



JOSEPH HOLLAND



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Meet Joseph Holland: As a diplomat's son, star athlete, and scholar, Joseph Holland had a world of opportunities awaiting him in corporate America. Instead, he moved to Harlem and has made a difference in the community for over forty years: writing plays and nonfiction books, practicing law, empowering the homeless, running small businesses, serving in politics and in the pulpit, and developing housing. Joseph is a graduate of Harvard Law School and has a master's degree in history from Cornell University where he followed in his father's footsteps as an All-American football player. He is the author of five books and has also created inspirational educational programming: Holistic Hardware (myholistichardware.com) and Virtues Academy (virtuesacademy.com). Learn more about Joseph Holland at www.josephholland.com.

Make Your Own History unleashes the mystery of the trailblazers who have paved the way through the pages of time. Within these covers lies a trove of wisdom, gleaned from the voices of Black leaders, both celebrated and unsung. Drawing from their journeys, past and present, this book imbues the reader with stirring guidance, steeped in practicality and inspiration.

Discover the secrets of success, woven through the threads of **120 Black trailblazers**. Let these principles dive into the essence of your being, unlocking your strengths, and summoning the power to propel yourself forward. **Over 300 motivational principles** await, accompanied by words of encouragement, historical context, and thought-provoking truths. At its core, this book explores **12 uplifting themes**, each imbued with the potential to ignite your courage, purposefulness, and perseverance. For within this book lies the keys to unlocking the power to ***Make Your Own History!***



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AMAZON

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Make Your Own History: Timeless Truths from Black American Trailblazers

EXPLAINER

Transform your life with the untold wisdom of 120 Black American pioneers. *Make Your Own History (MYOH)*, is a statement that unifies, educates, and inspires. It's a guide that turns historical insights into actionable virtues for personal growth and success.

Key Features:

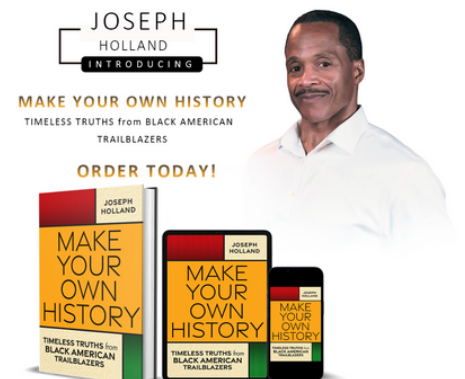
- **120 Profiles:** From activists to artists, learn from a diverse range of Black American trailblazers.
- **12 Core Virtues:** Discover key virtues like courage, self-discipline, and perseverance that have stood the test of time.
- **Historical Context:** Gain a deeper understanding of Black American history in a way that's relevant today.
- **Universal Appeal:** While rooted in Black history, the book's principles are universal, making it a unifying force in divisive times.

Why It's Relevant:

- **Timely:** In an era where the value of Black history is hotly debated, this book offers a balanced, insightful perspective.
- **Actionable:** Unlike traditional history books, this guide provides actionable insights for personal growth.
- **Inclusive:** The book is designed to resonate with a broad audience, from academics and history buffs to young adults seeking direction.

Potential Angles for Coverage:

- How "Make Your Own History" is changing the narrative around Black history.
- The role of historical wisdom in modern-day success.
- Why this book is a must-read for educational institutions.



Program Proposal Overview: "Make Your Own History" Program

Objective:

The "*Make Your Own History*" program aims to inspire and empower students by exploring the lives and lessons of 120 Black trailblazers. This initiative will offer students practical guidance and motivational principles to help them recognize and harness their strengths.

Program Highlights:

- Inspirational Content: Students will delve into the journeys of Black leaders, both celebrated and unsung, to gain insights into success and resilience.
- Educational Themes: The program will cover 12 uplifting themes designed to ignite courage, purposefulness, and perseverance in students.
- Motivational Principles: Over 300 principles will be explored, providing historical context and words of encouragement.
- Interactive Learning: Engaging activity sheets and discussions will encourage students to apply these principles to their own lives.

Expected Outcomes:

- Enhanced understanding of historical and contemporary Black leaders.
- Development of personal strengths and self-awareness.
- Increased motivation and readiness to pursue personal goals.

This program seeks to unlock the potential within each student, empowering them to "Make Their Own History."

