

Famous December Birthdays

Challenge Your Mind Puzzle #7

Across

1 Guitarist and songwriter whose innovative playing style inspired generations of musicians. _____
Diddley
(12/30/1928)

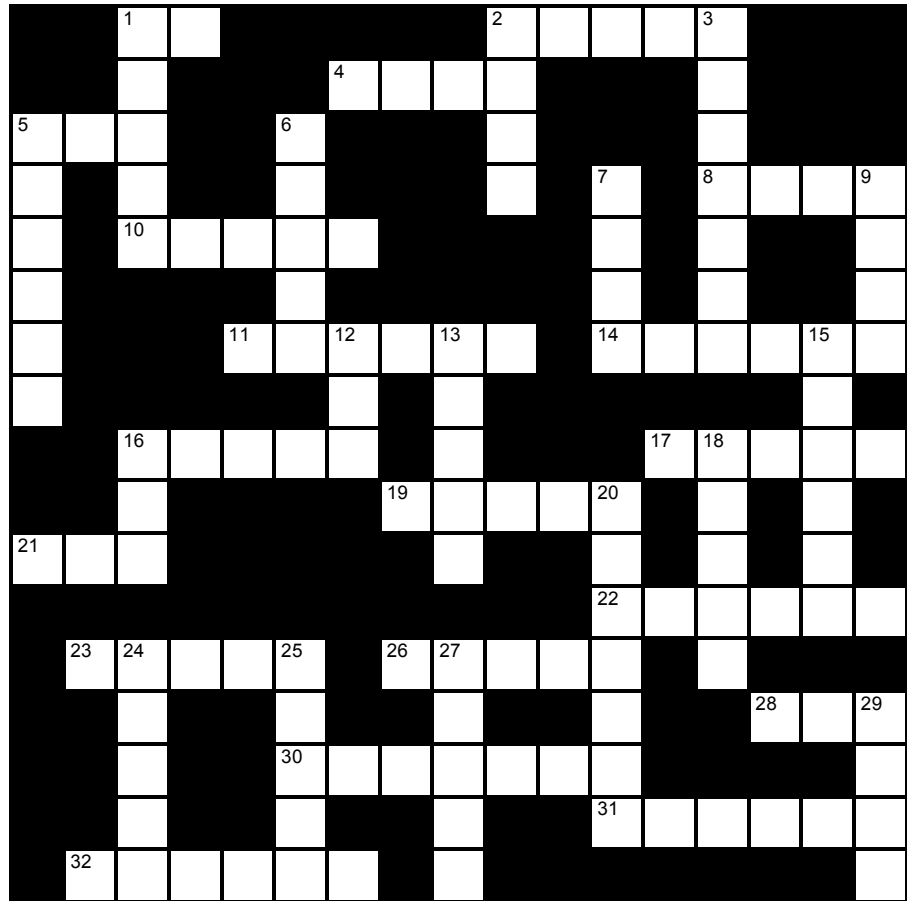
2 Hair care pioneer and social entrepreneur. _____
C. J. Walker
(12/23/1867)

4 Freedom fighter, social justice advocate and grassroots organizer who played a key role in the Civil Rights Movement. _____
Baker
(12/136/1903)

5 TV sitcom starring comedian Redd Foxx (12/9/1922).
Sandford and _____

8 At age 17, Jordyn Sparks-Thomas (12/22/1989) became the youngest winner ever of this popular television show. *American _____*

10 Singer, dancer and actor who was hailed as "The World's Greatest Entertainer" during his career.



- _____ Davis, Jr.
(12/8/1925)
- 11** National Basketball Association superstar who founded the I Promise School and Institute in Akron, Ohio. _____
James
(12/30/1984)
- 14** Vocalist and folk singer who was known as "The Voice of the Civil

- Rights Movement". _____
Holmes
(12/31/1930)
- 16** In R&B music circles he is known as "The Iceman". _____
Butler (12/8/1939)
- 17** Role played by actress Nichelle Nichols (12/28/1932) on the *Star Trek* television series. Lieutenant _____.

- 19** Legendary golfer who is considered to be one of the greatest golfers of all time. _____
Woods
(12/30/1975)
- 21** Movie in which the actor in **31-Across** played the South African leader in **7-Down**. _____ *Freedom*.
- 22** Historian who launched Negro History Week

- which was later expanded into Black History Month. ____ G. Woodson (12/19/1875)
- 23 Nickname of track and field star Florence Griffith Joyner (12/21/1959) who set world records at the 1988 Summer Olympics.
- 26 Richard Pryor (12/1/1940) movie where he played three different characters. ____ *Way Is Up?*
- 28 Band leader and jazz musician who was the first African American to have a nationally syndicated radio show. ____ Calloway (12/25/1907)
- 30 Early Cicely Tyson (12/19/1924) film about a sharecropping family in the Deep South.
- 31 Academy-Award winning actor who grew up in Mt. Vernon, New York. ____ Washington (12/28/1954)
- 32 Famous Hollywood actor who was an usher
- at the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ____ L. Jackson (12/21/1948)
- Down**
- 1 Model and actress who created the reality show *America's Next Top Model*. Tyra ____ (12/4/1973)
- 2 Classic hit song by sultry songstress Dionne Warwick (12/12/1940). *Don't ____ Me Over*.
- 3 She is one of the original *Queens of Comedy*. ____ Angela Hicks (12/11/1967)
- 5 This Grammy Award winning singer was called the "Queen of Disco". Donna ____ (12/31/1948)
- 6 He won an Academy Award for his portrayal of Ray Charles in the movie *Ray*. ____ Foxx (12/13/1967)
- 7 South African anti-apartheid activist and organizer who is regarded as "The Father of Black Consciousness". Steve ____ (12/18/1946)
- 9 Vocalist who
- worked as a backup singer for Luther Vandross before recording her own hit song, *How Can I Ease The Pain*. ____ Fischer (12/1/1958)
- 12 Rapper and actor who hosted *Def Poetry Jam*. Yasiin "Mos Def" ____ (12/11/1973)
- 13 All-star baseball shortstop who was nicknamed "The Wizard of Oz" for his skills on the playing field. ____ Smith (12/26/1954)
- 15 Grammy nominated R&B singer and actor. ____ Gibson (12/30/1978)
- 16 Hip Hop artist who co-founded Roc-A-Fella Records and the 40/40 Club. Shawn ____-Z Carter (12/4/1969)
- 18 Fiery abolitionist, minister and orator who advocated for the full emancipation of enslaved Blacks during the 1800s. ____ Highland Garnet
- 20 Hall of Fame rock & roll singer and songwriter. Little ____ (12/5/1932)
- 24 Retired
- professional boxer who is the daughter of boxing great Muhammad Ali. ____ Ali (12/30/1977)
- 25 Actor who delivered the eulogy at Malcom X's funeral. ____ Davis (12/18/1917)
- 27 Jazz pianist and band leader whose virtuosity on the keyboard set a new standard in the industry. Earl "Fatha" ____ (12/28/1903)
- 29 Cowboy and Wild West rodeo show performer who invented the cattle wrestling technique known as bulldogging. ____ Pickett (12/5/1870)