

# black history events in 2000

Black History Events in 2000: A Year of Progress and Milestones

**Black history events in 2000** marked a significant chapter in the ongoing journey toward racial equality, cultural recognition, and political empowerment. As the new millennium dawned, the African American community witnessed pivotal moments that not only celebrated achievements but also confronted challenges in society, politics, education, and the arts. Exploring these events offers valuable insights into the progress made at the turn of the century and the foundation laid for future advancements.

## Political Milestones and Representation

One of the most notable black history events in 2000 was the increasing visibility and influence of African Americans in political offices across the United States. The 2000 presidential election, although widely remembered for its controversy, also highlighted the importance of black voters and candidates in shaping American democracy.

### The 2000 U.S. Presidential Election and African American Voters

The election saw a record turnout of African American voters, particularly in key swing states such as Florida and Ohio. Their participation was crucial in the tight contest between George W. Bush and Al Gore. This year underscored the power of the black electorate in national politics and stressed the need for candidates to engage actively with African American communities.

Moreover, the election cycle featured several African American candidates running for various offices, emphasizing the growing political engagement within the community. These efforts paved the way for increased representation in subsequent years, reinforcing the importance of political participation as a tool for advocacy and change.

## Notable Political Figures and Appointments

In 2000, several African Americans attained significant political appointments and elected positions. For instance, Deval Patrick, who would later become the first African American governor of Massachusetts, was actively involved in national politics and community leadership during this period. Similarly, the influence of black senators and representatives continued to grow, impacting legislative discussions on civil rights, education, and economic development.

## Cultural Achievements and Recognition

The cultural landscape of 2000 reflected a vibrant celebration of African

American heritage, creativity, and influence. Black history events in 2000 extended beyond politics, showcasing milestones in music, film, literature, and art that resonated nationally and internationally.

## **Black Excellence in Entertainment**

The year 2000 was remarkable for African American achievements in the entertainment industry. The rise of influential artists, directors, and actors brought black stories and perspectives to mainstream audiences. Notably, Spike Lee, an iconic filmmaker, continued to challenge societal issues through his work, while musicians like Jay-Z and Lauryn Hill dominated the charts, blending cultural commentary with popular appeal.

Lauryn Hill's album "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill," although released in 1998, continued to earn accolades and influence the music scene well into 2000. Her success highlighted the power of black women in shaping contemporary culture, inspiring countless artists and fans alike.

## **Recognition in Literature and the Arts**

In literature, African American authors gained wider recognition, with works exploring themes of identity, history, and social justice. Writers such as Toni Morrison and Alice Walker remained influential, while emerging voices captivated readers with fresh perspectives.

Art exhibitions and museum programs dedicated to African American history and culture flourished during this period. Institutions like the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, which was in its planning stages, reflected a growing commitment to preserving and sharing black heritage with the broader public.

## **Education and Social Progress**

Education played a pivotal role in black history events in 2000, with significant efforts aimed at improving access, representation, and equity for African American students.

## **Advancements in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)**

HBCUs continued to be essential centers for academic excellence and cultural empowerment in 2000. These institutions not only provided quality education but also served as hubs for leadership development and community activism. Increased funding initiatives and partnerships helped some HBCUs expand their programs and facilities, fostering a new generation of black leaders.

## **Challenges and Progress in Educational Equity**

While progress was evident, African American students still faced disparities in public education systems nationwide. Issues such as achievement gaps, resource allocation, and school segregation remained pressing concerns. Advocacy groups and educators worked tirelessly to address these challenges through policy reforms and community engagement.

These efforts underscored the broader struggle for educational justice, illustrating how black history events in 2000 were deeply intertwined with ongoing battles for equal opportunity.

## **Social Movements and Community Activism**

The year 2000 witnessed continued activism aimed at combating systemic racism and promoting social justice. Grassroots organizations, civil rights groups, and community leaders mobilized around various causes, keeping the spirit of the civil rights movement alive in contemporary contexts.

### **Addressing Police Brutality and Criminal Justice Reform**

Concerns about police brutality and the criminal justice system gained prominence in 2000, as African American communities called for accountability and reform. High-profile incidents and reports brought national attention to these issues, sparking protests and dialogues about racial profiling and incarceration rates.

