

CITY OF GOLDSBORO

LITTLE KNOWN BLACK HISTORY FACT

HIDDEN FIGURES: TRUE STORY BEHIND BLACK WOMEN OF NASA

Based on a true story. A team of African-American women provide NASA with important mathematical data needed to launch the program's first successful space missions. The film "Hidden Figures" depicting this true story, stars Taraji P. Henson as Katherine G. Johnson, a mathematician who calculated flight trajectories for Project Mercury and other missions. The film also features Octavia Spencer as Dorothy Vaughan and Janelle Monáe as Mary Jackson, in supporting roles.

In 1961, mathematician Katherine Goble works at the segregated West Area Computers division of Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia alongside her colleagues, aspiring engineer Mary Jackson and informal supervisor Dorothy Vaughan. Known as the "computers in skirts," the three women meticulous calculations helped the United States catch up in the "space race" and send John Glenn, who recently passed away at the age of 95, into orbit around Earth.



**TARAJI P. HENSON AS
KATHERINE GOBLE JOHNSON,
MATHEMATICIAN**

**JANELLE MONÁE AS
MARY JACKSON,
WHO BECOMES AN ENGINEER**

**OCTAVIA SPENCER AS
DOROTHY VAUGHAN,
MATHEMATICIAN & SUPERVISOR**