

Pockels

Al Massufi

Hayden

## THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INVISIBILITY

**Oscar Zeta Acosta** (1935–1974) Chicano activist-attorney and novelist best known as the inspiration for Hunter Thompson's *Dr. Gonzo*.

**Ahmad Baba al Massufi** (1556–1627) Medieval Sanhaja Berber scholar and political provocateur in western Sudan.

**Gustavo Ayón** (Born 1985) Mexican professional basketball player who represents the senior Mexican national basketball team.

**Sara Josephine Baker** (1873–1945) American physician notable for making contributions to public health, especially within immigrant communities of New York City.

**James Baldwin** (1924–1987) American novelist and social critic whose essays explore the intricacies of racial, sexual, and class distinctions in Western societies.

**Benjamin Banneker** (1731–1806) African American mathematician and astronomer who built the first striking clock in America.

**Charlotta Bass** (1874–1969) An American educator, publisher-editor, and civil rights activist, Bass was the first African American woman to own and operate a newspaper in the U.S.

**Mel Blanc** (1908–1989) American voice actor, radio comedian, and recording artist known as "The Man of a Thousand Voices."

**Cécile Chaminade** (1857–1944) French female composer and pianist known chiefly for her piano music.

**Shirley Chisholm** (1924–2005) The first African American woman in Congress, where she served seven terms. In 1972, she campaigned for the Democratic presidential nomination.

**Dorothea Dix** (1802–1887) American activist during the Civil War who sought humane treatment for the mentally ill and created one of America's first mental institutions.

**Shirin Ebadi** (Born 1947) 2003 Nobel Peace Prize recipient. Author and legal/human rights scholar who was a judge in her native Iran before the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

**Jane Elliott** (Born 1933) Schoolteacher, activist, diversity educator, and feminist known for her "blue eyes-brown eyes" exercise, which allowed students to experience the feeling of discrimination.

**Margaret Fell (Margaret Fox)** (1614–1702) Quaker writer and philosopher, known as a feminist pioneer after writing *Womens Speaking Justified*, which defended a woman's right to preach.

**Maria Elizabeth Smith Fernald** (1839–1919) American entomologist who wrote the major reference book *A Catalogue of the Coccidae of the World*, which enumerated more than 1,500 species.

**Anna Lee Tingle Fisher** (Born 1949) American chemist, emergency physician, and NASA astronaut.

**James Ford** (1893–1957) Activist and politician who interpreted communist ideology as it pertained to black communities.

**Rosalind Franklin** (1920–1958) English chemist and X-ray crystallographer who made contributions to the understanding of the molecular structures of DNA, RNA, viruses, coal, and graphite.

**Artemisia Gentileschi** (1593–1652/53) Italian baroque painter who depicted strong women in biblical and mythological scenes. She became known for her participation in the prosecution of her rapist and was tortured to prove the veracity of her claims.

**Alison Hargreaves** (1962–1995) A British mountain climber, Hargreaves scaled Mount Everest alone in 1995 and was the first to solo all the great north faces of the Alps in a single season.

**Robert Hayden** (1913–1980) A poet, essayist, and educator, Hayden was the first African American to serve in the role known today known as U.S. Poet Laureate.

**Matthew Henson** (1866–1955) African American explorer who accompanied Robert Peary on seven voyages to the Arctic over 23 years. Reached the North Pole in 1909.

**Aemilia Hilaria** (ca. 300 CE–363 CE) Gallo-Roman physician who practiced medicine and wrote books on gynecology and obstetrics.

**Jack Johnson** (1878–1946) The first African American heavyweight boxing champion. In 2018, Johnson received a posthumous presidential pardon for his 1913 conviction for violating a Jim Crow-era law that made it illegal for him to transport a white woman across state lines.

**Kassiani** (805–865 A.D.) One of the first female composers and one of only two Byzantine women to have written in her own name during the Middle Ages.

**Hilma af Klint** (1862–1944) Swedish artist considered to be a pioneer of abstract painting.

**Hedy Lamarr** (1914–2000) While best known for her film career, the Hollywood actress was also a pioneer in the field of wireless communications and the co-inventor of spread spectrum technology.

