

BLACK HISTORY FACTS IN SWIMMING



- Cullen Jones was the first African-American male to hold a world record in swimming as a member of the 4x100m during the 2006 Pan Pacific Championships in Victoria, British Columbia.
- Maritza (Correia) McClendon is the first African-American female swimmer to set an American and world swimming record (2002, NCAA championships, 50 and 100 Free); First African-American Female to make the US Olympic Swim team (2004); First black female swimmer to win a NCAA Division I Championship (2002, Georgia, 50 Free); First African-American female to win an Olympic medal (2004 Olympic Games, 400 Free Relay).
- Andrew Young was the first black swimmer to receive The International Swimming Hall of Fame's medallion of honor (1952-1956, Howard University).
- Nate Clark was the first black swimmer to score in an NCAA Championship final (1962, Ohio state, 200 Fly).
- Fred Evans was the first black swimmer to win a national collegiate championship (Chicago State, 1975, 100 Breast).
- Enith Brigitha of the Netherlands was the first swimmer of African descent to win an Olympic medal (1976, Montreal, 100 Free).
- Chris Silva was the first African-American swimmer to make the U.S. National team (Team Captain, UCLA, 1982).
- Sybil Smith was the first black female swimmer to score in an NCAA final (1988, Boston University, 100 Back).
- Anthony Nesty was the first swimmer of African descent to win an Olympic gold medal (1988, Seoul, 100 Fly); First male swimmer of African descent to win an NCAA Div. I Championship (1990-1992, 100 Fly).
- Sabir Muhammad was the first black swimmer to set an American record (1997, Stanford University, 100 Fly).
- Alison Terry was the first black female swimmer to make a U.S. national team (1999, Pan American Games).
- Anthony Ervin was the first black swimmer to make a U.S. Olympic swimming team (2000 Sydney Olympic Games).
- Alia Atkinson was the first black woman to win a world title in swimming (2015, 100 m breaststroke, world short course swimming championship, Doha).
- Simone Manuel (Stanford) was the first of three African-Americans to place in the top three spots at the 100 yard freestyle in any Women's Division I NCAA Swimming Championship: Lia Neal (Stanford) was second, and Natalie Hinds (Florida) was third (2015).