

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH NEWSLETTER

University of Leicester School of Physics and Astronomy  
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## Black in STEM: Spotlight on Prof. Katherine Adebola Okikiolu

Today, we're highlighting the work of Professor Katherine Adebola Okikiolu from John Hopkins University.

[Katherine](#) is a mathematician whose research covers Classical analysis, Differential Geometry, Partial

Differential Equations and Operator Theory. After completing her B.A in mathematics at the University of Cambridge, Katherine went on to the United States to complete her PhD in [the Analogue of Strong Szego Limit Theorem on the Torus and the 3-Sphere](#). Katherine went on



Photo credit: mathcareers.org.uk

Today's donation link is [Black Girls Code](#) who are devoted in increasing the number of women of colour in the digital space by empowering young women of colour. Donate [here!](#)

to become an instructor and assistant professor at Princeton University where she published further papers in elliptic operators. In June of 1997 she became the first Black mathematician to be awarded the [Sloan Research Fellowship](#), a prestigious award for young mathematics researchers in the U.S. Only a few months later

she was also awarded the [Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers](#) for her innovative research and development of student workshops and mathematics curricula for children. Her last work whilst at John Hopkins University was in 2009, discussing [A negative mass theorem for surfaces of positive genus](#).



Photo credit: State University of New York at Buffalo

# EVENTS TODAY

## Celebrating Black Excellence

A Virtual Symposium on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 4pm BST to mark Black History Month and focuses around celebrating Black Excellence and Trans lives brought to you by Living Free U.K.

## RECOMMENDATIONS & RESOURCES

### Book for younger readers:

[Sulwe](#) by Lupita Nyong'o and illustrated by Vashti Harrison, this moving picture book looks at colourism, self-esteem and learning that true beauty comes from within. Available at the Black-owned bookshops [Round Table Books](#) and [Seven Oaks Bookshop](#).

### Book for older readers:

[Mother Country: Real Stories of the Windrush Children](#) edited by Charlie Brinkhurst-Cuff is an inspiring collection of real-life stories across families of the Windrush generation. Available at the Black-owned bookshop [New Beacon Books](#).

**Podcast:** [In Good Company](#), hosted by Otegha Uqagba who leads a podcast full of

practical advice, fresh ideas and interviews with smart, successful women. Available through [Spotify](#) and [Google Podcasts](#).

**Livestream:** [DataDave](#) is a voice actor, college professor, supporter of [Extralife4Kids](#) and content creator who focuses on MMOs, RPGs and more! Catch his streams through [Twitter](#) and [Youtube](#).

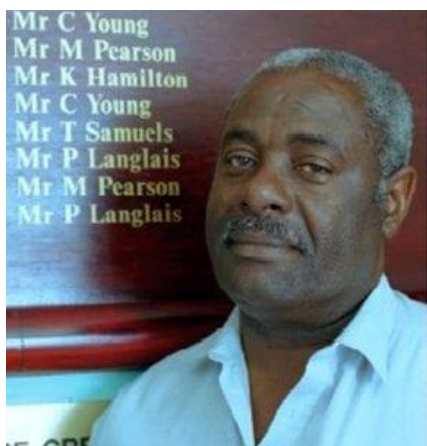


Photo credit: Bristol Museum & Art Gallery

Today's key figure from Black British history is [Guy Reid-Bailey](#). Born in Jamaica in 1945, Guy moved to Bristol in 1961 to live with his aunt. In 1963, he applied to become a conductor with the [Bristol Omnibus Company](#) but was refused an interview because he was Black.

This sparked the [Bristol Bus Boycotts of 1963](#), which gained national attention to racial discrimination still within Britain. Many believe the boycotts influenced the passing of the [Race Relations Act of 1965](#) and [1968](#). Guy and others went on to found the [United Housing Association](#) which helped Black people gain accommodation without racial discrimination which was prevalent in the housing industry.

## Contact us

To recommend scientists, events, donation links, books and podcasts for future editions, please contact the PGR Reps at the emails below:

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