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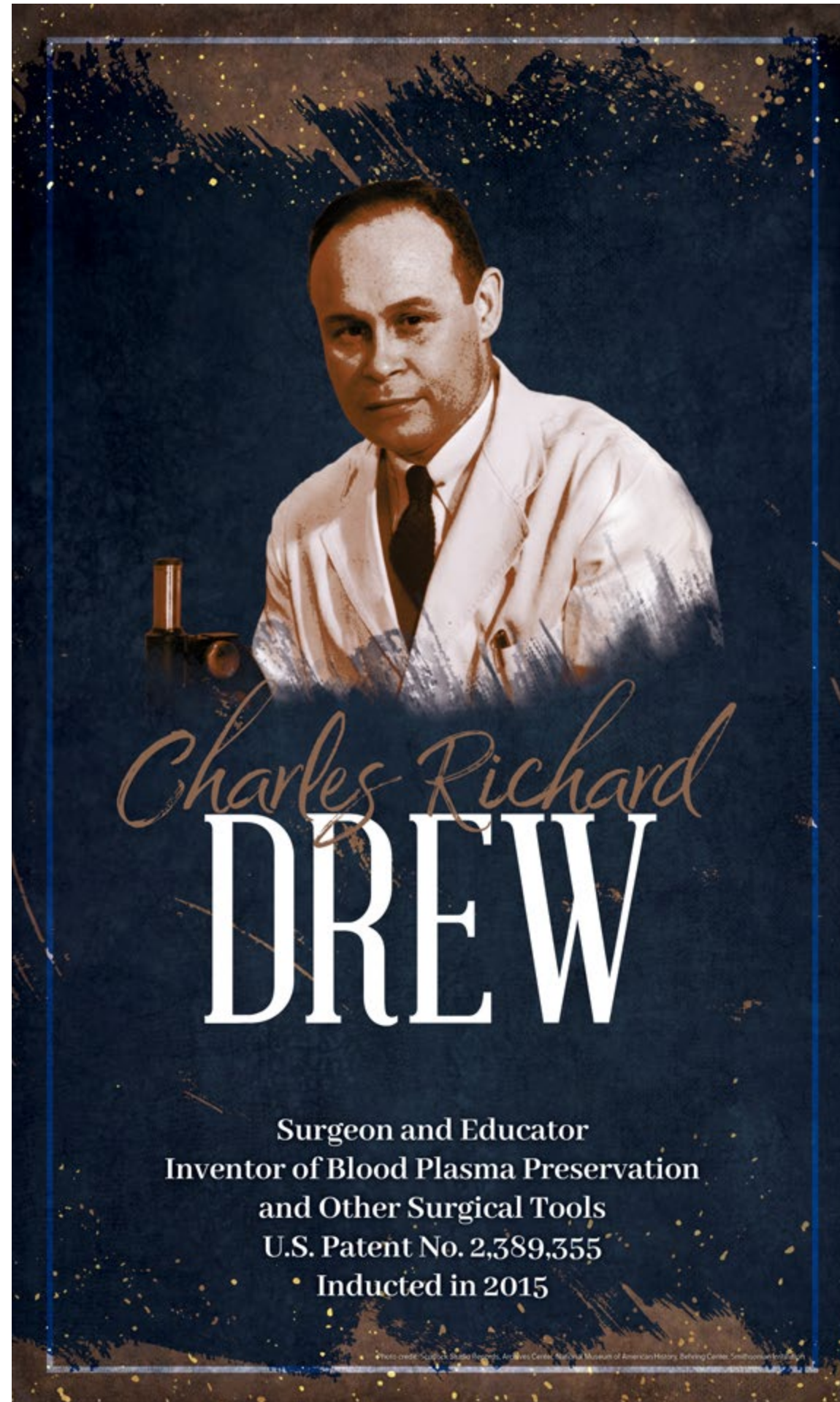
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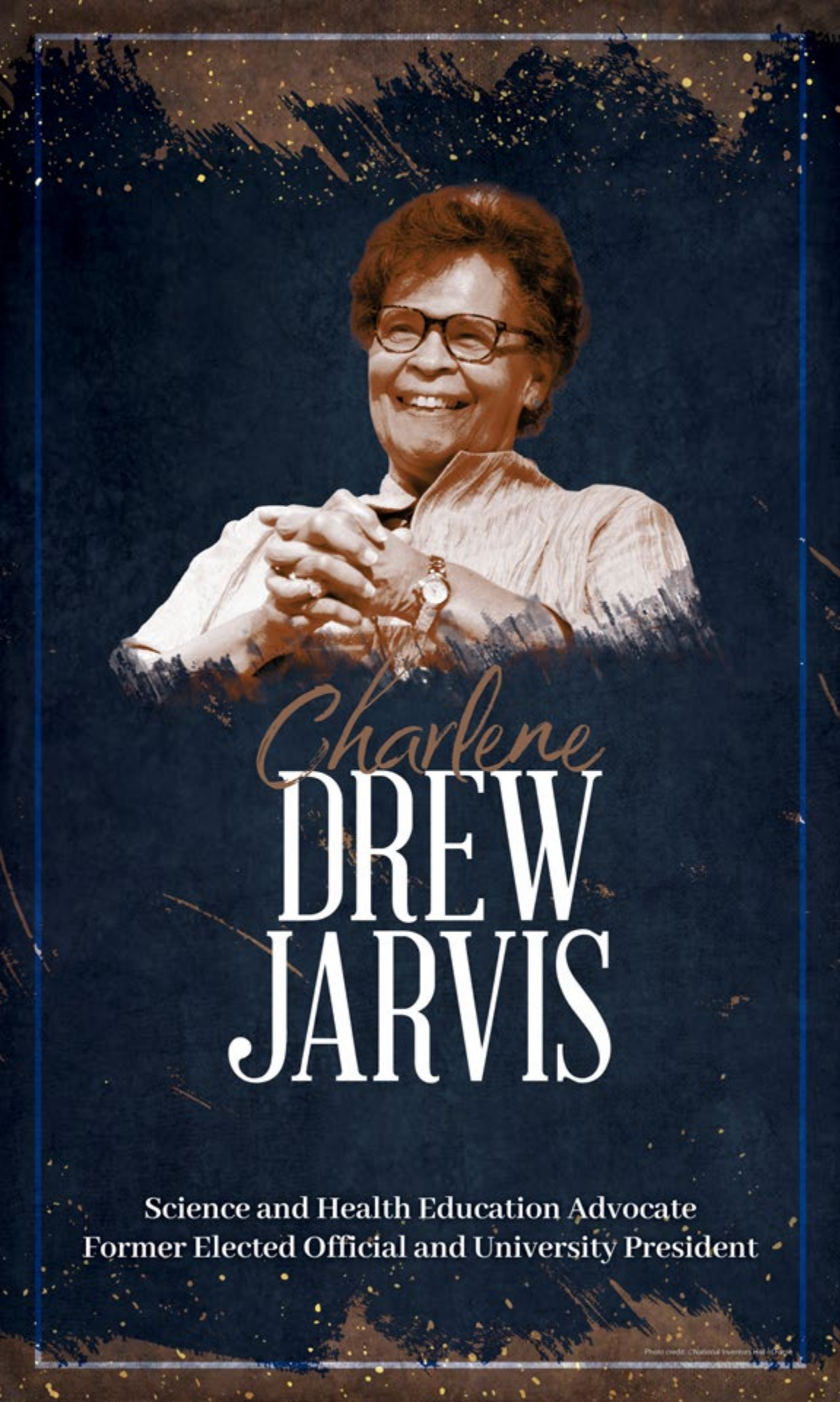
An Exemplary **LIFE**