Activists emphasized the importance of legislative change and community oversight to create safer, more equitable environments. These conversations were crucial in shaping policies and public awareness in the years that followed.

### **Economic Empowerment Initiatives**

Economic disparities continued to motivate black entrepreneurs and organizations to focus on wealth-building and business development within African American communities. Programs promoting minority-owned businesses, financial literacy, and job training saw increased support during 2000.

Such initiatives were vital in addressing systemic barriers and fostering sustainable economic growth, highlighting the multifaceted nature of black history events in 2000 beyond cultural and political spheres.

### **Sports and Breaking Barriers**

Sports have always played a significant role in black history, serving as both a platform for excellence and a battleground against discrimination. The year 2000 was no exception, with African American athletes achieving remarkable feats and continuing to challenge racial stereotypes.

## **Olympics and International Recognition**

The 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney showcased the extraordinary talents of black athletes from the United States and around the world. Athletes like Marion Jones and Michael Johnson captured global attention with their record-breaking performances, inspiring pride and unity within African American communities.

These achievements were not just about medals; they represented the overcoming of historical obstacles and the celebration of black excellence on an international stage.

## **Breaking New Ground in Professional Sports**

In professional leagues such as the NBA, NFL, and MLB, African American players further solidified their status as key figures in sports history. Off the field, many used their platforms to advocate for social change, blending athletic success with activism.

This dual role of athletes as both competitors and community leaders was a defining characteristic of black history events in 2000, reflecting a broader trend of sports figures influencing cultural and political conversations.

## **Reflecting on Black History Events in 2000**

Looking back at black history events in 2000 reveals a year rich with progress, challenges, and inspiration. From political engagement and cultural triumphs to educational advancements and social activism, the milestones of that year contributed to a larger narrative of resilience and empowerment.

Understanding these moments helps us appreciate the complex and dynamic journey of African Americans at the turn of the millennium. It also reminds us of the ongoing work necessary to build a more just and inclusive society. As we honor these events, we recognize their enduring impact and the legacy they have left for future generations.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What significant event related to Black history took place in the year 2000?**

In 2000, the National Museum of African American History and Culture was established by an act of Congress, marking a significant step toward preserving and celebrating Black history in the United States.

### **Who was the first African American to win the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 2000?**

In 2000, Yusef Komunyakaa, an African American poet, won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for his collection 'Neon Vernacular,' highlighting Black literary

achievement.

## **What historic milestone did Colin Powell achieve in 2000?**

In 2000, Colin Powell was serving as the first African American Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, playing a crucial role in U.S. military leadership and policy.

## **Which significant legal case involving Black rights gained attention in 2000?**

In 2000, the Supreme Court case *Bush v. Gore* indirectly impacted Black voters by deciding the outcome of the presidential election, raising ongoing discussions about voting rights and electoral fairness.

## **What was a major cultural event celebrating Black history in 2000?**

The year 2000 saw numerous events commemorating Black History Month, including educational programs and exhibitions focused on African American contributions to society and culture.

## **Who was a prominent African American political figure active in 2000?**

In 2000, Carol Moseley Braun was a notable African American politician, having served as the first Black woman U.S. Senator and continuing to influence political discourse at the time.

## **What advancement occurred in Black representation in the entertainment industry in 2000?**

The year 2000 featured increasing recognition of African American artists, with films like 'Remember the Titans' highlighting Black history and actors gaining prominent roles in Hollywood.

## **How did Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) mark the year 2000?**

HBCUs continued to grow in prominence in 2000, celebrating milestones and increasing their role in educating African American students and preserving Black heritage.

## **What role did technology play in documenting Black history events in 2000?**

In 2000, the rise of the internet began to provide new platforms for sharing and preserving Black history, allowing greater access to information and connecting communities globally.

## **Additional Resources**

Black History Events in 2000: A Year of Progress and Milestones

**Black history events in 2000** marked a significant chapter in the ongoing narrative of African American achievements, challenges, and cultural evolution. The dawn of the new millennium saw pivotal moments across political, social, and cultural spheres that helped shape the trajectory of black empowerment and recognition in the United States and beyond. This comprehensive review delves into key events and developments from that year, underlining their relevance and lasting impact within the broader framework of black history.

