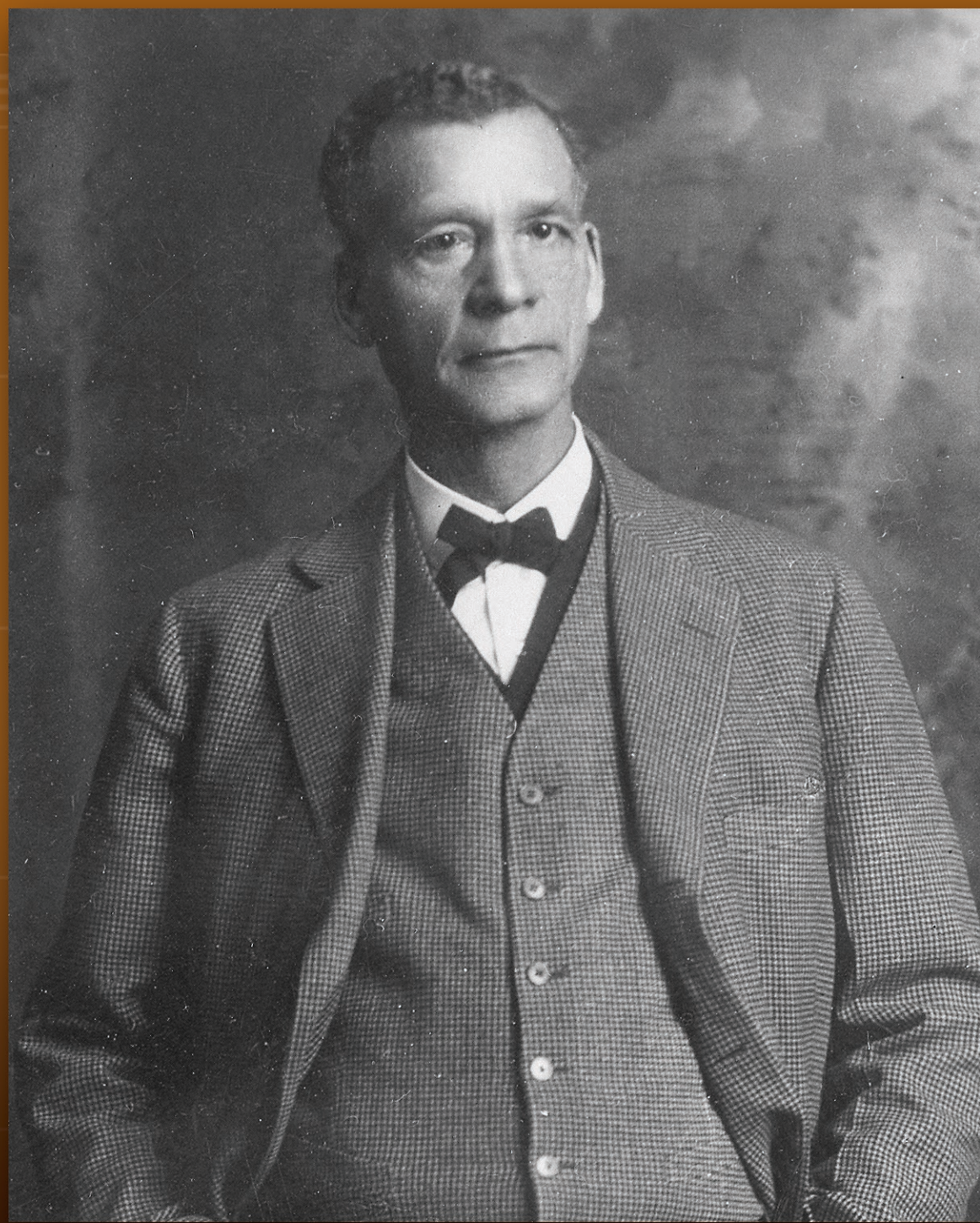


Black History Month



Tom Bass (1859-1934)

Bass left an important legacy in Kansas City as the founder of the American Royal Horse Show, a tradition that continues today. He was born into slavery in Columbia, Missouri, but after the Civil War, Bass used his abilities with horses to become a well-known trainer and showman. During his life he performed for five United States presidents and Queen Marie of Romania, and won over 2,000 blue ribbons.

Image courtesy: State Historical Society of Missouri

Black History Month



Lucile H. Bluford (1911-2003)

Bluford served as editor of *The Kansas City Call* for nearly 50 years and played an important role in the major civil rights battles of the 20th century. Her fight to enter the graduate program in journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia in the 1930s and 1940s helped integrate higher education. Known as “Miss Bluford,” her editorials in *The Call* sharply criticized discrimination, mourned the loss of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., and supported the election of African American politicians.