Implementing "Make Your Own History Supplemental Curriculum

Introduction

Our initiative is dedicated to nurturing an inclusive educational atmosphere that emphasizes a growth mindset and fosters personal development through a civic perspective. We propose adopting the "Make Your Own History: Timeless Truths from Black American Trailblazers" curriculum to deepen students' historical knowledge while instilling essential virtues.

Curriculum Overview

"Make Your Own History" provides a distinctive perspective by showcasing the accomplishments and insights of 120 Black American pioneers. This curriculum not only educates students about influential historical figures but also inspires them to integrate timeless virtues into their own lives, supported by worksheets centered on fundamental success principles.

Key Features:

1. Comprehensive Profiles:

- Learners will delve into the lives of influential figures from the 1700s to today, uncovering their achievements despite the obstacles.

2. Twelve Core Virtues:

- The curriculum emphasizes virtue: Courage, Self-discipline, Perseverance, Compassion, Teamwork, Integrity, Industriousness, Self-reliance, Optimism, Purposefulness, Civility and Faith. These are crucial for personal, academic, and life-long success.

3. Contextual Understanding:

- Lessons are designed to provide historical context, connecting past events to contemporary issues. These factors allow for history to be received as relevant and engaging.

4. Universal Principles:

- Although centered on Black history, the lessons transcend cultural boundaries, promoting unity and understanding among all students. Everyone can read this content and feel inspired to take on these attributes and make a difference.

Relevance and Impact:

- Timeliness:

- In today's climate of social change, understanding Black history is more important than ever. This curriculum offers a balanced view that fosters dialogue and critical thinking.

- Actionable Insights:

- Unlike traditional history courses, this curriculum empowers students with actionable insights for personal development and real-world application.

- Inclusivity:

- By appealing to a wide audience, the curriculum supports diverse learning needs and encourages students from all backgrounds to engage with history.

Implementation Plan Possibilities:

- Integration into Social Studies:

- The curriculum can be seamlessly integrated into existing social studies programs, complementing current educational standards.

- Professional Development:

- Teachers will receive training to effectively deliver the curriculum and facilitate meaningful discussions.

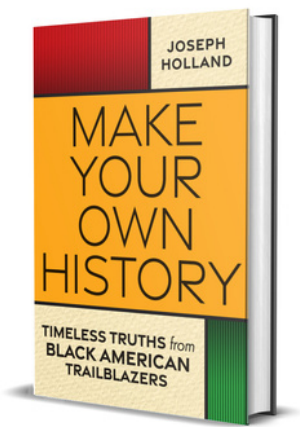
- Assessment and Evaluation:

- Student progress will be assessed through projects and presentations that demonstrate their understanding and application of the material.

Conclusion:

Adopting "*Make Your Own History*" into the Eagle Academy curriculum will not only enrich our students' educational experience but also equip them with the virtues necessary for lifelong success. We believe this initiative aligns with your mission to prepare students for a diverse and interconnected world.

For further information or to discuss implementation, please contact Joseph Holland at info@Josephholland.com.



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KINDLE

AUDIOBOOK



Book Reviews:

Joseph Holland deserves our thanks for this creatively written and inspiring chronicle of the achievements of Black trailblazers throughout American history. Holland's broad historical and interdisciplinary sweep is an account of Black progress that also represents lessons in success principles. Using thoughtful and creative vignettes and revealing an impressive historical range, Holland creates an informative narrative of courage, discipline, genius, motivation, and fortitude. Holland's volume reminds us that from the nation's beginning to the present, and despite much adversity, many Black Americans succeeded, and many achieved their dreams. This is a history from the bottom up, whereby "vigorous virtues" often ingrained into daily life and through example, inspired greatness and recognition in the midst of the challenges posed by the vicissitudes of race, class, and place in America.

Once again Joseph Holland, lawyer, activist, community organizer, author, and minister, has demonstrated his talents and training as a historian and writer (Cornell M. A. in history). More significantly, Holland's writing and example encourage positive thinking, and urges us to emphasize our national character: "Out of many, we are one."

Margaret Washington

Marie Underhill Noll Professor Emerita of American History

Cornell University

Joseph Holland has written a well-researched, engaging, and expansive account of the lives and accomplishments of a Who's Who of African Americans. Joe's 'secret spices' are the nuggets of wisdom he extracts from his examination of the lives of over 100 exceptional achievers. Make Your Own History should be read by anyone with an interest in the significant contributions of African Americans to the creation of a better America. I'm recommending Joe's book

to all of my friends--including you!

