

Name	Description <i>(DISCLAIMER: The descriptions below are intended to be very brief summaries of accomplishments provided by members of the public who submitted recommendations, and accounts provided in historical record. These descriptions are not intended to be all-encompassing and do not reflect the official view of the Florida Department of State or members of the ad hoc</i>	Count
1 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune	Educator and civil rights activist, founded what became Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida, in 1904.	1,233
2 James Weldon Johnson	Teacher, poet, essayist, social activist, diplomat, and song writer <i>Lift Ev'ry Voice</i> ; First African American admitted to the Florida Bar.	447
3 George Washington Jenkins, Jr.	Founder of the Publix grocery store chain in 1930, based in Lakeland, Florida, and now has over 1,000 stores across the Southeast.	417
4 Marjory Stoneman Douglas	Noted author and environmentalist, best known for her 1947 work <i>The Everglades: River of Grass</i> and as an ardent defender of the environment.	261
5 Harry T. Moore	Civil rights activist in Central Florida and active in the NAACP and the Progressive Voters' League, he and his wife were tragically murdered after a bomb exploded in their home in Mims, Florida.	189
6 Henry Morrison Flagler	Prominent developer, hotelier and railroad magnate; played a major role in the development of South Florida and the growth of Florida tourism.	82
7 Zora Neale Hurston	Noted author and anthropologist from Eatonville, Florida, most famous work is <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> , published in 1937.	68
8 Seminole Leader Osceola (Billy Powell)	Seminole leader and commander who led troops during the Second Seminole War.	61
9 Governor Lawton Major Chiles, Jr.	The 41st Governor of Florida, during campaign walked across the state and became known as "Walkin' Lawton."	52
10 Walter Elias "Walt" Disney	Motion-picture and television producer, creator of the character Mickey Mouse and founder of Disneyland and Walt Disney World.	40
11 Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings	Florida author, lived in Cross Creek, Florida. Best known work, <i>The Yearling</i> , won a Pulitzer Prize in 1939.	19
12 Governor LeRoy Collins	The 33rd Governor of Florida, promoted civil rights, economic development, and advanced education in the state.	18
13 Ernest Hemingway	Classic American author of <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> and journalist who spent many years in Key West, Florida, where his home is now a museum.	15
14 Robert "Bob" Ross	Born in Daytona Beach, Florida, he was the host of the PBS show <i>Joy of Painting</i> .	13

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15	Juan Ponce de Leon	Most well-known Spanish explorer, arrived on the east coast, named "La Florida" in 1513; Military governor of Puerto Rico.	11
16	Asa Philip Randolph	Civil rights activist and trade unionist from Crescent City, Florida, who organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.	8
17	James Douglas "Jim" Morrison	Lead singer for the rock band The Doors, from Melbourne, Florida.	8
18	Thomas Edison	American inventor whose inventions included the light bulb and the phonograph. He spent his later years in Fort Myers, Florida.	8
19	Dr. Alexander Darnes	First African-American doctor from Jacksonville, Florida.	7
20	Governor Spessard Lindsey Holland	28th Governor of Florida.	7
21	President Andrew Jackson	7th President of the United States and the 1st Territorial Governor of Florida.	6
22	Honorable Charles E. Bennett	U.S. Representative from Florida who served from 1949-1993.	6
23	Senator Claude Pepper	Politician, U.S. Senator and Representative from Florida.	6
24	Julia DeForest Tuttle	Businesswoman and landowner known as the "Mother of Miami."	6
25	Eartha M. M. White	Lobbied for the construction of the first public school for African-Americans in the community of Baynard, a historical community in Duval County.	7
26	Seminole Chief Micanopy	Seminole chief who led the tribe during the Second Seminole War.	5
27	Ruby Pearl Diamond	Benefactor for Florida State University. Florida State University's Ruby Diamond Auditorium is named after her.	5
28	General Daniel "Chappie" James	First African-American four-star general in the U.S. Air Force.	4
29	Honorable Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry	Teacher, state legislator, and lawyer.	4
30	Lillie Pierce Voss	Pioneer who played a significant role in the development of Palm Beach County.	4
31	Marjorie Harris Carr	Environmentalist who fought against the construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal.	4
32	Ronnie Van Zant	Lead singer for the Jacksonville-based band Lynyrd Skynyrd.	4
33	Eula Gandy Johnson	Civil rights activist known as the "Rosa Parks of Broward County."	3
34	Henry B. Plant	Railroad magnate and hotelier who had a major influence on Tampa Bay.	3
35	John Ringling	Industrial tycoon, land developer and founder of the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus empire, based in Sarasota, Florida.	3