## **Political Milestones and Electoral Significance**

The year 2000 was notably marked by a historic presidential election in the United States, which brought issues of race and representation into sharper focus. While the election itself was primarily contested between George W. Bush and Al Gore, the involvement of black voters and activists underscored the ongoing importance of African American participation in the democratic process.

### **The Role of African American Voters in the 2000 U.S. Presidential Election**

African American voter turnout in 2000 was a critical factor in several key states. Historically, black voters have leaned toward the Democratic Party, and their support was pivotal in states like Florida and North Carolina. The controversial Florida recount highlighted concerns about voter suppression, particularly in minority communities, sparking renewed debates about electoral fairness and civil rights protections.

This election underscored the continuing struggle against systemic barriers to voting access for African Americans, a theme deeply rooted in black history. Organizations such as the NAACP and the National Urban League intensified efforts to mobilize black voters, advocating for better voting rights legislation and increased political engagement.

## **Political Representation and Appointments**

In 2000, the presence of African Americans in significant political offices continued to grow. Notably, Colin Powell, who had served as Secretary of State under President Bill Clinton, remained a prominent figure symbolizing African American leadership on the global stage. His tenure contributed to redefining perceptions of black leadership in U.S. foreign policy and military affairs.

Additionally, the year saw increased appointments of African Americans to judiciary and administrative roles at local and federal levels. These appointments not only diversified governmental institutions but also helped address issues of racial equity through policy and legal frameworks.

## **Cultural and Social Developments**

Beyond politics, black history events in 2000 included influential cultural milestones that highlighted African American contributions to arts, entertainment, and social thought.

### **Music and Media Influence**

The turn of the millennium was a vibrant period for African American artists shaping popular culture. In 2000, artists like Jay-Z, Lauryn Hill, and OutKast released albums that not only achieved commercial success but also addressed social themes pertinent to the black experience in America. Lauryn Hill's continued acclaim, following her groundbreaking 1998 album, emphasized the fusion of artistic excellence and social consciousness.

In media, the year marked significant progress in representation. Television shows featuring predominantly black casts, such as "The West Wing" and "Girlfriends," gained mainstream recognition, providing more nuanced portrayals of African American life. Additionally, black filmmakers and producers gained greater visibility, contributing to a richer diversity of stories told on screen.

### **Educational Advances and Affirmative Action Debates**

The year 2000 also saw critical discussions around education and affirmative action policies. The Supreme Court's ruling in the case of *Adarand Constructors, Inc. v. Peña* in the late 1990s had set precedents affecting affirmative action, and debates throughout 2000 continued regarding the role of race-conscious admissions policies in colleges and universities.

These debates were particularly relevant to African American students seeking equitable access to higher education. Many black advocacy groups emphasized the necessity of affirmative action as a tool to combat systemic inequalities rooted in historical discrimination. At the same time, opponents argued for race-neutral policies, prompting national conversations on how best to achieve diversity and inclusion.

## **Social Justice and Civil Rights Advocacy**

### **Grassroots Movements and Legal Battles**

Black history events in 2000 were marked by continued activism aimed at addressing ongoing racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Organizations like the NAACP Legal Defense Fund pursued cases challenging discriminatory policing and sentencing practices.

The year also witnessed grassroots mobilizations responding to high-profile incidents of racial injustice. These efforts reflected a broader commitment within the black community to seek systemic reforms and promote social

equity.

## **Commemorations and Historical Recognitions**

In 2000, numerous events and initiatives sought to preserve and celebrate African American heritage. Museums and cultural institutions launched exhibitions highlighting black contributions to American history, science, and the arts. Educational programs expanded to include more comprehensive curricula on black history, emphasizing the importance of acknowledging both triumphs and struggles.

The celebration of Black History Month in 2000, for instance, featured themes focused on unity and progress, encouraging reflection on the past while inspiring future generations.

## **Economic Progress and Challenges**

The economic landscape for African Americans in 2000 presented a complex picture of progress tempered by persistent disparities.