Charles Richard Drew was a pioneer in blood plasma preservation and the first Black surgeon to serve as examiner on the American Board of Surgery.

Drew also set up the first American Red Cross blood bank in 1941 and became a mentor to many of the most eminent surgeons of the postwar period.





A Shared DEDICATION *to Service*



Along with her siblings, research scientist and former elected official Charlene Drew Jarvis has proudly maintained her father's legacy of service.

She served as Southeastern University's first female president and as the chair of the D.C. council's Economic Development Committee, which launched the Housing Production Trust Fund and other initiatives to counter the discriminatory lending practices of commercial banks.



Photo credits: Courtesy of the Montgomery College Research Center

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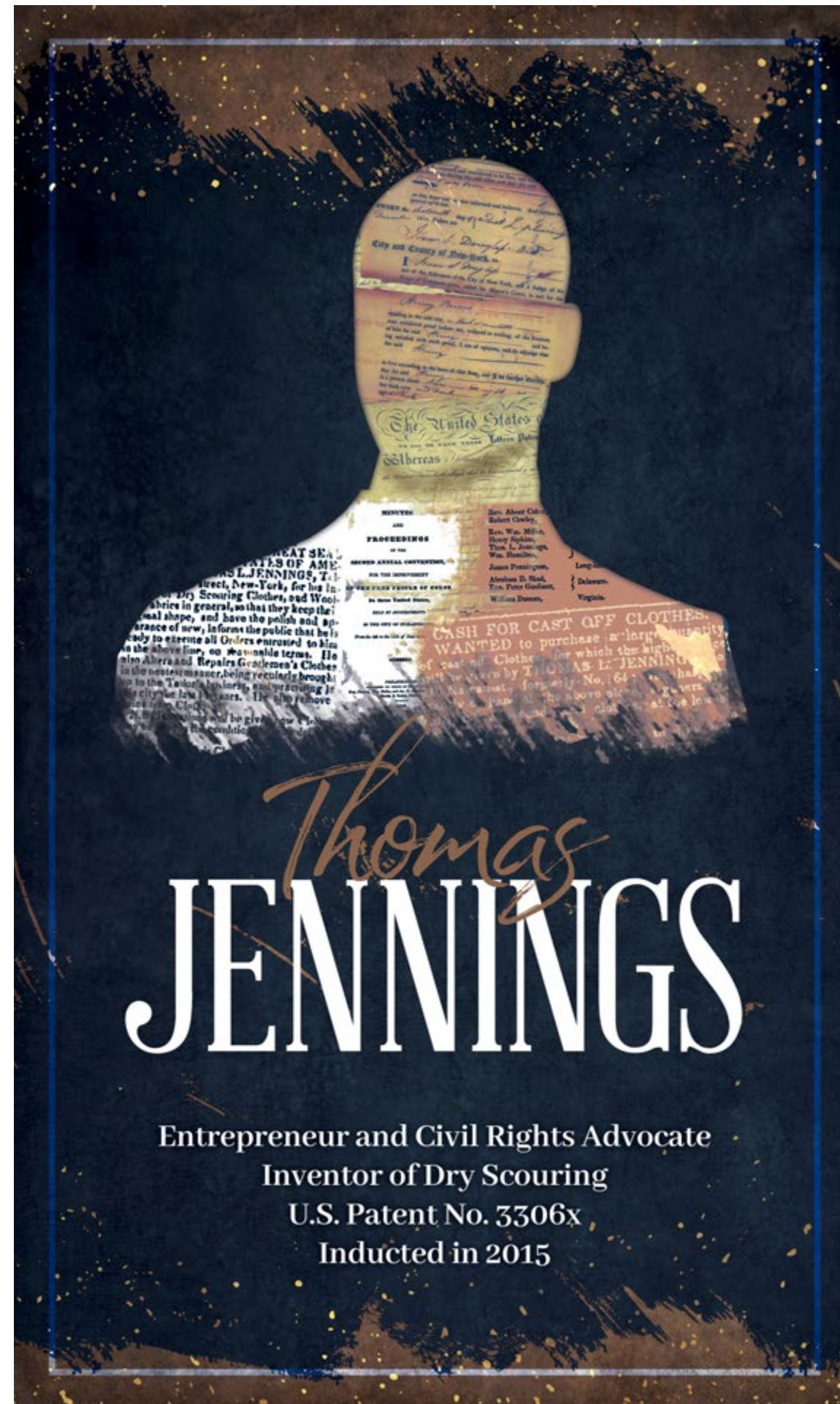
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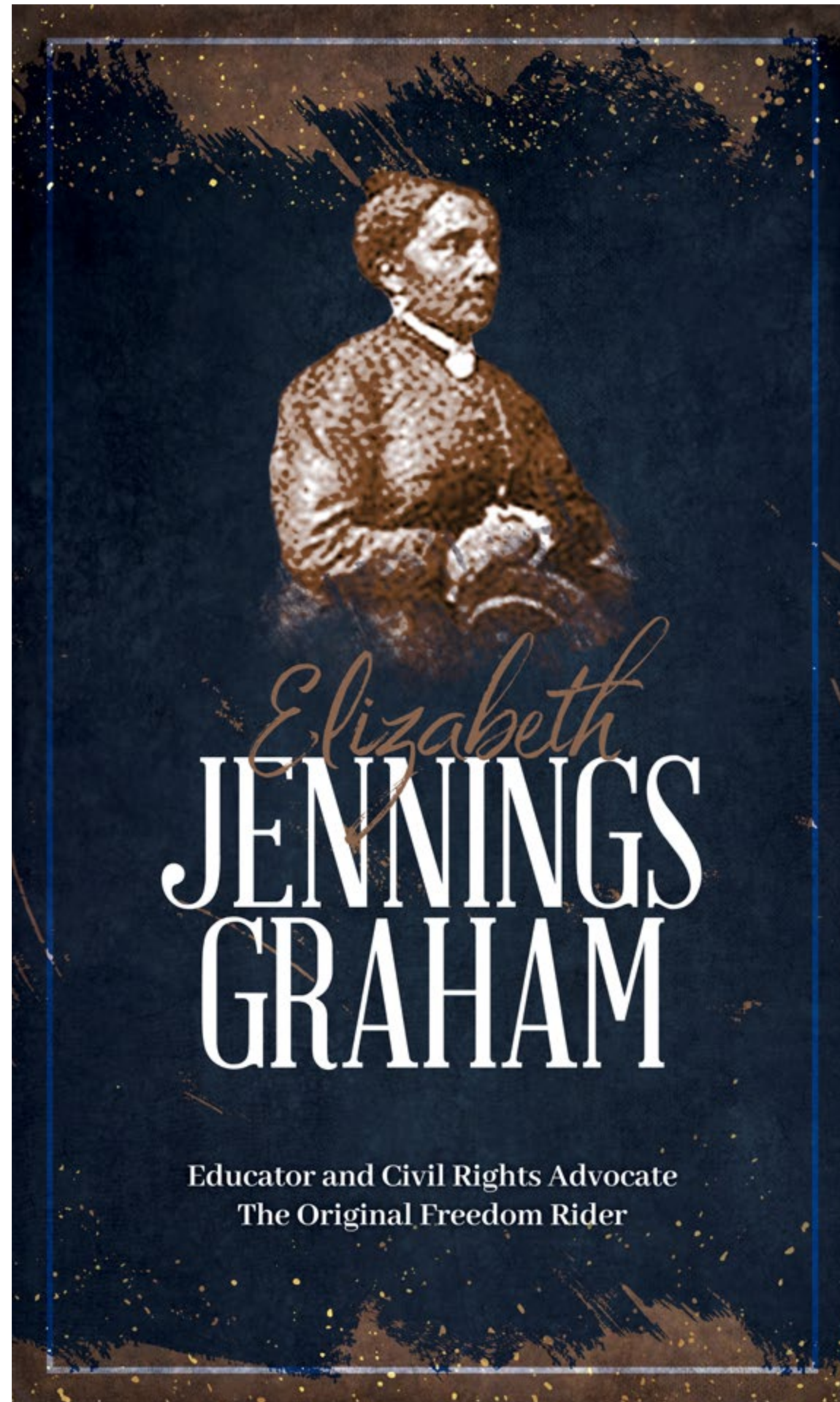
A Historic PATENT

