHEY	TECHNOLOGY
COMPUTER	MOUNT
GETTYSBURG	SHAWNEE
BETSY	GROUNDHOG
OIL WELL	VALLEY FORGE
DELAWARE	ATLANTIC
HARRISBURG	LIBRARIES
COSBY	INDEPENDENCE
QUAKERS	SECOND
FRANKLIN	COLONIES
PITTSBURGH	THREE MILE
MOTTO	PHILADELPHIA

C	H	H	E	R	S	H	E	Y	B	S	O	C	O	O
S	E	L	O	S	E	I	R	A	R	B	I	L	T	J
E	N	G	H	G	I	I	D	I	N	A	V	T	L	U
A	U	R	A	R	N	B	N	H	C	A	O	E	O	R
S	T	U	R	O	O	E	O	P	L	M	C	C	M	Y
O	H	B	R	U	L	T	C	L	E	N	I	H	O	M
N	R	S	I	N	O	S	E	E	E	T	E	N	N	O
S	E	Y	S	D	C	Y	S	D	N	N	R	O	I	L
R	E	T	B	H	F	D	N	A	W	M	A	L	L	L
E	M	T	U	O	W	E	L	L	A	O	W	O	K	E
K	I	E	R	G	P	T	E	I	H	U	A	G	N	W
A	L	G	G	E	A	P	A	H	S	N	L	Y	A	L
U	E	V	D	L	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	R	I
Q	T	N	W	O	T	N	E	L	L	A	D	H	F	O
P	I	T	T	S	B	U	R	G	H	C	N	E	R	F

# PA WORD FIND – PUZZLE #2

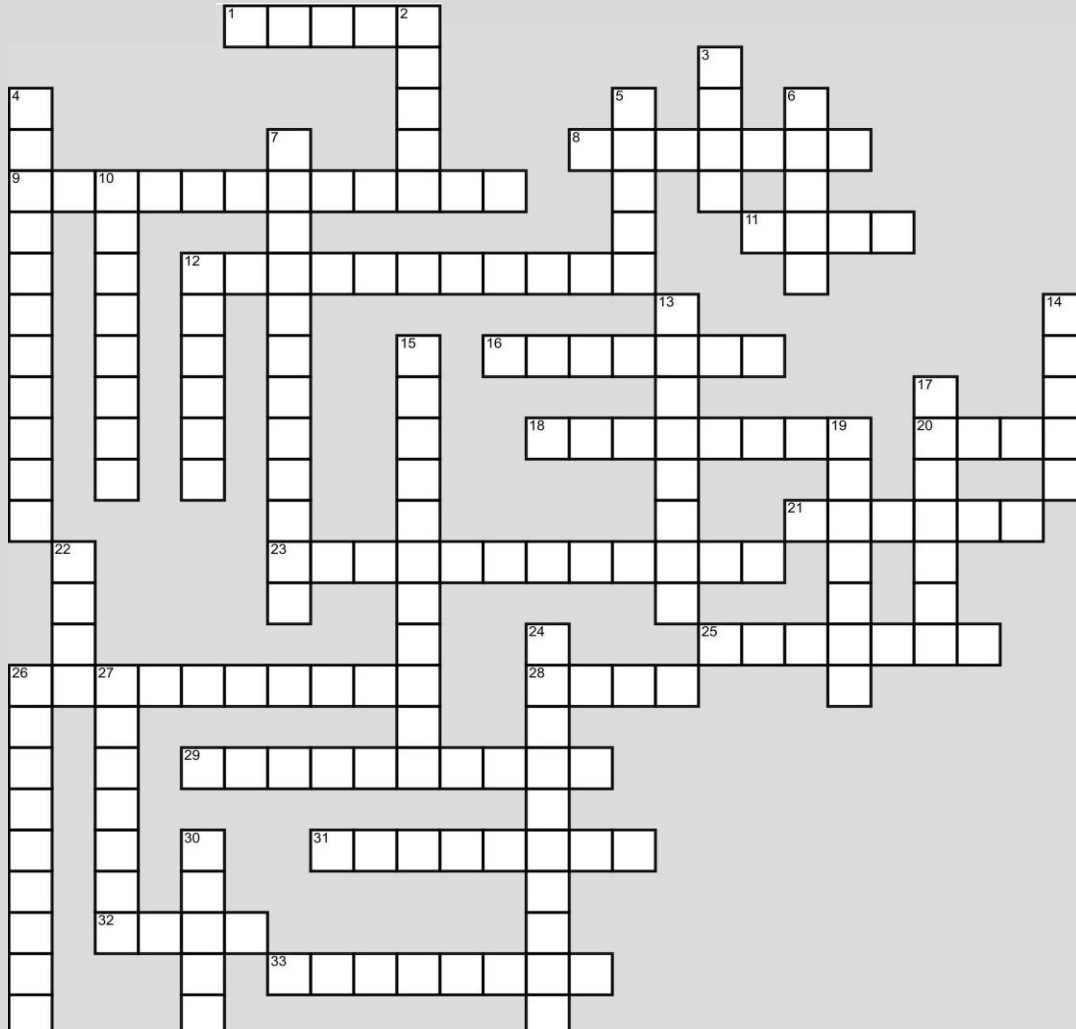
WORD LIST
PHILADELPHIA
ERIE
PITTSBURGH
LIBERTY BELL
VALLEY FORGE
HARRISBURG
CONSTITUTION
COMMONWEALTH
PENNSYLVANIA
INDEPENDENCE
WASHINGTON
SUSQUEHANNA
GROUNDHOG
PUNXSUTAWNEY
CHEESESTEAK

