A FORMER SLAVE BECOMES A PIONEER IN MEDICINE

David K. McDonogh, MD

Dr. McDonogh, a former slave, was one of the first African American ophthalmologists in the United States, and practiced at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai in the late 1840s. As one of the first American slaves to graduate college, Dr. McDonogh finished third in his class from Lafayette College with a BA in Medicine. The college has a sculpture in his honor on its campus.

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN PHYSICIAN AT THE MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

William Harold Branch, MD

Dr. Branch was a research member of the special cardiac clinic at The Mount Sinai Hospital from 1934 to 1941, where he eventually became Senior Clinical Assistant. Dr. Branch observed and documented acute coronary occlusion in African Americans, which challenged existing theory on that subject. Dr. Branch was the first African American to be elected to membership in the American Heart Association.
RECOGNIZING OUR
History Makers

www.mountsinaihealth.org/diversity

PIONEER IN RADIOLOGY AND BLOOD DISORDERS

John E. Moseley, MD

Dr. Moseley practiced medicine at The Mount Sinai Hospital for four decades (1943—1983) and served as its first pediatric radiologist. Dr. Moseley was a pioneer in radiology and blood disorders, contributing to the understanding of sickle cell anemia by identifying certain abnormalities and changes in the bones of patients. Dr. Moseley retired in 1983 as associate professor emeritus of radiology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

RENOWNED EXPERT ON PEDIATRIC SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

Doris Wethers, MD

Dr. Wethers was the first African American physician appointed to head a New York City voluntary hospital department. As Director of Pediatrics and the Sickle Cell Center at Mount Sinai St. Luke’s and Mount Sinai Roosevelt, Dr. Wethers was a tireless advocate for the early testing and treatment of sickle cell anemia in adolescents, and published more than 30 scholarly articles on the disease.
Miriam Senhouse Rossi, MD

Dr. Rossi was part of the first graduating class of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in 1970. The Rossi, the student newsletter of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, is named in her honor. Dr. Rossi spent three decades in adolescent medicine, and is actively involved in medical education for young people and in community health education and research.

Donna Mendes, MD

Dr. Mendes is the first African American female certified by the American Board of Surgery in vascular surgery, and has been in practice at Mount Sinai St. Luke’s and Mount Sinai Roosevelt since 1984. Dr. Mendes’ clinical activity has focused on the proven greater frequency and severity of vascular disease in African Americans and Hispanics.