

# Black Legacy Our Past, Present and Future.



## The First US President Was Black!

### PAST

**US President John Hanson**

Born: April 14, 1715

Contribution: Politics



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John Hanson is one of the most enigmatic figures in US history. He read broadly in both English and Latin. He also followed his family tradition as a planter, extending and improving his holdings. John Hanson had an illustrious political career including holding positions as: deputy land surveyor & treasurer of Frederick County; colonial assembly in Charles County; representative in the Annapolis Convention; and even delegate to the Continental Congress. Afterwards, on November 5, 1781, Hanson became the first US President elected by the 13 Original States' Delegates serving under the Articles of Confederation to serve a full one-year term. His official title was President of the United States in Congress Assembled. Hanson's term as President, during this critical formation period of our nation, has had a longstanding influence. In his memory, Maryland law specifies that the Governor annually shall honor his birthday. Also, the John Hanson Highway is named in his honor, there's also a Middle School located in Waldorf, Maryland named after him and in 1903 the state of Maryland donated a bronze statue to the U.S. Capitol's National Statuary Hall Collection.



## Our Next President?

### PRESENT

**US Senator Barack Obama**

Born: August 4th, 1961

Contribution: Politics



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Barack Obama has dedicated his life to public service as a community organizer, civil rights attorney, and leader in the Illinois state Senate. In 1991, Obama graduated from Harvard Law School where he was the first African American president of the Harvard Law Review. During his seven years in the Illinois state Senate, Obama worked with both Democrats and Republicans to help working families get ahead by creating programs like the state Earned Income Tax Credit, which in three years provided over \$100 million in tax cuts to families across the state. Obama also pushed through an expansion of early childhood education, and after a number of inmates on death row were found innocent, Senator Obama enlisted the support of law enforcement officials to draft legislation requiring the videotaping of interrogations and confessions in all capital cases.

**What Will You Contribute To The Legacy?**