## **Entrepreneurship and Business Growth**

The turn of the century saw a rise in black entrepreneurship, with increased numbers of African American-owned businesses contributing to local economies. Initiatives promoting business development and access to capital gained momentum, supported by both government programs and private sector partnerships.

These developments were instrumental in fostering economic empowerment within black communities, helping to build wealth and create job opportunities.

## **Economic Inequality and Employment Issues**

Despite these advances, economic inequality remained a significant concern. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2000 revealed persistent gaps in income and employment rates between African Americans and other demographic groups. Structural challenges such as wage disparities, job discrimination, and limited access to quality education continued to hinder full economic parity.

Policy discussions during this period increasingly focused on addressing these systemic issues through targeted interventions and inclusive economic policies.

## **Global Impact and Diaspora Connections**

Black history events in 2000 were not confined to the United States. The global African diaspora witnessed important developments that underscored the interconnectedness of black experiences worldwide.

## International Cultural Exchanges

Cultural festivals and academic conferences in 2000 emphasized the shared heritage and contemporary realities of black people across continents. Initiatives promoting Afrocentric scholarship and transnational dialogues enriched understanding of black identities and histories.

## Political Developments in Africa and the Caribbean

The year 2000 also featured significant political events in African and Caribbean nations that resonated with the diaspora. For example, South Africa continued consolidating its post-apartheid democracy, with efforts to promote reconciliation and social justice. Meanwhile, Caribbean countries engaged in regional cooperation aimed at economic development and cultural preservation.

These developments highlighted the global dimensions of black history and the ongoing quest for empowerment and equality.

Black history events in 2000 collectively represent a dynamic period of reflection, achievement, and ongoing struggle. From the political arena to cultural innovation and social justice advocacy, the milestones of that year contributed meaningfully to the broader African American narrative and the global black experience. Understanding these events in context enriches appreciation of their significance and informs contemporary discussions about race, equity, and representation.

## Black History Events In 2000

### **black history events in 2000: 45 People, Places, and Events in Black History You Should Know**

Daniel J. Middleton, 2021-12-01 Did you know that a black man founded Chicago, Illinois? Did you know that the iconic television program Sesame Street grew out of the Civil Rights movement? This collection of unsung trailblazers unearths these and other little-known facts from the past. Packed with insightful encyclopedic entries, 45 People, Places, and Events in Black History You Should Know is the perfect primer for the Black History dabbler or enthusiast. In this book, you will discover: 15 individual men 15 individual women, and 15 important people, places, or events A large portion of these subjects received scant recognition from media outlets. But their names and stories are worth remembering because they figure prominently in the large historic landscape that forms the world narrative. Among the many subjects covered in this book are Bridget Biddy Mason, a black female and former slave. Toward the end of the nineteenth century, she was the wealthiest resident of Los Angeles, California. You'll learn about Covert, Michigan, the U.S. township that defied the racist norms of the post-Civil War era by refusing to segregate. And you'll read about C.R. Patterson and Sons, the first and only major car manufacturer owned and operated by black Americans. Prepare to be informed!

### **black history events in 2000: 50 Events That Shaped African American History** Jamie J.

Wilson, 2019-09-19 This two-volume work celebrates 50 notable achievements of African Americans, highlighting black contributions to U.S. history and examining the ways black accomplishments shaped American culture. This two-volume encyclopedia offers a unique look at the African American experience, from the arrival of the first 20 Africans at Jamestown through the launch of the Black Lives Matter movement and the Ferguson Protests. It illustrates subjects such as the Jim Crow

period, the Brown v. Board of Education case that overturned segregation, Jackie Robinson's landmark integration of major league baseball, and the election of Barack Obama as president of the United States. Drawing from almost 400 years of U.S. history, the work documents the experiences and impact of black people on every aspect of American life. Presented chronologically, the selected events each include at least one primary source to provide the reader with a first-person perspective. These range from excerpts of speeches given by famous African American figures, to programs from the March on Washington. The remarkable stories collected here bear witness to the strength of a group of people who chose to survive and found ways to work collectively to force America to live up to the promise of its founding.

