

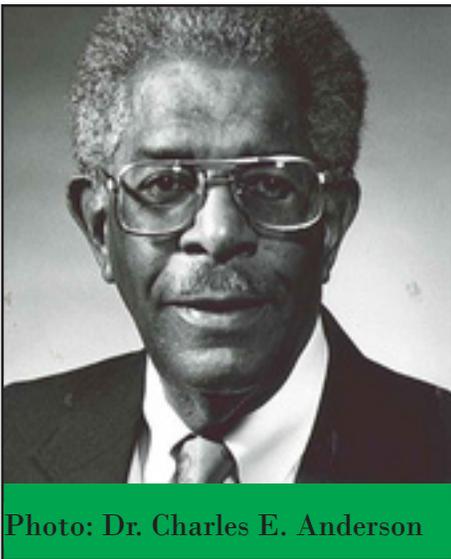
# FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## 2019 Theme: Black Migrations

The theme was selected by the [Association for the Study of African American Life and History \(ASALH\)](#)

Black History Month also known as African American History Month is observed in February to recognize the history and achievements of African Americans. In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson known as the Father of Black History initiated the annual February observance of Negro History Week to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas. In 1976, the celebration was expanded to Black History Month by President Gerald Ford. Since then, Presidential Messages and Proclamations have been issued to recognize February as Black History Month.

## PROFILE: Dr. Charles E. Anderson



Dr. Charles Anderson was born on a farm in University City near St. Louis, MO on August 13, 1919. Dr. Anderson attended the Army Air Forces Meteorological Aviation Cadet Program at the University of Chicago in 1943 and was assigned to the Tuskegee Army Airfield weather detachment. Dr. Anderson served as a Weather Officer at several Army Air Force bases around the U.S. until his release from active duty in 1948.

Dr. Anderson was the first African American to receive a PhD in Meteorology. He received his PhD in Meteorology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1960.

Dr. Anderson was a professor in the Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, from 1987 until he retired in 1990. He was a major contributor at the University to a program focused on forecasting of severe storms that received national recognition. In addition to his dissertation for MIT, he did pioneering work in reducing contrails of high-altitude jet aircrafts as well as work focused on cloud and aerosol physics and meteorology of other planets. He died on October 21, 1994.

Read More:

- [American Meteorological Society \(AMS\) - Charles E. Anderson Award](#)
- [Black Past.org](#) - An Online Reference to African American History