N	B	A	V	A	L	L	E	Y	F	O	R	G	E	H
U	O	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y	B	E	L	L	G	T
Y	H	I	G	N	S	E	A	E	V	L	N	K	R	L
A	G	P	T	R	A	N	Z	E	Y	O	A	A	U	A
I	R	U	K	U	O	V	Q	F	T	M	B	D	B	E
H	U	N	M	H	T	U	L	G	A	Z	Q	I	S	W
P	B	X	R	H	N	I	N	Y	C	F	H	P	I	N
L	S	S	U	M	Q	I	T	D	S	B	X	E	R	O
E	T	U	D	N	H	M	P	S	H	N	B	I	R	M
D	T	T	Q	S	W	L	F	D	N	O	N	R	A	M
A	I	A	A	J	R	O	E	I	G	O	G	E	H	O
L	P	W	N	F	L	E	U	T	K	O	C	S	P	C
I	V	N	E	C	N	E	D	N	E	P	E	D	N	I
H	R	E	K	A	E	T	S	E	S	E	E	H	C	J
P	Q	Y	S	S	U	S	Q	U	E	H	A	N	N	A



# Dane Bergman's Pennsylvania Crossword Puzzle

(Answers found on page 18)



## Across

- 1 PA has a \_\_\_\_\_ climate.
- 8 Founder of PA “\_\_\_\_\_ Penn”
- 9 PA city that was the nation’s capital from 1790 to 1800.
- 11 PA is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest producer of this farm-produced drink.
- 12 PA Congress where delegates met during the Revolutionary War.
- 16 Followed Penn to Penn land for religious freedom.
- 18 Rebellion in late 1700s after Congress put tax on whiskey.
- 20 In the west, this river is formed by the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers.
- 21 PA state flower “Mountain \_\_\_\_\_”
- 23 “Declaration of \_\_\_\_\_” signed in PA during Revolutionary War.
- 25 Highest Court in the state established in 1722.
- 26 This Party won in PA from 1860-1930.
- 28 Minor rivers feed this large lake in the northwest.
- 29 PA has a large reserve of this special type of coal.
- 31 First person to discover the Ohio River.
- 32 PA is a top provider of this energy natural resource.
- 33 In the east, this river is fed by the Lehigh and Schuylkill

## Down

- 2 Originally, PA territory was claimed by this country.
- 3 Governor of PA from 1995 – 2001 “Tom \_\_\_\_\_”
- 4 Large mountain range in PA.
- 5 Major war for which PA supplied all the metal.
- 6 The highest point in PA at 3213 feet.
- 7 PA State Song
- 10 PA is the second largest producer of this dessert.
- 12 PA state dessert
- 13 PA state nickname “Keystone \_\_\_\_\_”
- 14 PA state fish “\_\_\_\_\_ Trout”
- 15 This river in central PA drains the largest section of the state.
- 17 Very important part of the economy. Depends on visitors.
- 19 PA was one of the first states to object to the use of this human labor.
- 22 Pennsylvania State Dog “Great \_\_\_\_\_”
- 24 Location of major Civil War Battle and Lincoln’s speech.
- 26 Type of freedom German, Mennonite, and Amish settlers wanted.
- 27 Minor rivers feed this river in the southwest.
- 30 William Penn wrote this document to establish laws of PA.



# CALL FOR JUDGES

# Judges Needed

for Statewide NAACP ACTSO Competitions!



The Chester competition will be held on April 5, 2025 from 9am – 2pm at Chester Charter Scholars Academy. Contact Lorraine Bonamy at [lorraine.bonamy@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.bonamy@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.

The Coraopolis competition will be held on April 5, 2025 from 10am – 2pm at Robert Morris University Wheatley Center. Contact Carter Spruill at [coraopolisnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:coraopolisnaacp@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up

The Philadelphia competition will be held on April 5, 2025 from 7am – 5pm at Philadelphia Performing Arts Charter School. Contact Veronica Norris at [vnorris56@gmail.com](mailto:vnorris56@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.

For more information on other competitions:

Harrisburg Area – contact Dr. Nathaniel Gadsden at [pgadsden@aol.com](mailto:pgadsden@aol.com)

Reading – contact Sheree Haubrich at [haubrichs.naacp2289@gmail.com](mailto:haubrichs.naacp2289@gmail.com)

Washington – contact Cortney Brook at [cortney6@comcast.net](mailto:cortney6@comcast.net)

# Call for Presentation Proposals

54<sup>th</sup> Annual PBCOHE Conference  
Arcadia University  
Glenside, PA  
May 29 – 30, 2025

THEME: “FACING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER: A NEW WAY FORWARD”

For more information contact:

Chuck Baker, PhD, Workshops Chair  
[cbaker2@dccc.edu](mailto:cbaker2@dccc.edu)

Brenda Sanders Dede, Ed.D., Co-Chair Emeritus  
[bsdede48@gmail.com](mailto:bsdede48@gmail.com)

Stephen Jones, Ed.D., Conference Co-Chair  
[s.jones@villanova.edu](mailto:s.jones@villanova.edu)

Cherylyn Rush, BA, Conference Co-Chair  
[rush@lasalle.edu](mailto:rush@lasalle.edu)

**Deadline: Friday, April 4, 2025**





# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

to all the tough, hard-working,  
patient, loving, and all-around  
amazing moms of PBCOHE!

May this special day be as lovely  
and amazing as you!

**Mother's Day is Sunday, May 11, 2025**

