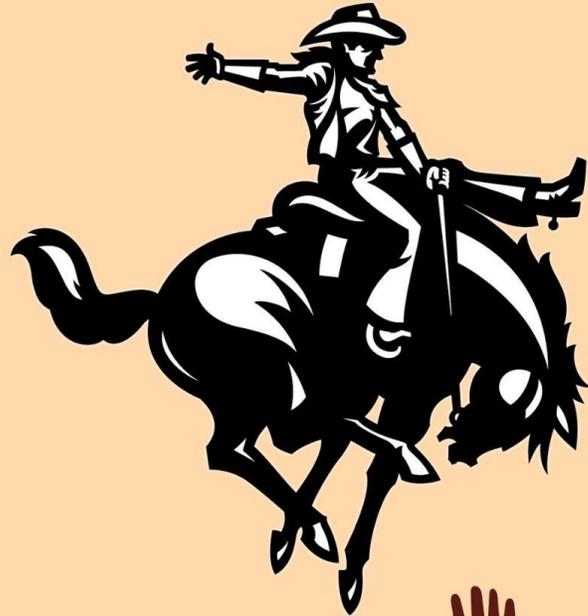


# Black History Month Slides 2023

Month of February

# NWOSU SUPPORTS BLACK HISTORY MONTH



# **BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN OKLAHOMA**

**Let's Celebrate Together**



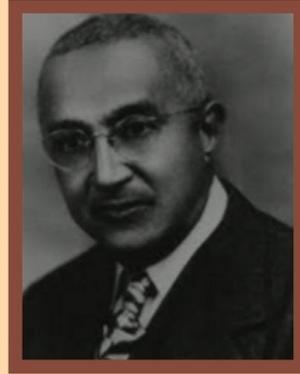
**ADA LOIS SPUDEL FISHER (1924 - 1995)**

**WAS A KEY FIGURE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS  
MOVEMENT IN OKLAHOMA. SHE APPLIED  
FOR ADMISSION INTO THE UNIVERSITY OF  
OKLAHOMA LAW SCHOOL IN ORDER TO  
CHALLENGE THE STATE'S SEGREGATION  
LAWS AND TO BECOME A LAWYER.**



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN OKLAHOMA

Let's Celebrate Together



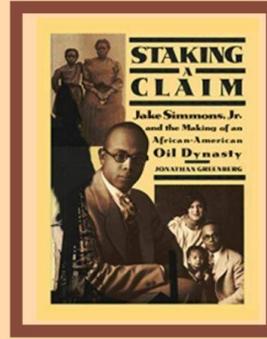
**Roscoe Dunjee (1883-1965)**

**editor of Oklahoma City's only black newspaper, led the way in the struggle for civil rights in Oklahoma and in the Oklahoma City black community. From 1915 to 1954 Roscoe Dunjee published the Black Dispatch and endeavored "to interpret the mind, the aspiration, the object, and longing of his people" to the broader community.**



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Let's Celebrate Together



**Joseph Jacob Simmons Jr., an oil tycoon who was once listed in Forbes Fortune 400. His considerable wealth gave him access to other wealthy and powerful people and helped Simmons become a power-broker in the state.**

**Simmons was the first black to be appointed to the National Petroleum Council in 1969. He was also active in the civil rights movement and served as president of the Oklahoma National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He fought for the rights of blacks in the courts, but was also a capitalist who believed in creating jobs to help others.**



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Let's Celebrate Together



**Clara Shepard Luper** was a civic leader, retired schoolteacher, and a pioneering leader in the American Civil Rights Movement. She is best known for her leadership role in the 1958 Oklahoma City sit-in movement.

In 1972, Clara Luper was a Oklahoma candidate for election to the United States Senate. When asked by the press if she, a black woman, could represent white people, she responded: "Of course, I can represent white people, black people, red people, yellow people, brown people, and polka dot people. You see, I have lived long enough to know that people are people."



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Let's Celebrate Together



**Oklahoma: Home to More Historically All-Black Towns than Any Other U.S. State**  
In fact, as early as the mid-nineteenth century and through the turn of the twentieth-century, African Americans settled over 20 towns throughout Oklahoma—more than any other U.S. state. Although many of these towns no longer exist, their legacy remains an important part of the African American struggle for freedom, independence, and prosperity.

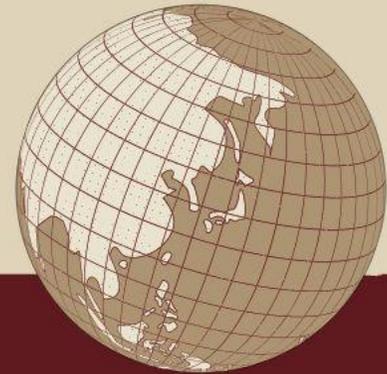
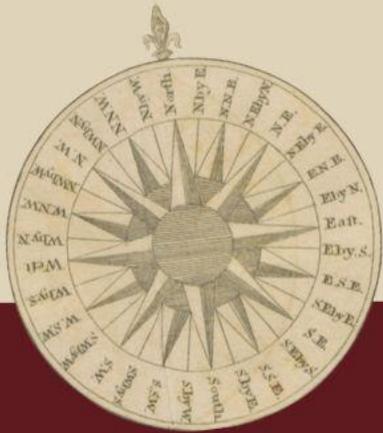


