1. H.R. 3491, the National Museum of African American History and Culture Act is signed on December 16, 2003
   President George W. Bush signs H.R. 3491, the National Museum of African American History and Culture Act, in the Oval Office Tuesday, December 16, 2003. The act authorizes the creation of a Smithsonian Institution museum dedicated to the legacy of African Americans in America.

2. First museum publication is published
   Let Your Motto Be Resistance on July 24, 2007, in conjunction with its first exhibition at the International Center of Photography in New York City.

3. Supporting the next generation
   Since 2007, the museum has mentored 364 interns.
   Since 2011, the museum has hosted 43 research fellows.

4. The power of volunteers!
   117,182 volunteer hours served since 2008.

5. The museum’s membership program began in 2009.
   The museum’s membership program proudly began in 2009. There have been 288,911 total members, with 77,298 active members today.
   Of our active members, 1,166 joined before the museum opened in 2016 and are recognized as Charter Members.

6. First museum traveling exhibition opens

7. Museum groundbreaking
   February 22, 2012

8. First museum exhibition opens at the National Museum of African American History and Culture
   Gallery at the National Museum of American History

9. Searchable museum launched
   November 18, 2021

10. Museum opens
    Grand Opening on September 24, 2016

11. Museum welcomes 10 millionth visitor
    September 30, 2023