**Robert Henry Lawrence, Jr.** (1935–1967) U.S. Air Force officer and the first African American astronaut, Lawrence was killed in the crash of an F-104 Starfighter at Edwards Air Force Base.

**Nicole-Reine Lepaute** (1723–1788) French astronomer and mathematician known for her prediction of the return of Halley's Comet.

**Malcolm X** (1925–1965) American Muslim minister and human rights activist who is considered to be one of the most influential African Americans in history.

**Bruno Manser** (1954–2005) Swiss environmental activist who fought for rainforest preservation and the rights of indigenous peoples.

**Thelonious Monk** (1917–1982) American jazz pianist with a unique improvisational style. He was the second most recorded jazz composer after Duke Ellington.

**Moondog (Louis Thomas Hardin)** (1916–1999) American composer and poet who invented several instruments. He was blind and a familiar figure on New York City streets in the 1950s–60s.

**Tenzing Norgay** (1914–1986) A Nepali-Indian Sherpa mountaineer, and one of the first two people known to reach the summit of Mount Everest, along with Edmund Hillary, on May 29, 1953.

**Marianne North** (1830–1890) Victorian trailblazer and pioneering botanical artist.

**Edith Marion Patch** (1876–1954) An American entomologist, in 1904 she became the head of entomology at the University of Maine.

**Lynden Oscar Pindling** (1930–2000) Regarded as the "Father of the Nation" of the Bahamas, having led it to majority rule in 1967 and to independence in 1973. Served as prime minister from 1967–1992.

**Agnes Luise Wilhelmine Pockels** (1862–1935) German pioneer in chemistry best known for establishing surface science.

**Harriet Powers** (1837–1910) Former slave, folk artist, and quilt maker from rural Georgia who recorded local legends, Bible stories, and astronomical events on her quilts.

**Qiu Jin** (1875–1907) Chinese revolutionary, feminist, and writer. Qiu, who was executed, is considered a national heroine in China.

**Haile Selassie** (1892–1975) Ethiopia's regent and emperor who also served as chairperson of the Organization of African Unity.

**Tupac Shakur** (1971–1996) American rapper and actor who sold more than 75 million records worldwide.

**Sister Nancy (Ophlin Russell)** (Born 1962) Jamaican dancehall DJ and singer best known for the reggae anthem "Bam Bam."

**Robert Smalls** (1839–1915) African American slave who became a naval hero and politician.

**Margaret Chase Smith** (1897–1995) As a Republican representing Maine, Smith was the first woman to serve in both houses of the United States Congress. She is best known for her 1950 speech the "Declaration of Conscience" championing free speech.

**Sombath Somphone** (Born 1952) Internationally acclaimed community development worker and prominent member of Lao civil society. He was abducted by police in 2012 and has not been seen since.

**George Edwin Taylor** (1857–1925) A newspaper writer-editor who in 1904 became the first African American selected by a political party to be its candidate for the presidency of the United States.

**Sister Rosetta Tharpe** (1915–1973) Black singer, songwriter, guitarist, and the "Godmother of Rock 'n' Roll," first known for her gospel recordings.

**Christopher Wallace (Biggie Smalls)** (1972–1997) Considered one of the best rappers of all time and a central figure in the East Coast hip-hop scene.

**Martha Beatrice Webb** (1858–1943) English sociologist, economist, socialist, labor historian, and social reformer. Coined the term "collective bargaining."

**Nathaniel Thomas Wilson (Kool G Rap)** (Born 1968) Considered one of the most influential American rappers and an inspiration for some of hip-hop's most acclaimed figures.

**Christa Winsloe** (1888–1944) 20th-century German-Hungarian novelist, playwright, and sculptor.

**Francesca Woodman** (1958–1981) American photographer best known for her black-and-white pictures featuring herself or female models.

**Rosalyn Yalow** (1921–2011) Inventor of radioimmunoassay (RIA), a tool for determining minute substances in the urine and blood, and a joint recipient of the 1977 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Full entries appear in Tavares Strachan's *Encyclopedia of the Invisible*, a collection that is currently 2,800 pages long and growing.