African American Inventors in History
Part 1: African American Inventors in History

- **Granville T. Woods** (1856–1910) – Electrical systems and railroad
- **Lewis Latimer** (1848–1928) – Improved light bulb
- **Garrett Morgan** (1877–1963) – Traffic signal, underwater breathing devices
- **Elijah McCoy** (1844–1929) – Railroad lubrication systems
- **George Washington Carver** (1864–1943) – Peanut products
- **Sarah Breedlove, also known as Madam C. J. Walker** (1867–1919) – Hair-straightening creams
- **Patricia Era Bath** (1942 – ) – Cataract removal technology and methods
- **Mark E. Dean** (1957 – ) – Refined the personal computer, color PC monitor, gigahertz chip
- **Charles Richard Drew** (1904–1950) – Developed systems for preserving blood leading to creation of blood banks
- **Lonnie G. Johnson** (1949 – ) – Toy water gun, Supersoaker, projectile launchers
- **Fred McKinley Jones** (1893 – 1961) – Truck refrigeration unit
- **Thomas L. Jennings** (1791–1856) – Dry cleaning technique (first African American to receive a U.S. patent)
- **George Edward Alcorn, Jr.** (1940 – ) – Imaging x-ray spectrometer fabrication technique
- **Shelby J. Davidson** (1868–1930) – Paper-rewinding mechanism for adding-machines
- **James Edward Maceo West** (1931 – ) – Directional microphone
- **Norbert Rillieux** (1806 – 1894) – Improvements in sugar production processes