Image courtesy: Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas Libraries

Black History Month

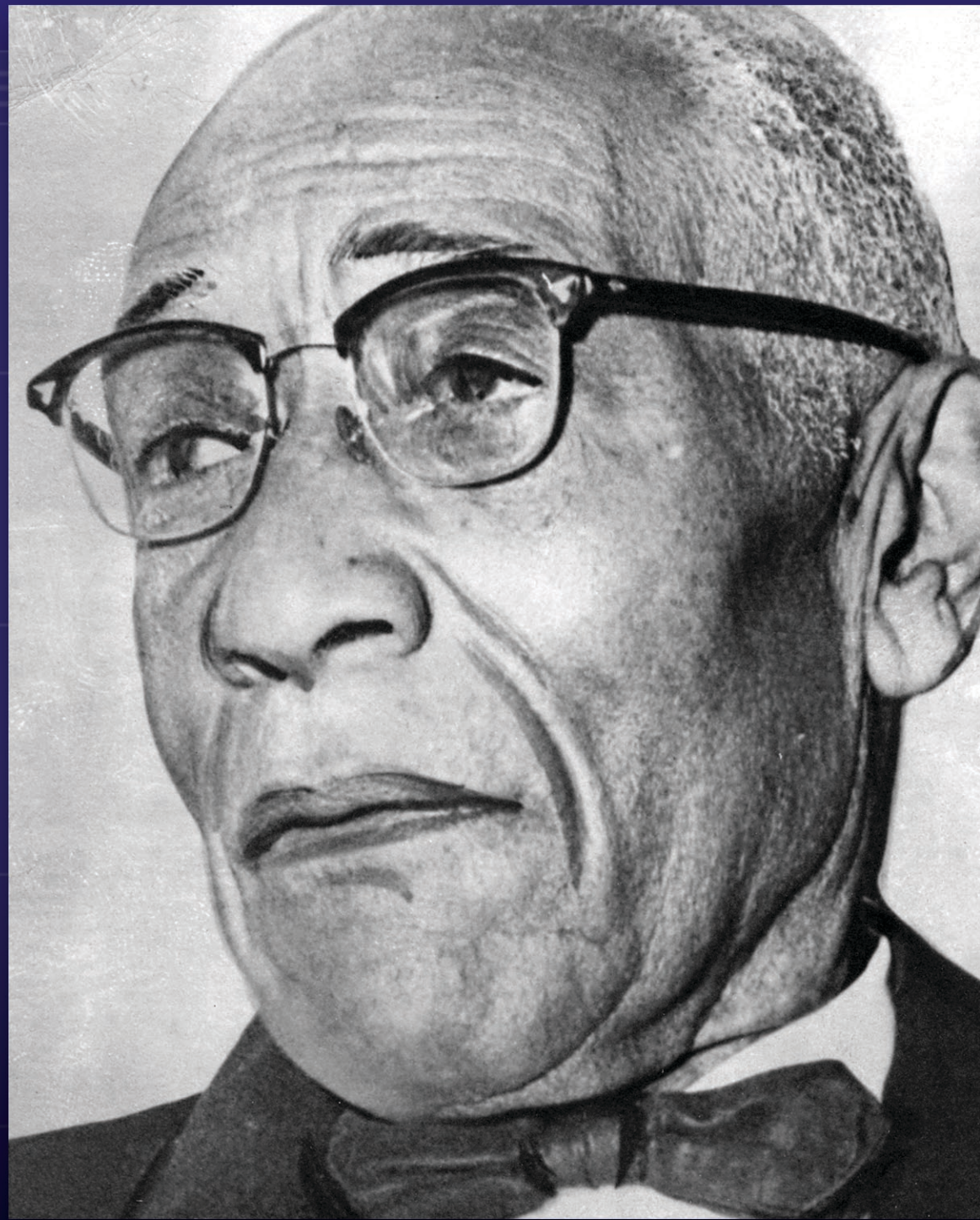


Minnie Lee Crosthwaite (1872-1963)

Crosthwaite was one of the first African American social workers in Kansas City and spent decades working to improve health care for the local black community. Though she had already taught public school, raised a family, and owned two businesses, in middle age Crosthwaite began working at Wheatley-Provident Hospital at 18th and Forest Streets, established in 1910 specifically for African Americans. As president of the Hospital Auxiliary, Crosthwaite led an immensely successful annual fashion show that attracted thousands of people and raised money for the hospital.

