



## **African American Certified Genealogists (CG®)**

As of May 2022, eight African Americans have earned genealogy's premier credential of expertise, **Certified Genealogist®**, from the **Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG)**.

The **CG®** initials appearing after the names denote superior “competence in research, analysis, kinship determination, and reporting skills,” according to the **BCG website**. **CGL<sup>SM</sup>** indicates expertise in lecturing.

As in the medical field, board certification is bestowed after rigorous peer assessment of advanced education and skills in strict adherence to a standard. For family historians, it's the **Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS)**.

The following list is in order of the year in which each of the eight first earned their Certified Genealogist® credential. Board-certified genealogists are required to submit renewal portfolios at 5-year intervals to maintain their certification. An asterisk appears next to the names of currently active BCG associates.

This list includes someone who holds Retired Status, a designation restricted to BCG associates who were certified for more than 20 years but have retired from the active practice of professional genealogy for monetary gain.

Let these individuals' accomplishments inspire you to improve your ancestral search, **prepare for certification**, and **start the process** towards *your* own CG®! View the **Application Guide** and **Tips**.

†**1973** -- Paul Edward Sluby, Jr., CG®

**<https://bcgcertification.org/learning/african-american-scholarship/>**

**2006-2016** -- LaDonna Garner, CG®

**<https://leafseeker.com/about>**

**2010** -- Curtis G. Brasfield, CG® Retired

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**\*2011 -- Ruth Randall, CG®**

<https://bcgcertification.org/directory/randall-ruth-cg/>

**\*2015 -- LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, CG®, CGL<sup>SM</sup>**

<https://bcgcertification.org/directory/garrett-nelson-labrenda-j-d-ll-m-cg/>

<https://www.labgarrettgenealogy.com/>

**\*2019 -- Elyse Hill, CG®**

<https://bcgcertification.org/directory/hill-elyse-cg/>

<https://www.familytreediscoveries.com/about>

**\*2021 -- Gale B. Pinkston, CG®**

<https://bcgcertification.org/directory/pinkston-gail-b-jd-cg/>

**\*2022 -- Jari Christopher Honora, CG®**

<https://bcgcertification.org/directory/honora-jari-christopher-cg/>

<http://www.creolegen.org/>

† *Deceased*

\**Current*

*The words Certified Genealogist and the acronym CG are registered certification marks, and the designations Certified Genealogical Lecturer and its acronym, CGL, are service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, used under license by board certificants after periodic evaluation, and the board name is registered in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.*

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