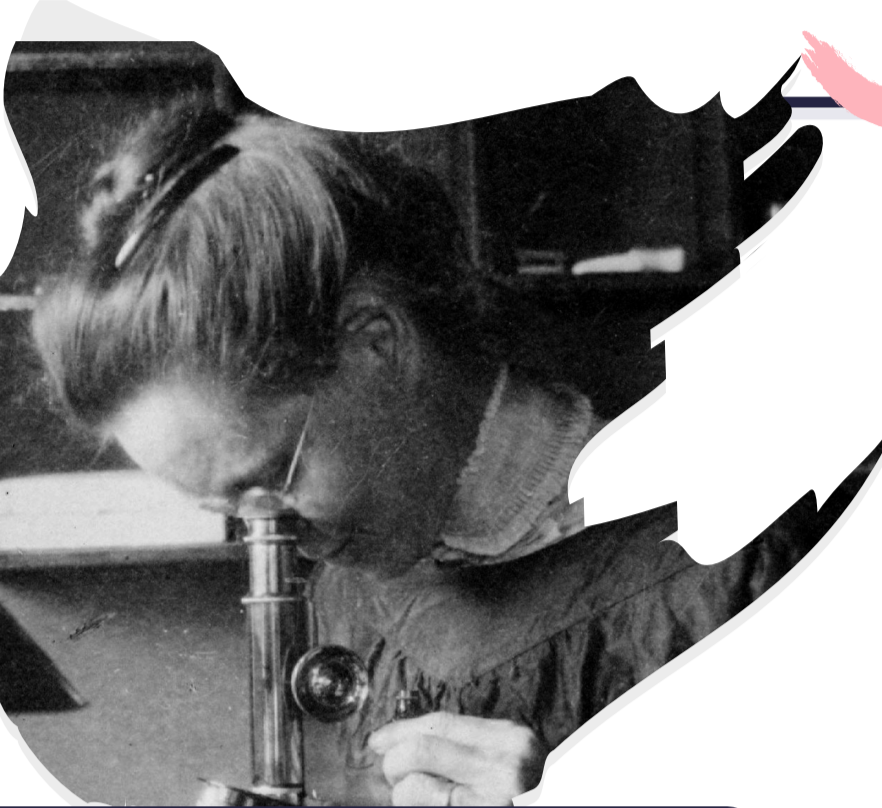


Underrated Scientists

highlights of amazing work from those less heard in the scientific community



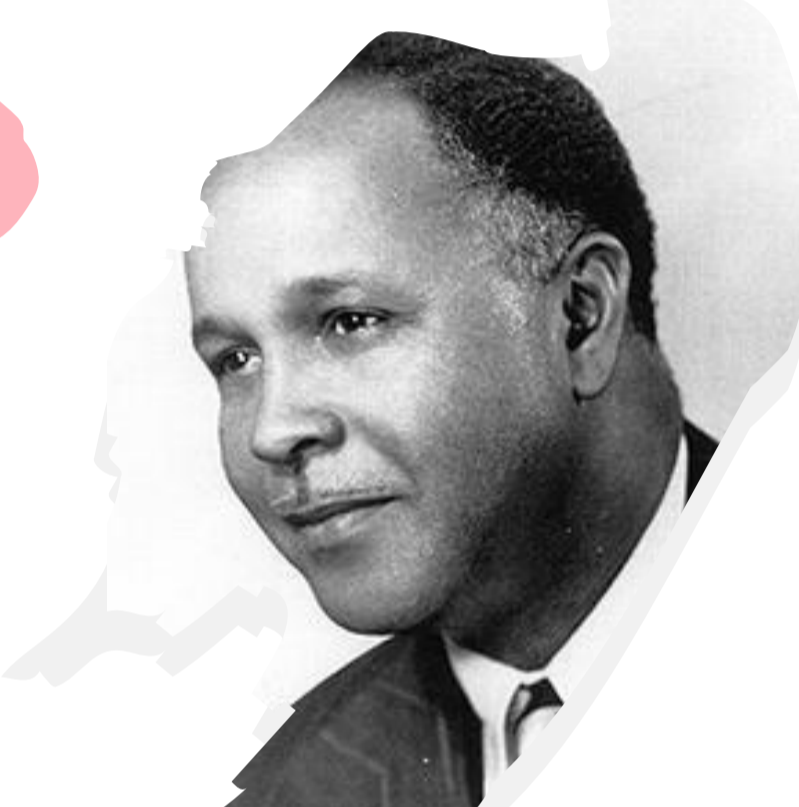
Nettie Maria Stevens
American Geneticist

Nettie Stevens was an American geneticist who worked as a research scientist for 11 years. While studying mealworms, she discovered the pattern of sex inheritance. She discovered that males made X and Y chromosomes, and females only made X.

Her theory was not embraced immediately, and her discoveries were unfortunately overshadowed by a male researcher who made a similar discovery.

Percy Julian was a pioneer in the chemical synthesis of medicinal drugs from plants. As an African American in the early 1900s, he faced many obstacles academically and socially.

Despite his barriers, Percy made many impressive discoveries during his career: artificial progesterone, low cost cortisol, and a glaucoma drug, to name a few.



Percy Lavon Julian
American Research Chemist



Zhang Yongzhen
Chinese Virologist

Zhang Yongzhen was the first to post the genome of the COVID-19 virus online for public access. His laboratory sequenced the virus in just 40 hours and was able to determine it was related to SARS.

Thailand used the uploaded genome to determine that the virus was crossing borders, and US researchers began to use the genome data for vaccine design.

Ben Barres was a neurobiologist that revolutionized our understanding of the brain. His lab showed that glial cells, once thought to be ordinary support cells, were essential in nervous system function.

Ben was the first openly transgender scientist elected to the US Academy of Sciences. He was an advocate for women and minorities in science.



Ben Barres
American Neurobiologist

Sources

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