Image courtesy: The Black Archives of Mid-America

Black History Month



Daniel Arthur Holmes (1876-1972)

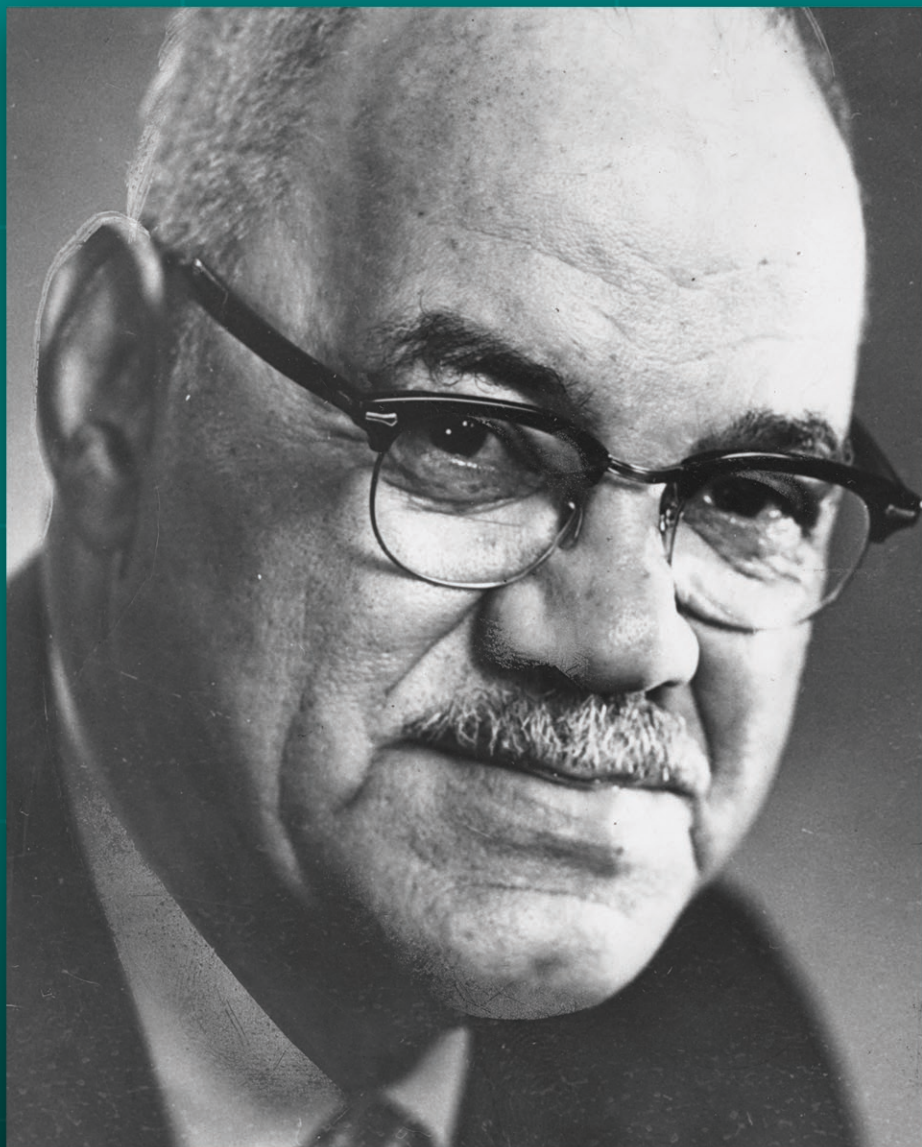
Holmes was the pastor at Paseo Baptist Church for 46 years and used his role in the community to advocate for better conditions for local African Americans. Holmes's parents were former slaves, but he was able to earn degrees from three colleges and become one of the most respected leaders in Kansas City. Holmes worked to integrate the University of Missouri-Columbia and won the battle to build a new Lincoln High School at 21st and Woodland Streets.

