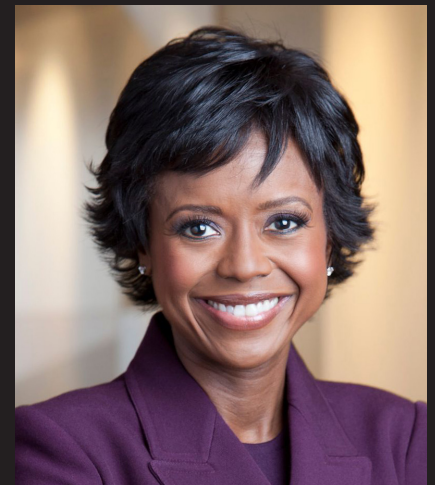# 2022 MWRD
AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISTORY MONTH

Mellody Hobson

Mellody Hobson is president of Ariel Investments which is head-quartered in Chicago. As president, Mellody is responsible for firm-wide management and strategic planning, overseeing all operations outside of research and portfolio management. Additionally, she serves as chairman of the board of trustees for Ariel Investment Trust.

The youngest in a family of six children, Hobson graduated from St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago in 1987 and from Princeton University in 1991.

Beyond her work at Ariel, Mellody has become a nationally recognized voice on financial literacy and investor education. She is a regular contributor and analyst on finance, the markets and economic trends for CBS News. She also contributes weekly money tips on the Tom Joyner Morning Show and pens a regular column for Black Enterprise magazine. As a passionate advocate for investor education, she is a spokesperson for the Ariel/Hewitt Study: 401(k) Plans in Living Color and the Ariel Black Investor Survey, both of which examine investing patterns among minorities.

Ms. Hobson's community outreach includes serving as chairman of After School Matters, a non-profit that provides Chicago teens with high-quality, out-of-school time programs. She is a board member of The Chicago Public Education Fund, George Lucas Education Foundation, Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, and Sundance Institute, where she has been appointed emeritus trustee. She is also on the executive committee of the Investment Company Institute's board of governors. In 2015, she was named to Time magazine's annual list of the one hundred most influential people in the world. Besides earning her AB from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of International Relations and Public Policy, she has also received honorary doctorate degrees from Howard University, St. Mary's College and the University of Southern California.

In June 2013, Hobson married George Lucas, the filmmaker, and later that year, the couple welcomed a daughter.