**black history events in 2000:** *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Africa and the Middle East* Jamie Stokes, 2009 *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Africa and the Middle East* is a two-volume A-to-Z reference to the history and culture of the peoples of Africa and the Middle East.

**black history events in 2000: Making Black History** Dominique Haensell, 2021-10-04 This study proposes that – rather than trying to discern the normative value of Afropolitanism as an identificatory concept, politics, ethics or aesthetics – Afropolitanism may be best approached as a distinct historical and cultural moment, that is, a certain historical constellation that allows us to glimpse the shifting and multiple silhouettes which Africa, as signifier, as real and imagined locus, embodies in the globalized, yet predominantly Western, cultural landscape of the 21st century. As such, *Making Black History* looks at contemporary fictions of the African or Black Diaspora that have been written and received in the moment of Afropolitanism. Discursively, this moment is very much part of a diasporic conversation that takes place in the US and is thus informed by various negotiations of blackness, race, class, and cultural identity. Yet rather than interpreting Afropolitan literatures (merely) as a rejection of racial solidarity, as some commentators have, they should be read as ambivalent responses to post-racial discourses dominating the first decade of the 21st century, particularly in the US, which oscillate between moments of intense hope and acute disappointment. Please read our interview with Dominique Haensell here: <https://blog.degruyter.com/de-gruyters-10th-open-access-book-anniversary-dominique-haensell-and-her-winning-title-making-black-history/>

**black history events in 2000:** *African American History Reconsidered* Pero Gaglo Dagbovie, 2010 This volume establishes new perspectives on African American history. The author discusses a wide range of issues and themes for understanding and analyzing African American history, the 20th century African American historical enterprise, and the teaching of African American history for the 21st century.

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**black history events in 2000: Digital Libraries** Lucy A. Tedd, J. Andrew Large, 2005-04-04 This book introduces readers to the principles underlying digital libraries, illustrating these principles by reference to a wide range of digital library practices throughout the world. Individual chapters deal with issues such as: digital library users and the services that are offered to them, the standards and protocols with which digital libraries must operate in order to cooperate with other institutions, and issues such as the administration of digital libraries, including discussion of intellectual property rights and preservation issues. A final chapter comprises eight case studies drawn from all over the world, used to illustrate points made in earlier chapters. Throughout the book, the challenges of developing and implementing digital library systems in multilingual and multicultural environments are explored.

**black history events in 2000: Globalization, Human Rights and Populism** Adebawale Akande, 2023-06-16 This book offers a comprehensive and multidisciplinary global overview of populism and human rights in the light of globalization. It examines why the dominant (neo)liberal paradigm of the last decades resulted in major economic and social inequalities which resulted in the surge of national populism, led by the election success of right-wing parties, movements, and leaders across the world. It discusses, among other topics, the success of Brexit in Britain and the election success of Donald Trump and Marine Le Pen and explains why there is a need for a dialogue

on human rights and globalization in this era of populism. Further contributions analyze various important topics of the field, including cross-culturalism, globalization, human rights, challenges and threats, diversity, curbing global corruption, sustainable development, populism, the decline of free speech, the new nationalism, internationalization, global regime of human rights, leadership theory, global management competencies, gender, quality management, individualism-collectivism, and examples of new initiatives in global organizations. This makes the book a valuable and useful resource for students, researchers, and scholars of international relations, political science, sociology, political psychology, law, diplomatic studies, Communication and media studies, economics, education and management, as well as practitioners and policy-makers interested in a better understanding of globalization, populism, and human rights.

**black history events in 2000:** Black Firsts Jessie Carney Smith, 2012-12-01 Achievement engenders pride, and the most significant accomplishments involving people, places, and events in black history are gathered in Black Firsts: 4,000 Ground-Breaking and Pioneering Events.