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36	General Joseph W. Stilwell	Army general from Palatka, Florida, who commanded troops during World War II.	3
37	General Roy Geiger	U.S. Marine Corps general from Florida who commanded air and ground units during World War II.	3
38	Alfred A. McKethan	Banker and businessman who founded Florida Citrus Mutual.	2
39	Ben Hill Griffin, Jr.	Florida citrus magnate who owned groves, a fruit-packing operation, and other industries.	2
40	Bessie Lee Pittman (Jacqueline Cochran)	Florida aviatrix who pioneered the role of women in flight and the first woman to exceed the sound barrier.	2
41	Reverend Charles Kenzie Steele	Civil rights activist in Tallahassee.	2
42	Captain Colin P. Kelly	Pilot from Madison, Florida, who flew bombing runs after the Pearl Harbor attack.	2
43	Senator David Levy Yulee	Florida's first U.S. Senator and the "Father of Florida's Railroads."	2
44	Dick Pope, Sr.	Water skier and the founder of the theme park Cypress Gardens.	2
45	Ernest Ivy "Boots" Thomas, Jr.	Marine who was killed during the Battle of Iwo Jima, from Tampa, Florida.	2
46	Harriet Beecher Stowe	Author and abolitionist most famous for her work <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> . She spent her later years in Jacksonville, Florida.	2
47	Henry Perrine	Horticulturalist who ran the Tropical Plant Company out of the Florida Keys.	2
48	Ivy Julia Cromartie Stranahan	Teacher and women's suffrage advocate who helped establish Everglades National Park.	2
49	Lue Gim Gong	Chinese-American horticulturalist who pioneered the modern Florida orange industry.	2
50	Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward	19th Governor of Florida.	2
51	Philip Donald Estridge	Known as the "Father of the IBM PC."	2
52	Ray Charles	Singer, songwriter, musician, and composer. Inducted into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame.	2
53	Honorable Ruth Bryan Owen	Florida's first female representative in the United States Congress in 1929.	2
54	Zena Dreier	First woman to cast a ballot south of the Mason-Dixon Line, in Fellesmere, Florida.	2
55	Abner Jay	Banjoist and bones player who owned a restaurant in White Springs, Florida.	1
56	Albert Ernest "Beanie" Backus	Florida Highwaymen painter known for his vivid Florida landscapes.	1

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57	Lt. Alexander "Sandy" Ramsey Nininger Jr.	U.S. Army 2nd Lieutenant from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, who received a Medal of Honor.	1
58	Honorable Alonzo Church Croom	Comptroller of the State of Florida from 1900-1912.	1
59	Althea Gibson	First woman of color to win a Grand Slam in tennis. She attended Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.	1
60	Aquilina Howell	First woman to serve as Assistant Superintendent of Leon County Schools.	1
61	Augusta Fells Savage	Famous African-American sculptor associated with the Harlem Renaissance.	1
62	Barbara Baer Capitman	Saved historic hotels on Miami Beach, creating the Art Deco District.	1
63	Honorable Bob Carr	Mayor of Orlando, Florida, from 1956 to 1967.	1
64	Honorable Bob Sikes	U.S. Representative for Panhandle from 1941-1979.	1
65	Bowman Foster Ashe	First president of the University of Miami.	1
66	Brownie Wise	Developed Tupperware "party plan system" during the 1950s.	1
67	Butterfly McQueen	Born in Tampa, Florida, played the role of "Prissy" in the film <i>Gone with the Wind</i> .	1
68	Catherine Daingerfield Willis Gray Murat	Wife of Prince Achille Murat. In later years she lived in the Bellevue estate in Tallahassee.	1
69	Colonel David Lang	Colonel in the Confederate army, 8th Florida Infantry.	1
70	Count Basie	Reknowned band leader and jazz musician who lived in Hollywood, Florida.	1
71	Dave Thomas	Founder of the Wendy's restaurant chain. Resided in Florida later in life.	1
72	David Fairchild	Horticulturalist and plant collector who worked to establish Everglades National Park.	1
73	Duane Allman	Musician, co-founder of the Allman Brothers.	1
74	Justice E. Harris Drew	51st Florida Supreme Court Justice (1952-1971).	1
75	Edgar Watson	Farmer and entrepreneur who was memorialized in the book <i>The Killing of Mr. Watson</i> .	1
76	Governor Edward Aylesworth Perry	Confederate General, Florida Governor (1885–1889).	1
77	Edward Ball	Businessman and railroad owner who ran the St. Joe Company and the Florida East Coast Railroad.	1
78	Emory L. Bennett	Korean War soldier who received the Medal of Honor, born in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.	1
79	Ernest K. Osher	U.S. Air Force fighter pilot.	1