# Hispanic Heritage Month 2022

September 15th – October 15<sup>th</sup>

Celebrating

*Hispanic Heritage  
Month*



# Manuel Perez Jr.

**Manuel Perez Jr. was born in Oklahoma City in 1923. He entered the military where he became a Private First Class. He received the Medal of Honor for his bravery in World War II. He was also awarded a Purple Heart and inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame.**



# Rufino Rodrigues

**Rufino Rodrigues was born in Mexico in 1890. His family later moved to Oklahoma where he began working in the coal mines. At the age of 22, he saved over 150 men from a mine fire they were all unaware of. Two years later, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission awarded Rodrigues the Bronze Medal for Heroism.**



# *David Castillo*

**David Castillo is President and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He was elected as the first Hispanic to serve on the Oklahoma City Public School Board. He is also a member of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials and was appointed as a member of the Advancement of Hispanic Students in Higher Education Task Force.**



# Native American Heritage Month 2022

Month of November

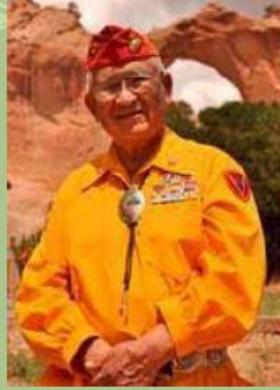


**National Native  
American Heritage  
Month  
November 2022**



## **Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation Chuck Hoskin Jr.**

**Chief Hoskin has served since 2019. He currently represent 400,000 tribal citizens and has previously served as Secretary of State for the Cherokee nation. In his time as principal chief he has raised the minimum wage in the Cherokee nation, appointed the tribes first delegate to the U.S. congress, and prioritized health and wellness through investments in behavioral health and addiction treatment.**



## **Thomas H. Begay**

**Thomas H. Begay, 94, is originally from New Mexico, but resides with his family in Window Rock. He served in the United States Marine Corp from 1943 to 1946 as a Navajo Code Talker. The Navajo Code Talkers served an important role in WWII by communicating confidential messages on the battlefield. During the battle of Iwo Jima the Code Talkers used their native Navajo language to give the Marines a distinct advantage, successfully communicating over 800 messages. Begay was honorably discharged on July 23rd, 1946.**



## **Lori Piestewa**

**Born in Tuba City, Arizona, Piestewa served as a Private First Class in the United States Army after joining in 2001. Private Piestewa was a member of the Hopi tribe. While serving in Iraq in 2003, Lori was attacked and taken prisoner by Iraqi forces after attempting to protect her fellow soldiers. Private Piestewa died from injuries sustained during the attack. Piestewa was the first female casualty of the Iraq war, and the first female Native American soldier to die in overseas combat. She was awarded a purple heart, and a prisoner of war medal. She was later posthumously promoted from Private First Class to Specialist.**

# Women's History Month 2023

Month of March



*Celebrate*

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**WOMEN'S**

**HISTORY**

**MONTH**

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*March*

# Opaline Wadkins

***Nurse***

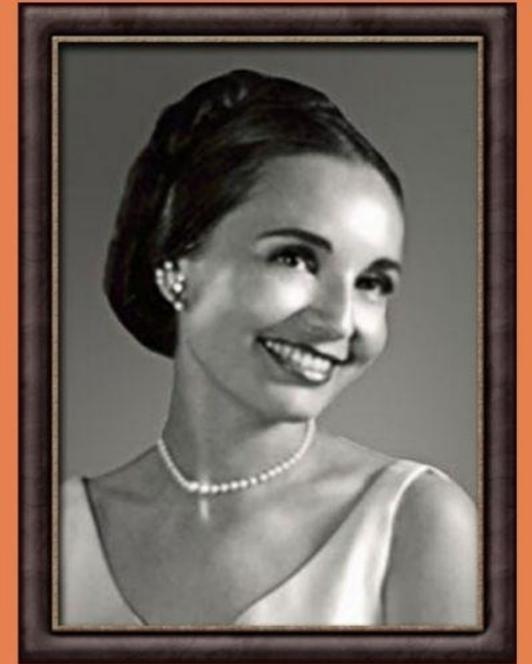
***1912-2000***



**Opaline Deveraux Wadkins, registered nurse and community leader, organized the first school to train black nurses in Oklahoma City in 1949. She fought for desegregation of the College of Nursing at OU and founded the School of Nursing at Langston University. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame in 1993.**

# Moscelyne Larkin

***Native American Ballerina***  
***1925-2012***



**Moscelyne Larkin, from Miami, OK, was one of the "Five Moons," a group of Native American ballerinas from Oklahoma who gained international fame in the 20th century. She and her husband, Roman Jasinski, later founded the Tulsa Ballet in 1956.**

# Dr. Janet Cunningham

## NWOSU PRESIDENT

**Cunningham is the second alum and first woman to serve as president of the institution. As president, Cunningham has led many new initiatives such as the development of an enrollment management plan, increasing the number of nationally-accredited academic programs, and leading the effort to join the NCAA. Through her leadership, Northwestern was approved for its first doctoral program.**