--Dr. Joseph E. Cooper, Senior Lecturer, University of Massachusetts-Boston

Joseph H. Holland's Make Your Own History: Timeless Truths from Black American Trailblazers informs and inspires. Mining the stories of 120 African Americans, from little-known rebels against slavery to renowned artists and activists, Holland finds lessons that will enlighten and engage Americans from all walks of life. Clearly written and extensively researched, Make Your Own History will be especially valuable for younger readers trying to make their way in the world and older readers trying to understand where the past has brought them.

–Robert W. Snyder, Manhattan Borough Historian and Rutgers professor emeritus



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Holland's passion for history provides readers with vignettes of over 100 Black Americans who overcame obstacles to achieve success in virtually all fields, including art, literature, science, sports, business, and politics. Many figures are well-known, others less so, but they all speak to readers, often in their own words, about the power of a determined vision. Holland's intention is inspiration, and his well-chosen examples, amply fulfill that aim.

— **R. Laurence Moore, Howard A. Newman Professor of American Studies, Emeritus**

Teens looking for inspiration will find plenty here from historical and contemporary Black luminaries.

Holland knows first-hand the value of living his 12 vigorous virtues (courage, self-discipline, compassion, perseverance, teamwork, integrity, industriousness, self-reliance, optimism, purposefulness, civility, and faith) from his years working as a lawyer, motivational speaker, community-based entrepreneur, and minister. Here he attributes one virtue each to dozens of Black history-makers, from William Still, "father of the Underground Railroad" to investigative journalist and suffragist Ida B. Wells to actor Chadwick Boseman. Entries under each virtue are arranged chronologically, beginning with enslaved people up to contemporary characters. Each entry gives a one-to-two-page biography focused on the subject's achievements, then is followed by ways the reader can emulate the subject, such as "tackle your fears," "make necessary sacrifices," "defend your rights," and "forever have faith," bolstered by quotes from the subject and elsewhere. Covering abolitionists, entrepreneurs, musicians, reporters, athletes, soldiers, and more, this compendium has something to inspire every reader. When read as a whole, the advice can seem repetitive, but readers who dip in and out for pieces of inspiration will find this heartening, stirring work of great value.

— **Susan Maguire, Booklist**

Affirmative quotes and stories from an assortment of Black trailblazers emphasize aspects of overcoming adversity and making positive steps in one's own life.

Holland, ... presents a roster of pioneers from colonial times to the present to help readers model behavior and extract lessons. His latest book, he writes, "is not only a resource for those in dire straits; it is also for those confronted by everyday challenges. Tools that fix broken-down vehicles work just as well on cars that only need a tune-up." In 12 sections reflecting "12 vigorous virtues" (Courage, Self-Discipline, Compassion, Perseverance, Teamwork, Integrity, etc.), Holland picks a lively mix of subjects from across the historical spectrum. Thomas Morris Chester, the first Black war correspondent during the Civil War, and gymnast Simone Biles are among the "Trailblazers of Courage". Tennis champion Althea Gibson and NBA legend Kobe Bryant exemplify self-discipline. As demonstrations of the virtue of civility, Holland includes Crispus Attucks, the first man to die during the Boston Massacre of 1770; the founders of the Niagara Movement; and former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. The first licensed female preacher in the history of the AME Church, Jarena Lee, and the preacher who spurred the Pentecostal Movement, Lucy Farrow, are avatars of faith. Other sections profile "Trailblazers of Compassion" (Ella Baker, Diana Ross, Beyoncé, and Jay-Z among them), "Trailblazers of Perseverance" (including Charlotte Forten Grimké, Serena Williams), "Teamwork" (Harlem Hellfighters, the Obamas) "Industriousness" (Madam C.J. Walker), and "Self-Reliance" (Shirley Chisholm). After a brief summary explaining why he included each subject, Holland lists the life lessons and action items readers should take from their stories under punchy headlines that can serve as slogans for advocacy—e.g., "Tackle Your Fears," "Take Down Barriers," "Trigger the Future," "Move With Unity." Solid nuggets of wisdom and purpose.

Kirkus Reviews

For Interviews & Appearances Contact:

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We are excited to collaborate with EAF to bring this content to young men in this city and beyond.

Along with the information provided in the proposal we are willing to white label online content that will work to enhance the Houses model and have students connect with community that aligns.

We can also incorporate a mentors component for a cohesiveness that enforces the values and principles.

We look forward to discussing the best fit for this program within the Eagle model.

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