

# Black Inventors And Their Contributions That Changed Our World

(Anna Tyukova, 7MGG)

Many of the world's most influential inventors have black roots, but not all people know about it. Let's take a look at some most famous black inventors and contributions they have made to science, industry and human life.

## Garrett Morgan



Garrett Morgan was an inventor and businessman from Cleveland, US, who is known for inventing a gas mask called the Morgan safety hood and smoke protector in 1914. Morgan also invented a traffic signal that could control the flow of traffic in 1923.

## Lewis Latimer



Lewis Latimer was an inventor and engineer, collaborated with Hiram Maxim and Thomas Edison. One of Latimer's greatest inventions was the carbon filament, a vital component of the light bulb. He also designed an early air conditioning unit.

## Shirley Ann Jackson



Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson is an American physicist and is known for many inventions within telecommunications. Her research enabled the invention of the portable fax, the tone telephone, solar cells, fibre optic cables, and the technology behind caller ID and call waiting.

## Patricia Bath



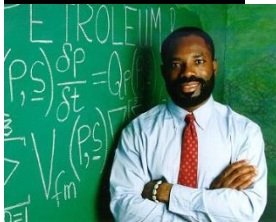
Patricia Bath was an ophthalmologist and in 1981 she invented a laser tool that has helped to restore the sight of many people worldwide. The tool is used during eye surgery to correct cataracts.

### **William Pasi Sachiti**



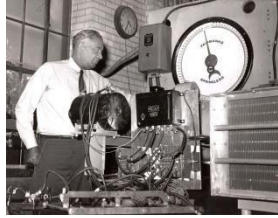
William Pasi Sachiti was born in Harare, Zimbabwe, but moved to the UK when he was 16 years old. He studied artificial intelligence and robotics and founded the Academy of Robotics, a vehicle manufacturing company, to develop Kar-go - a driverless car that can deliver multiple packages by using a combination of advanced robotics and driverless vehicle technology.

### **Philip Emeagwali**



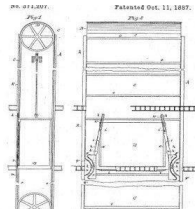
Philip Emeagwali became one of the greatest computer pioneers of our time. Some call him the “Bill Gates of Africa.” In 1989 he used 65,000 processes to invent the world’s first supercomputer which is able to perform 3.1 billion calculations per second. His computers are currently being used to forecast the weather and predict the effects of global warming.

### **Frederick McKinley Jones**



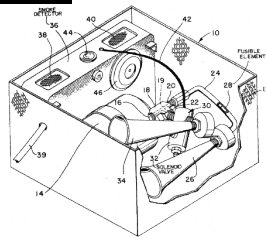
Jones took a patent for the roof-mounted cooling system that's used to refrigerate goods on trucks during extended transportation in the mid-1930s.

### Alexander Miles



In 1887 Alexander Miles took out a patent for a mechanism that automatically opens and closes elevator shaft doors and his designs are largely reflected in elevators used today.

### Marie Van Brittan Brown



Marie Van Brittan Brown was a nurse, but she is known for inventing the first home security system. Her patent laid the groundwork for the modern closed-circuit television system that is widely used for surveillance, home security systems, push-button alarm triggers, crime prevention, and traffic monitoring.

### Charles Drew



Charles Drew was a physician, surgeon, and medical researcher who worked in the field of blood research. In World War II, he played a major role in developing the first large-scale blood banks and blood plasma programs. Dr. Drew oversaw the running of the "Blood for Britain". He also invented the bloodmobiles (the refrigerated trucks that safely transport stored blood to the location where it is needed most).

### Gladys West



Gladys West was an African American Mathematician who worked alongside fellow engineers at the naval support facilities. West's work contributed to the developments of the GPS (global positioning system). GPS technology is used across every industry from tracking humans to animals and social media.

### **Lisa Gelobter**



Lisa Gelobter is a computer scientist and technologist. She has worked on several pioneering Internet technologies and created products that have been used by millions of people, including Shockwave (a technology that formed the beginning of web animation) and the ascent of online video.

### **Dr Jesse Ernest Wilkins, Jr.**



Jesse Ernest Wilkins is one of America's most important contemporary mathematicians. He's published papers in mathematics, optics, and nuclear engineering. His greatest contribution was the development of mathematical models to explain gamma radiation and his work on developing a shielding against gamma radiation.

In this article, I looked at some black inventors and scientists, whose contributions range from practical everyday devices to scientific discoveries in physics, biology, math, computer science and medicine. Black scientists and inventors have made our lives safer, more comfortable and more profitable. Their amazing inventions have really changed our world for the better.

