

## WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

You're probably familiar with the Emancipation Proclamation, in which President Abraham Lincoln in 1862 declared the millions of enslaved people in the United States to be free. But what you might not realize is that despite this order, human enslavement didn't end for much of the country until years later. Because word traveled slowly back then, and because many enslavers refused to obey the proclamation, Black people in deep southern states continued to be held in illegal and immoral conditions, including in Texas, where people continued to enslave humans even after the Civil War ended in April of 1865.

On June 18, 1865, Union Army General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, with 2,000 troops to occupy the state on behalf of the federal government and to enforce the conditions of the Confederacy's surrender, which included an end to slavery. The next day, June 19, General Granger read aloud the declaration announcing the total abolition of slavery in Texas. Juneteenth celebrations were common until a decline during the Jim Crow era, and then the holiday spread during the Great Migration, a time between 1916 and 1970 when 6 million African American families moved out of the rural Southern United States. In 1979, Texas was the first state to establish Juneteenth as an official state holiday, in 2019, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf signed into law Act 9, designating June 19 as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day," an official state holiday, and in 2021 Juneteenth became a national holiday. Currently 49 of the 50 states and the District of Columbia have recognized Juneteenth as a state holiday, a ceremonial holiday, or a day of observance.

## **HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED?**

After welcoming more than 200 people to its first-ever Cultural Mixer in 2022, Crispus Attucks Community Center is excited to host its 2nd Annual Cultural Mixer on Sunday, June 18, 2023, from 5-8 p.m. at the Center. This event, which we are able to offer free of charge to the neighborhood and greater Lancaster community with your sponsorship support, will include food and beverages, performances, community connection, and history.

We would be honored if you would <u>join us as a sponsor</u> of our 2023 celebration. Please know that every one of your dollars goes directly to support Crispus Attucks Community Center in its anti-racist mission work - work that is both highly necessary and extremely urgent. Thank you so much for your consideration!

	NSORSHIP INFORMATION  upany Name
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	Presenting Sponsor(s)
	Freedom Sponsor
	Advocate Sponsor

Please make checks payable to Community Action Partnership and in the memo section note "Juneteenth 2023." Please return this form to Community Action Partnership, attn: Juneteenth, 601 South Queen Street, Lancaster, PA 17603, by **Friday, May 12, 2023.** If you have any questions, please contact Kristy Aurand at 717.299.7388 x3032 or <a href="mailto:kaurand@caplanc.org">kaurand@caplanc.org</a>.