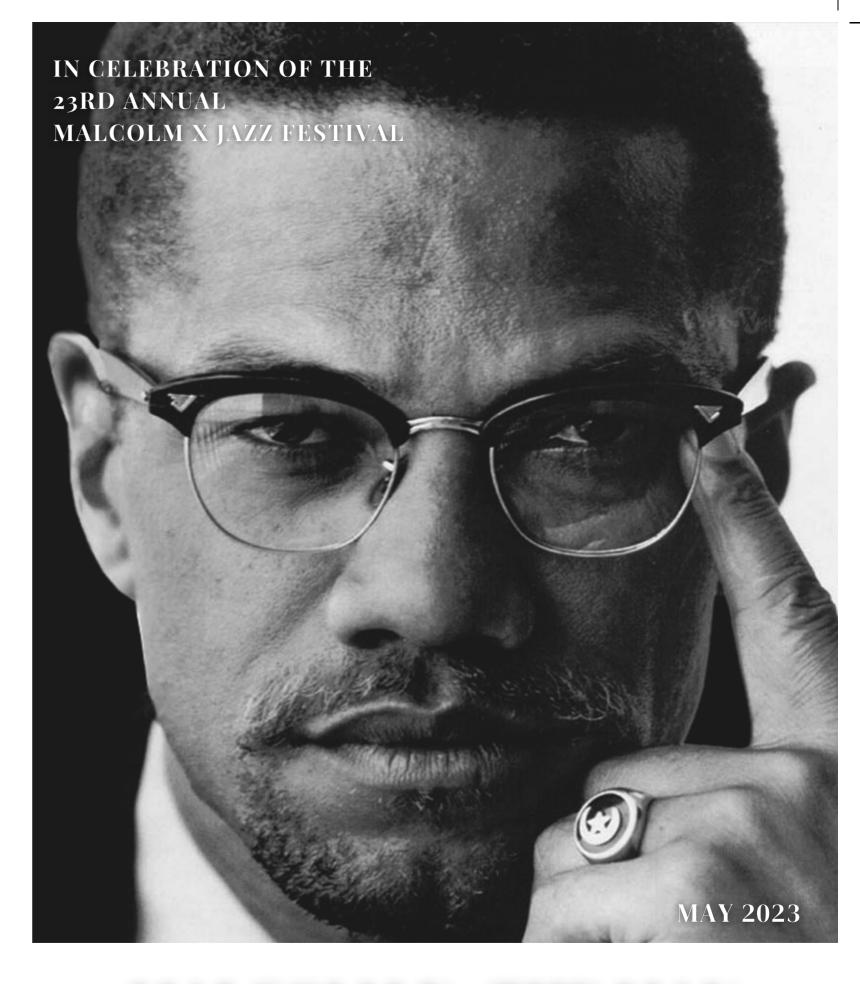


MALCOLM WAS A MAN

"Culture is an indispensable weapon in the freedom struggle".
-Malcolm X



Authored by: Nehanda Imara for Eastside Cultural Center Design: Ndidi Love



MALCOLM X, THE MAN

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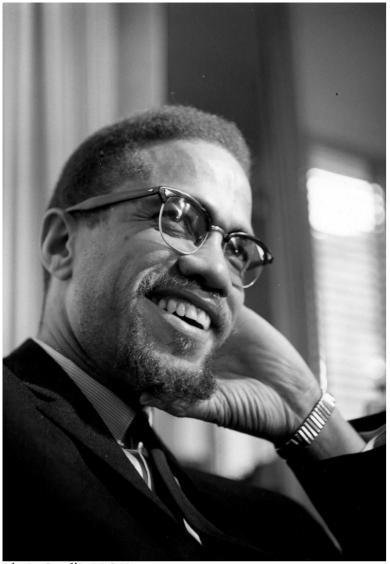


Photo Credit: ABC News

A BRIEF BIO

Born, Malcolm Little, on May 19, 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska, Malcolm's parents were members of Marcus Garvey's **UNIA & African Communities** League. Malcolm's father was killed because of his activism.

Malcolm went to prison in 1946 -1952 for theft. While in prison he joined the Nation of Islam (NOI). While on the inside Malcolm developed a deep love of reading and read the entire dictionary from cover to cover. He read everything he could get his hands on.



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MALCOLM X? **CHECK OUT THESE VIDEOS!**



Malcolm X- "We Are Africans" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NefjpuZpE8c



Malcolm X- "A Global United Africa" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLD9LaRMgWU

Malcolm X on His Return From Africa https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRTWOqSgyVU







Photo Credit: Getty Images

AFRICA & MALCOLM



Photo Credit: Malcolm X & Maya Angelou, Getty Images

African Liberation Day is celebrated the week after Malcolm X's birthday, on May 25th. This international, pan-African event is celebrated world-wide, it is a commemoration of African people's historical struggle and triumphs and the legacy of Malcolm X is always acknowledged.

