

NARA BLACK HISTORY BASIC TRAINING

Feb 26 – Shirley Chisholm

[Shirley Anita Chisholm](#) was an American politician, educator, and author. In 1968, she became the first Black woman elected to the United States Congress where she led numerous food and nutrition programs for the poor and rose up the ranks of the Democratic party. She was also the first African American and first female candidate for the Democratic party's nomination for President of the United States in 1972. While running for president she faced personal threats and discrimination not only based on her race but also from African American male competitors. Despite not winning the presidential election, her campaign in and of itself paved the way for all African American women after her to be able to run for all levels of government leadership.

“If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.”



Records:

- ✓ [Shirley Chisholm Topic Page](#)
- ✓ [Shirley Chisholm Bicentennial Speech, 6/19/1976](#), NAID 1181270
- ✓ [Civil Unrest Case File for Appearance of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm in Jackson, MS](#), NAID 5598468

Viewing:

- ✓ Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed, Realside Productions, 2004
- ✓ [Clip from Accomplished Women: Shirley Chisholm](#)

Reading:

- ✓ [Unbought & Unbossed: Shirley Chisholm and the 1972 Presidential Run](#), Rediscovering Black History
- ✓ Unbought and Unbossed (Take Root Media), 1970