



NOTABLE MINORITIES WHO CHANGED HISTORY

September 5, 2008

Featuring
Elizabeth Blackwell

“ Success is often the result of taking a misstep in the right Direction.”

Quote by Al Bernstein

Time Management Tips

As college students, we are always trying to find ways to better manage our time here are a few tips I found that work and are easy to do.

- Create a daily schedule that is precise and contains regularly scheduled breaks or rest periods.
- Realize that you must set reasonable goals. Impossible tasks discourage you. Therefore set achievable goals, but remember that you still may be challenged by your goals just not overwhelmed.
- Prioritize. Know what is most important to you and to the success of your academic career. Then write out a “to do list” reminding you of what is important and what is not.

For more helpful tips visit: www.academictips.org

September Dates to Remember:

- 1— Healthy Aging Month (thru September 30)
- 1 - Ramadan
- 9 - Grandparents Day
- 11 - Patriot Day (United States)
- 15 - Hispanic Heritage Month (thru October 15)
- 16- Mexico's Independence Day
- 19- San Gennaro Day (Italian -American)
- 21-27 - Deaf Awareness Week
- 23 - Autumnal Equinox (Japan)
- 26 - Lailat-UI-Quadr (Islamic, Muslim)
- 28 - Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year)

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Elizabeth Blackwell

Elizabeth Blackwell (1821 – 1910) Medical Doctor

Elizabeth Blackwell was born on February 3, 1821 in Bristol, England. Her family moved to the United States in 1832.

As a young woman Blackwell began her career as a teacher, but she ultimately decided that her true calling was that of medicine and so she set forth to become a doctor. In her search for a school that would admit her, she was turned down by many of them. Until finally she was admitted to Geneva Medical College, which is now known as Hobart and William Smith Colleges, in New York. Blackwell studied hard despite the surrounding

community's outrage and graduated in 1849. She thus became the first woman to earn a medical degree in the modern world.

After receiving her license, Blackwell returned to Europe to further her studies. But after suffering from an eye infection while studying in Paris and losing her eyesight in one eye, Blackwell was forced to give up on becoming a surgeon and return to England.

By 1851, Blackwell had made her way back to New York where she was turned down by all hospitals where she had applied for a position. She also was turned down by landlords when she tried to open her own practice. This forced her to open a private practice from her home. In 1853, Blackwell opened a dispensary with another female doctor named Dr. Marie E. Zakrzewska who was a polish immigrant that Elizabeth herself had encouraged in her education. In 1857 Blackwell, her sister Emily, and Dr. Zakrzewska transformed the dispensary they had created into the New York Infirmary for Women. After establishing the infirmary, Blackwell went on a year long lecturing tour of Great Britain. Upon her return to the United States in 1859, she resumed her work with the infirmary. When the Civil War broke out Blackwell worked to organize the Women's Central Association of Relief, picking and training nurses for wartime service.

After the war, in November of 1868, Blackwell fulfilled her long held dream and opened the Women's Medical College as a part of the infirmary. Although the college itself would achieve success and operate for thirty-one years it would not do so under Blackwell's direct guidance, for she moved to England the following year. While in England, Blackwell helped to organize the National Health Society. She also founded the London School of Medicine for Women.

In 1875, Blackwell was given a position as professor of gynecology at the London School of Medicine for Children. She would serve in this position until 1907 when a serious fall down a flight of stair forced her to retire. Three years later Elizabeth Blackwell died in Sussex on May 31, 1910.