

Black History Month: Why Remember Toni Stone?

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Everyone knows Frederick Douglass and Martin Luther King, Jr., but there are many other African Americans who have contributed to the rich fabric of our country but whose names have fallen through the cracks of history.

We've asked some of our authors who chose to write biographies of these talented leaders why we should remember them. We'll feature their answers throughout Black History Month.

Today, **Crystal Hubbard** shares why she wrote about Toni Stone (a.k.a. Marcenia Lyle) in [Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young Girl's Baseball Dream](#):

"I wrote about Marcenia Lyle, the first woman to have become a full-time roster member of an all-male professional baseball team, because she is an example of what it truly means to make a dream come true.

"Marcenia Lyle loved baseball, and she played as a child. She wanted to do what so many boys could grow up to do, which was to play ball professionally.

"In the early 1930s, career options were limited for African-American women. Most typically became teachers, nurses, maids and housewives. But Marcenia held on to her dream of playing baseball. Even when it was hard to get people to believe in her, she worked harder to prove that she could be a good baseball player. She made her dream come true, and her drive and determination inspired me to follow my heart, to work hard, and to bring my dreams to life."

Further reading:

[Black History Month: Why Remember Robert Smalls?](#)