After leaving the NOI, Malcolm founded the Organization of Afro-American Unity in 1964.

Malcolm spoke to the African Heads of State at the 1964 Organization of African Unity meeting in Egypt. He asked them to take the case of Africans in America to the United Nations. In his speech, he made connections between African people in America and Africa.

Malcolm X visited Africa several times, most notably in 1959. He visited Egypt, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Ghana. He met officials, spoke on television and radio in: Egypt, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea, Algeria, and Morocco. Upon his arrival, Nigerian students, gave him the name, Omowale, meaning "the son returns home".

Malcolm said, "As long as we think that we should get Mississippi straightened out before we worry about the Congo, you'll never get Mississippi straightened out.".



Photo Credit: Getty Images

BETTY SHABAZZ, AN ACTIVIST IN HER OWN RIGHT.

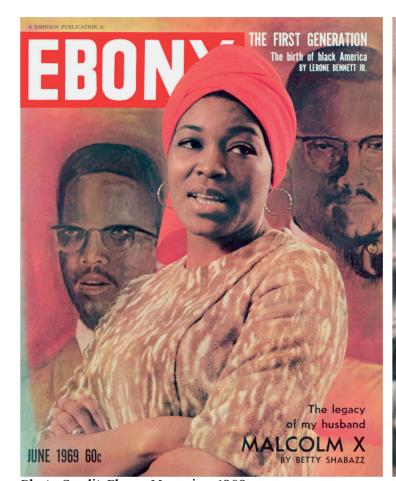






Photo Credit: National Action Network

Photo Credit: Ebony Magazine, 1969

Sister Shabazz was more than Malcolm's wife. She met Malcolm in 1955 after one of his speeches. They married in 1958. Betty joined the NOI in 1956. They had six daughters. Malcolm X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, his surviving daughter Ilyasah Shabazz was only 2 years old.

After Malcolm X was killed in front of his wife and children, Betty was pregnant with twins. It was Betty that raised their six girls. Betty went on to pursue her education, and in 1975, earned her doctorate in education. Ilyasah, the middle child, today speaks about how her mother made sure to keep Malcolm alive to her and her siblings.

EASTSIDE CULTURAL CENTER

This publication was created to honor Malcolm X's legacy through the Malcolm X Jazz Festival in its 23rd year. Why does Eastside Arts Alliance name the festival in Malcolm's honor? To honor Oakland's culturally rich community! Eastside long respected the idea of Third World Unity and Brother Malcolm's legacy. Malcolm X was a perfect namesake, because he saw the 1954 Bandung Conference of African and Asian Nations as a model for black unity in America.





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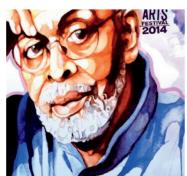




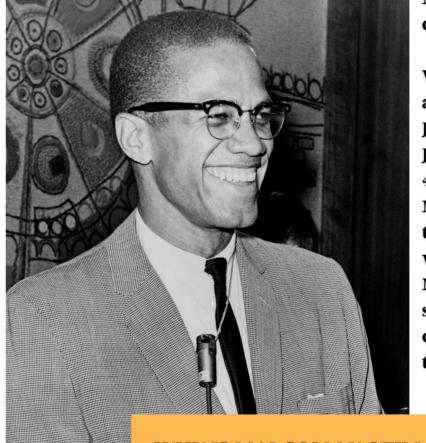
Photo Credit: Gordon Parks, Minneapolis Institute of Art



Malcolm expanded the membership of the NOI shortly after joining in 1953. He was an excellent organizer.

Malcolm organized against the police beating of Hinton Johnson: On April 26, 1957 Hinton Johnson and two other Nation of Islam members saw the police beating a Black man with baton clubs. All three NOI men were arrested. Malcolm X and a small group of Muslims went to the police station and demanded to see Johnson.

When the crowd grew to 500, the police allowed Malcolm X to speak with Johnson. Malcolm X insisted they take Johnson to the Harlem Hospital. Over 4,000 people had gathered outside. Malcolm X was making bail for two of the other Muslims. Police said Johnson was not bailed. Assessing the situation, Malcolm X stepped outside the police station and gave a hand signal to the crowd. NOI members silently left, then the rest of the people left as well.



WHY IS MALCOLM X STILL IMPORTANT TO US TODAY?

Malcolm held the view that Africans in American had the right to defend themselves by "any means necessary".

Photo Credit: Library of Congress, 1963