



2023 NATIONAL INVENTORS  
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

**Born:** Oct. 24, 1896

**Died:** Dec. 27, 1994

**Primary Connections:**

- United Beauty School Owners and Teachers Association: Founder
- Alpha Chi Pi Omega: Co-founder
- Mme. C. J. Walker Manufacturing Co.: National Supervisor and Vice President

**Education:**

- A.B. Moler Beauty and Culture School
- Mme. C. J. Walker Co. Schools of Beauty Culture
- Chicago Musical College
- Bethune-Cookman University: B.A., Psychology, 1973; Honorary Doctorate, 1961

**Key Memberships/Awards:**

- Patent Law Association of Chicago: Award for Pioneering Work, 1989
- Chicago State University: Lifetime Achievement Award, 1986
- National Council of Negro Women: Outstanding Achievement Award, 1972
- Bethune-Cookman College: Mary LcLeod Bethune Medallion, 1951

## 10 Things You Need to Know About

# Marjorie Stewart Joyner

## Permanent Wave Machine

U.S. PATENT NO. 1,693,515

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1. Joyner was born in 1896 in Monterey, Virginia.
2. At the age of 20, she became the first Black student to graduate from the A.B. Moler Beauty and Culture School in Chicago in 1916.
3. She sought to participate in contests sponsored by white beauty organizations but was denied because of her race. This spurred her to start professional organizations for the Black beauty industry.
4. Joyner founded or co-founded the United Beauty School Owners and Teachers Association, Alpha Chi Pi Omega Sorority and Fraternity, and Natural Beauty Culturists' League.
5. In 1935, she was a founding member of the National Council of Negro Women.
6. In December 1937, Joyner sued the Burlington Rock Island Railroad after she was forced to ride in the baggage car next to a coffin with a body inside when she traveled for a speaking engagement. She was paid a settlement in 1938.
7. During World War II, she helped lead a center in Chicago that provided social events and supplies to Black soldiers.
8. Joyner was a trustee at her alma mater, Bethune-Cookman University. A dormitory there is named in her honor.
9. In 1987, the Smithsonian Institution featured her life in an exhibit on the Great Migration.
10. Joyner had two U.S. patents.