LETTERS PATENT
BEING granted under the GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA unto THOMAS L. JENNINGS, Tailor, 61 Nassau Street, New-York, for his invention of Dry Scouring Clothes, and Woolen Fabrics in general, so that they keep their original shape, and have the polish and appearance of new, informs the public that he is ready to execute all Orders entrusted to him in the above the line, on reasonable terms. He also Alters and Repairs Gentleman's Clothes in the neatest manner, being regularly brought up to the Tailor's business, and practicing in this city the last 14 years. He also removes stains from Cloth.
N.B. Directions will be given how Clothes may be kept in the condition they are delivered
Gentlemen's Clothes purchased – Military Clothes and Accoutrements sold on Commission, on moderate terms. M8 1w

New York Gazette, March 13, 1821

Over 200 years ago, Thomas Jennings earned a patent for the dry scouring method that led to modern dry cleaning. Likely the first patent granted to a Black American, his innovation was described in an article from the New York Gazette.

Jennings used his patent profits to support the abolitionist and desegregation movements and in 1854, along with his daughter Elizabeth, he led the charge to desegregate public transportation.



A Catalyst for DESEGREGATION



When Elizabeth Jennings Graham was removed from a streetcar in Manhattan in 1854, she advocated for her rights and later won the court case leading to the desegregation of New York City's transit system. She went on to establish the city's first kindergarten for Black children in 1895.

In acknowledgment of Jennings Graham's impact, a street sign was installed in 2007 near the site where she took a stand.

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**INNOVATIVE
JOURNEY**
take you?

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innovators by visiting the
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