**black history events in 2000:** Companion to Contemporary Black British Culture Alison Donnell, 2002-09-11 The Companion to Contemporary Black British Culture is the first comprehensive reference book to provide multidisciplinary coverage of the field of black cultural production in Britain. The publication is of particular value because despite attracting growing academic interest in recent years, this field is still often subject to critical and institutional neglect. For the purpose of the Companion, the term 'black' is used to signify African, Caribbean and South Asian ethnicities, while at the same time addressing the debates concerning notions of black Britishness and cultural identity. This single volume Companion covers seven intersecting areas of black British cultural production since 1970: writing, music, visual and plastic arts, performance works, film and cinema, fashion and design, and intellectual life. With entries on distinguished practitioners, key intellectuals, seminal organizations and concepts, as well as popular cultural forms and local activities, the Companion is packed with information and suggestions for further reading, as well as offering a wide lens on the events and issues that have shaped the cultural interactions and productions of black Britain over the last thirty years. With a range of specialist advisors and contributors, this work promises to be an invaluable sourcebook for students, researchers and academics interested in exploring the diverse, complex and exciting field of black cultural forms in postcolonial Britain.

**black history events in 2000:** The Persistence of Memory Jessica Moody, 2020 The Persistence of Memory tells the history of the public memory of transatlantic slavery in the largest slave-trading port city in the world, from the end of the 18th century into the 21st century, revealing the persistence of slavery memory in Liverpool as an ongoing, contested debate.

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**black history events in 2000: Blue Eyes on African-American History** Philip J. Reiss, 2013-10-04 Until Bayard Rustin's lecture in the fall of 1962, no other person had brought author Philip Reiss so far toward gaining an understanding of what it was like for African-Americans living as second-class citizens in this nation, which sponsors a pledge calling for liberty and justice for all. The Rustin lecture became Reiss's point of departure on his quest to learn more fully of the African-American experience; it prompted him to become aware and to truly understand that the entire nation shared responsibility for the dilemma of deep-seated injustices that African-Americans constantly faced. In *Blue Eyes on African-American History*, Reiss provides an account of a white professor's learning and teaching about African-American history from 1970 to 1999 at a SUNY community college. Reiss includes specifics of how and why he took on the challenge of teaching African-American history and discusses the historical events he deems critical for understanding of that history. His study relates the impact of economic exploitation facilitated by racism and how these twin evils are central to the African-American historical narrative. Along with factual history, this volume intersperses some of Reiss's experiences as a young boy, as a young adult serving in the military, and as a professor teaching his course. It provides unique insight into a turbulent time in America.

**black history events in 2000: Contemporary Archaeology in Theory** Robert W. Preucel, Stephen A. Mrozowski, 2011-10-04 The second edition of *Contemporary Archaeology in Theory: The New Pragmatism*, has been thoroughly updated and revised, and features top scholars who redefine

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**black history events in 2000: Encyclopedia of African American Education** Kofi Lomotey, 2010 The Encyclopedia of African American Education covers educational institutions at every level, from preschool through graduate and professional training, with special attention to historically black and predominantly black colleges and universities. Other entries cover individuals, organizations, associations, and publications that have had a significant impact on African American education. The Encyclopedia also presents information on public policy affecting the education of African Americans, including both court decisions and legislation. It includes a discussion of curriculum, concepts, theories, and alternative models of education, and addresses the topics of gender and sexual orientation, religion, and the media. The Encyclopedia also includes a Reader's Guide, provided to help readers find entries on related topics. It classifies entries in sixteen categories: Alternative Educational Models Associations and Organizations Biographies Collegiate Education Curriculum Economics Gender Graduate and Professional Education Historically Black Colleges and Universities Legal Cases Pre-Collegiate Education Psychology and Human Development Public Policy Publications Religious Institutions Segregation/Desegregation. Some entries appear in more than one category. This two-volume reference work will be an invaluable resource not only for educators and students but for all readers who seek an understanding of African American education both historically and in the 21st century.

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**black history events in 2000: Social Work** Vivienne E. Cree, Trish McCulloch, 2023-04-04 Building on the successful 1st edition, this reader brings together some of the most significant ideas that have informed social work practice over the last fifty years. At the same time as presenting these foundational extracts, the book includes commentaries that allow the reader to understand the selected extracts on their own terms as well as to be aware of their relations to each other and to the wider social work context. There is no settled view or easy consensus about what social work is and should be, and the ideas reflected in this volume are themselves diverse and complex. The world of social work has changed greatly over the last ten years, and this new edition reflects that change with new material on the decolonisation of social work knowledges, the greater emphasis on

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