Image courtesy: The Kansas City Star/Times



Black History Month

MONDAY 1 TUESDAY 2 WEDNESDAY 3 THURSDAY 4 FRIDAY 5



Leon Jordan
(1905-1970)

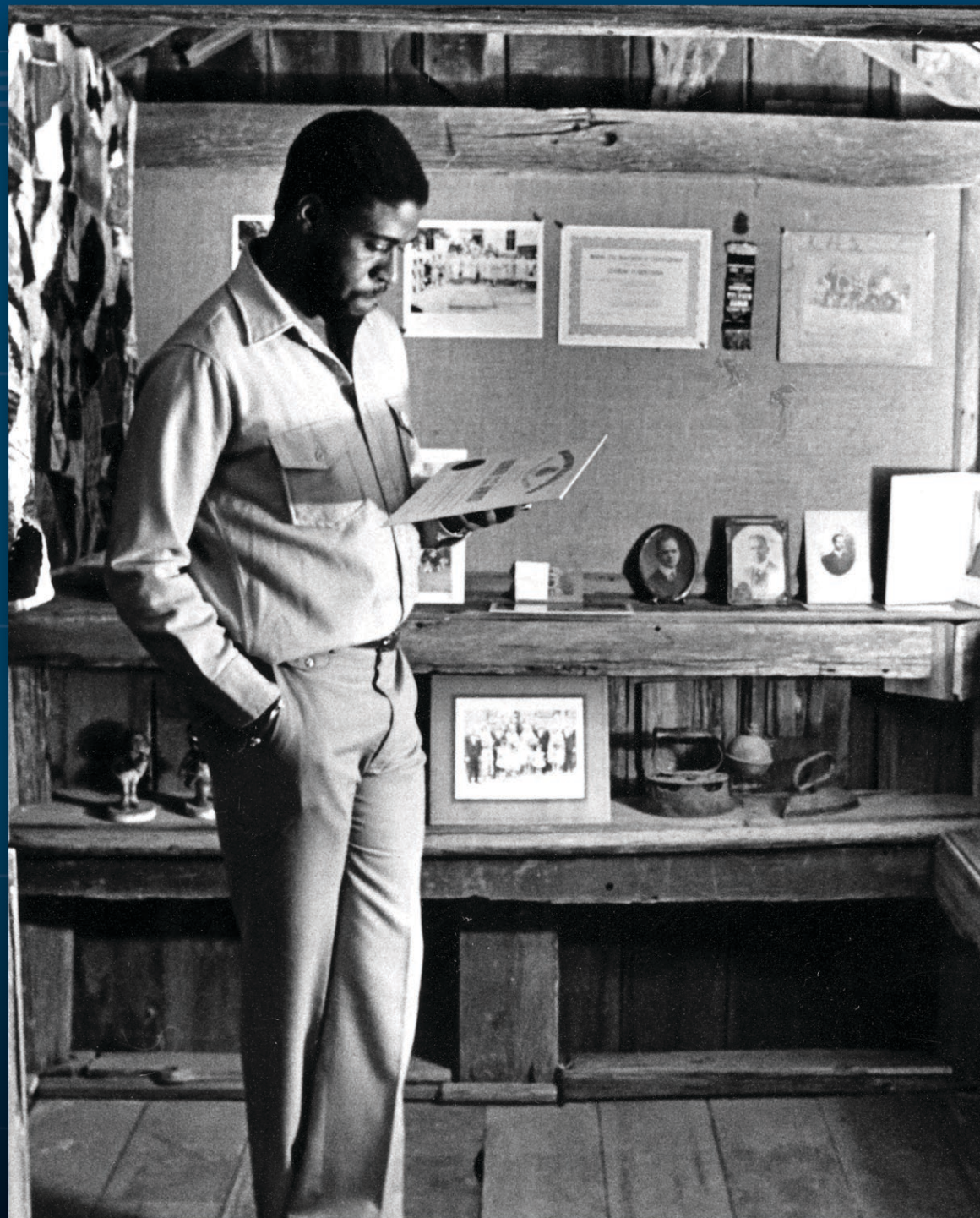


Orchid Jordan
(1910-1995)

The Jordans worked throughout their careers to expand the influence of African American voters and to increase the number of black candidates for political office. Leon Jordan served the Kansas City Police Department for 16 years, and in 1947 left for Liberia, where he organized a national police force. In 1962, Leon Jordan co-founded Freedom Inc., a political club that championed black participation in local politics. He was elected to three terms in the Missouri House of Representatives, an office Orchid Jordan filled after her husband was killed in 1970.

Images courtesy: The Kansas City Star/Times

Black History Month



Horace M. Peterson III (1945-1992)

Peterson was best known for establishing the Black Archives of Mid-America in Kansas City's 18th and Vine District. He moved to Kansas City from Tulsa, Oklahoma, as a child and graduated from Central High School. His interest in African American culture and reputation as a historian allowed him to collect materials for the archives, which continue to serve the Kansas City community today. Collections include photographs and artifacts from former slaves, the Buffalo Soldiers, and choreographer Alvin Ailey.

Image courtesy: The Kansas City Star/Times



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