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80	Francis Langford A popular American singer and actress born and raised in Florida.	1
81	Gamble Rogers Well known Florida folk artist, musician and storyteller.	1
82	Guy M. Bradley One of Florida's first game wardens and a pioneer in the protection of Everglades' wildlife.	1
83	Governor Haydon Burns 35th Governor of Florida.	1
84	Hugh Rives WWII soldier.	1
85	Isaiah David Hart, Sr. Founder of the City of Jacksonville.	1
86	Isaac Vanes Florida pioneer.	1
87	Jake Gaither Head football coach at Florida A&M University for 25 years.	1
88	James Arthur Ryder Founder of Ryder Systems.	1
89	James Gamble Rogers Celebrated architect, designer, novelist, short story writer. Father of Gamble Rogers.	1
90	General James Van Fleet Highly decorated combat veteran of World Wars I and II and the Korean War.	1
91	President John F. Kennedy 35th President of the United States. Family legacy in Florida.	1
92	Joe Robbie Entrepreneur, politician, lawyer and first owner of the Miami Dolphins.	1
93	John D. MacDonald Noted author of Florida culture - created the <i>Travis McGee</i> series.	1
94	John Horse Fought in Second Seminole War. Leader of the Black Seminoles.	1
95	John James Audubon Artist and naturalist.	1
96	John Lee Williams Commissioned by Florida's first territorial Governor, William Duval, to select a site for the new capital of Florida along with Dr. William Simmons.	1
97	Dr. William Simmons Commissioned by Florida's first territorial Governor, William Duval, to select a site for the new capital of Florida along with John Lee Williams.	1
98	Honorable John Logic Crawford Florida's 11th Secretary of State.	1
99	Honorable Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs Florida's first black Secretary of State and Superintendent of Public Instruction of Florida, and U.S. Congressman.	1
100	Justice Alto Lee Adams Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice from 1949 to 1951; served on Florida Supreme Court 1940-1951 and 1967-1968.	1
101	Major General William W. Luring Soldier, lawyer and member of the Florida House of Representatives.	1
102	Major Thomas McGuire, USAF U.S. Army Air Forces, killed in action and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.	1
103	Dr. Malcolm Nicholson Physician and planter from Havana, Florida.	1

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104	May Mann Jennings Wife of Florida Governor William Sherman Jennings, headed the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs and was co-founder of the Florida League of Women Voters.	1
105	Nicholas J. Cutinha U.S. Army soldier, received the Medal of Honor for actions in Vietnam.	1
106	Olive Beatrice McLin Educator, activist.	1
107	Oswald P. Bronson Bethune-Cookman University's Fourth President.	1
108	Paolina Pedrosa Prominent leader in the Cuban revolution.	1
109	Paul Kroegel German immigrant to the United States who helped establish Pelican Island as a bird sanctuary in Florida.	1
110	Seminole Chief Payne, son of chief Cowkeeper Seminole chief.	1
111	Pedro Menendez de Avila Spanish explorer, founded St. Augustine.	1
112	Percival E. Fansler Engineer, started SPT Airboat Lines.	1
113	Peter Demens Russian immigrant, railway owner and one of the founders of St. Petersburg.	1
114	Richard Keith Call (Territorial Governor) 3rd and 5th territorial governor of Florida.	1
115	Honorable Robert A. Gray Florida Secretary of State (1930-1961).	1
116	Robert Raymond Reid (Territorial Governor) 4th territorial governor of Florida.	1
117	Rose Kennedy Philanthropist and socialite. Family legacy in Florida.	1
118	Solomon D. Spady African-American teacher, scientist and administrator. Designated as a Great Floridian.	1
119	Stephen Foster American songwriter best known for his parlor and minstrel music.	1
120	Senator Stephen Mallory U.S. Senator from Florida.	1
121	General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson Civil War confederate general, served in Florida during military career.	1
122	Sergeant Thomas Francis Broomhead U.S. Army Sergeant, killed in action in Operation Iraqi Freedom.	1
123	Trapper Nelson Hunter, zoo founder. Nicknamed "Tarzan of Loxahatchee."	1
124	Ulele Reputed to be a Native American princess.	1

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125	Vassar Clements	Grammy award winning American jazz, swing and bluegrass fiddler, grew up in Kissimmee.	1
126	Virgil Darnell Hawkins	Lawyer, civil rights activist.	1
127	Honorable Virginia Shuman Young	Fort Lauderdale politician and prominent member of Broward County School Board.	1
128	Senator William Miller	Soldier, attorney, politician, member of the Florida House of Representatives and Senate.	1
129	William Whitaker	Seminole War veteran and pioneer, established first permanent settlement in what is now Sarasota.	1
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3,149</b>