



CELEBRATING Black History NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Supported by Multicultural Affairs, Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, Division of Student Affairs

African American Quotations

*"Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise, I rise, I rise."*

Maya Angelou - "Still I rise," And Still I Rise (1978)

*"You have seen how a man was made a
slave; you shall see how a slave was made a
man."*

Frederick Douglass (1818?-1895)
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845)

*"What happens to a dream deferred?
Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?"*

Langston Hughes (1902-1967) - "Harlem" (1951)

*"I can accept failure. Everyone fails at
something. But I can't accept not trying."*

Michael Jordan- I Can't Accept Not Trying (1994)

*"Nothing in all the world is more dangerous
than sincere ignorance and conscientious
stupidity."*

Martin Luther King (1929-1968)- Strength to Love, 1963

*"When I found I had crossed that line,
[on her first escape from slavery, 1845]
I looked at my hands to see if I was the
same person. There was such a glory
over everything."*

Harriet Tubman (1820?-1913)
to her biographer, Sarah H. Bradford, c. 1868

*"As long as the colored man look to
white folks to put the crown on what he
say . . . as long as he looks to white folks
for approval . . . then he ain't never
gonna find out who he is and what he's
about."*

August Wilson, Jr. (1945-)
Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, act 1 (1984)

*"We should emphasize not Negro His-
tory, but the Negro in history. What we
need is not a history of selected races or
nations, but the history of the world void
of national bias, race hate, and religious
prejudice."*

Carter Woodson (1875-1950)
on founding Negro History Week, 1926