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| Issue Date September 16, 2011 | Engraver N/A |
| First Day City Houston, TX | Colors Beige (PMS 480C), Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow |
| Artist Albert Slark Ajax, Ontario, Canada | Image Area (w x h) 0.84 x 1.42 in. 21.34 x 36.07 mm |
| Designer Richard Sheaff Scottsdale, AZ | Format Pane of 20 (1 design) |
| Art Director Richard Sheaff | Plate Numbers "P" followed by five single digits |
| Typographer Richard Sheaff | Marginal Markings Header: "BLACK HERITAGE" "34th IN A SERIES," © 2010 USPS, plate position diagram, plate numbers, USPS logo, barcodes, descriptive text |
| Modeler Joseph Sheeran | |
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| Printer Ashton Potter (USA) Ltd. (APU) | |

Barbara Jordan

With the 34th stamp in the Black Heritage series, the U.S. Postal Service honors Barbara Jordan (1936-1996), one of the most respected and influential American politicians of the 20th century.

After losing two elections for the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and 1964, Jordan won a seat in the Texas State Senate in 1966, becoming the first African-American woman ever elected to that body, as well as the first black Texas State Senator since 1883. In 1972, her Senate colleagues elected her president *pro tempore* of the Texas legislature, earning her another distinctive "first"—the first black woman in the U.S. ever to preside over a legislative body. On June 10, 1972, she served as governor for a day, a ceremonial role that also made her the first black governor in the United States.

In 1972, Jordan ran for the U.S. House of Representatives, receiving 80 percent of the vote and heading to Washington, D.C., with the accolades of her Texas colleagues. In the summer of 1974, as a freshman member of the Judiciary Committee, Jordan played a crucial role in the Nixon impeachment hearings. She gained national prominence with a lucid and moving speech about the nature of democracy. Afterward, a supporter posted a message on 25 billboards in Houston that read "Thank you, Barbara Jordan, for explaining our Constitution."

In 1976, Jordan became the first woman and the first African-American to deliver a keynote address to the Democratic National Convention. Considered the highlight of the convention, her televised speech described Americans as "a people in search of a national community...attempting to fulfill our national purpose, to create and sustain a society in which all of us are equal"—a message that resonated across the country.

Jordan ultimately served three terms in Congress, sponsoring and supporting numerous pieces of legislation extending federal protection of civil rights. Her record of success ensured social justice and equal rights for more American citizens.



Rodney Lawrence Hurst Sr. Papers
Thomas G. Carpenter Library
Special Collections

Black Heritage: Barbara Jordan



Barbara Jordan

THE 34th STAMP in the Black Heritage series honors Barbara Jordan (1936–1996), one of the most respected American politicians of the 20th century. During her decades of public service, Jordan captured the admiration of the nation with her intelligence, integrity, and eloquent oratory.

Born in Houston, Jordan was already a champion orator by the time she graduated from high school. At Texas Southern University, she continued to be involved in debate and oratory, graduating magna cum laude and later earning a law degree from Boston University. Her entry into politics came when she volunteered for John F. Kennedy's presidential

campaign in 1960. Initially she was put to work licking stamps, but after demonstrating her oratorical skills, she was immediately promoted to the speaking circuit and soon decided to run for political office herself.

After losing two elections for the Texas House of Representatives, Jordan won a seat in the Texas State Senate in 1966, becoming the first African-American woman ever elected to that body, as well as the first black Texas State Senator since 1883. In 1972, she received 80 percent of the vote when she ran for the U.S. House of Representatives. In the summer of 1974, as a freshman member of the Judiciary Committee, she played a crucial role in the Nixon impeachment hearings, gaining national prominence with a lucid and moving speech about the nature of democracy.

In 1976, Jordan became the first woman and the first African American to deliver a keynote address to the Democratic National Convention. Her televised speech — considered the highlight of the convention — described Americans as “a people in search of a national community...attempting to fulfill our national purpose, to create and sustain a society in which all of us are equal.”

The portrait featured on this stamp is an oil painting by award-winning artist Albert Slark of Ajax, Ontario, Canada.



background: © Bettman/CORBIS; intaglio, left, and top right: The property of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan Archives, Texas Southern University; bottom right: © Shepard Sherbell/CORBIS SABA

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BLACK HERITAGE

34th IN A SERIES

P1111

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P1111

BARBARA JORDAN

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

First-Day-of-Issue Ceremony

Texas Southern University
Houston, TX

September 16, 2011

11 a.m.



Photo: The property of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan
Archives, Texas Southern University.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Dr. Brenda Eatman Aghahowa
*Associate Professor of English
Chicago State University*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Jack Yates High School Cadets

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Cynthia Whittaker-Coleman
Soprano, Good Hope Baptist Church Choir

WELCOME

Dr. John M. Rudley
President, Texas Southern University

INTRODUCTION OF HONORED GUESTS

Karen Hauser
*President, Houston Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.*

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Donte Newman
*Member, Debate Team
Texas Southern University*

OFFICIAL STAMP DEDICATION

Ellis A. Burgoyne
*Chief Information Officer and Executive
Vice President
United States Postal Service*

REMARKS

The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
*United States House of Representatives
18th District, Texas*

Rose Mary McGowan
Sister, Barbara Jordan

HOLD ON!

Texas Southern University Concert Choir

CLOSING

Dr. Brenda Eatman Aghahowa



UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE.

BARBARA JORDAN

A champion orator in high school and college, Barbara Jordan (1936-1996) was trained as a lawyer, but she found her true destiny in 1960, when she volunteered for the presidential campaign of John F. Kennedy. Jordan was initially put to work licking stamps, but after she had an opportunity to demonstrate her oratorical skills, the campaign promoted her to the speaking circuit. Jordan also helped manage a highly successful voter registration program, a volunteer experience that prompted her to run for political office herself.

As a politician, Jordan held the nation's attention with her integrity, keen intelligence, and charismatic oratory. She was also a trailblazer whose prodigious list of "firsts" includes being the first African-American woman elected to the Texas legislature, the first African American elected to the Texas State Senate since 1883, and the first African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress from the South.

In 1974, Jordan gave a moving speech about the nature of democracy during the Nixon impeachment hearings, and in 1976 she became the first woman and the first African American to deliver a keynote address to the Democratic National Convention. Her televised speech—considered the highlight of the convention—described Americans as "a people in search of a national community...attempting to fulfill our national purpose, to create and sustain a society in which all of us are equal."

During her three terms in Congress, Jordan sponsored and supported numerous pieces of legislation extending federal protection of civil rights. Afterward, she became a college professor and ethics advisor and a symbol of the potential that resides in all Americans. The billboard posted by a supporter in Houston in 1974 still sums up her legacy: "Thank you, Barbara Jordan, for explaining our Constitution."

Featuring an oil painting by Albert Slark and art directed by Richard Sheaff, the Barbara Jordan stamp is being issued as a Forever® stamp. Forever stamps are always equal in value to the current First-Class Mail one-ounce rate.





BARBARA

JORDAN



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011 ★ HOUSTON, TX 77201

First Day of Issue Ceremony



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