



The Juneteenth Community Consortium is an association of organizations in the Greater Williamsburg Area that are organized with a common goal to educate, commemorate, and celebrate the end of slavery in America.

Our Vision: Look Back, Look Around, Look Within, and Move Forward

Juneteenth marks the emancipation of thousands of enslaved people. Though President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863, it was not until federal troops arrived in Texas more than two years later to enforce the proclamation, on June 19, 1865, that thousands of enslaved Black men and women in that state finally gained their freedom. Slavery would not actually come to an end in several other states until after the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment in December of that year.

Juneteenth is a time to reflect on the Black experience in America. By looking back, looking around, and looking within, we are challenged to evaluate the foundations of inequality and move forward together, committing ourselves to the unfinished work of eradicating systemic racism.

2023 JUNETEENTH COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

TALKING HISTORY: PRELUDE TO JUNETEENTH AT JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT

Wednesday, June 14 | 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Kick-off Juneteenth at Jamestown Settlement with A Prelude to Juneteenth. Join us for a thought-provoking evening of history and performance exploring the precarious nature of freedom from 17th-century Jamestown to Juneteenth with Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander, Endowed Professor of Virginia Black History and Culture at Norfolk State University, musical interludes by Sylvia Tabb Lee & the Rejoicing Singers and dramatic readings from primary sources. Learn more and register at jyfmuseums.org/juneteenth

WILLIAM & MARY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION AT THE HEARTH

Friday, June 16 | 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Join William & Mary and communities around the country as we recognize and celebrate Juneteenth, which marks the end of slavery in the United States. William & Mary will kick off the local area's Juneteenth Weekend on its campus at the Hearth: Memorial to the Enslaved. The event is expected to include performers, vendors, and more. It is one of several events planned in the Williamsburg area that weekend in honor of Juneteenth. Learn more at wm.edu/sites/juneteenth

2ND ANNUAL JUNETEENTH COMMEMORATIVE ART EXHIBITION

Friday, June 16 | On Display through July 28

Special Williamsburg exhibition of local and regional Black artists curated by Willis Potter at the Williamsburg Regional Library Gallery at the Stryker Center. Opening reception Friday, June 16 from 6 pm - 8 pm with a special musical performance by acoustic blues duo Jackie & Resa. Exhibition on view through July 28. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am - 5 pm Saturday & Sunday, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. Closed July 4. For more information, visit wrl.org

YJCW NAACP MOTOR PARADE & JUNETEENTH COMMUNITY FEST ON BICENTENNIAL PARK

Saturday, June 17 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The morning kicks off with a motor parade line-up in Highland Park, followed by the NAACP Youth Works and Williamsburg Police Department car show in Bicentennial Park. From 10 a.m. - Noon, there will be a Community Vendor Fair, Games, Intense Fiyaaaaa, and Line Dancing. For more information, visit Yjcwnaacp.org

YORK COUNTY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION AT MCREYNOLDS ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Saturday, June 17 | 3 - 8 p.m.

Family activities, bounce house, speakers, entertainment, community groups, and concessions. Live music by Slapnation and a Movie in the Park screening of *The Princess & The Frog* at 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit yorkcounty.gov/parksandrec

The MAC is a 70-acre park located at 412 Sports Way, Yorktown.

JUNETEENTH SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, June 18 | 6 - 7 a.m.

To commemorate the triumphant spirit of the African American journey, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation will host a Sunrise Service on Sunday morning, June 18th at 6 a.m. at the majestic Compton Oak, a landmark tree symbolizing life, endurance, shelter, and joy. Special keynote address by visionary thought leader Tina Lifford. The program will be followed by a continental breakfast at Sweet Tea & Barley for \$19.95 per person. For more information, visit colonialwilliamsburg.org

WILLIAMSBURG LIVE: KEB' MO'

Sunday, June 18 | Gates open at 5:30 p.m.

Five-time Grammy winner and recipient of the Americana Music Association's 2021 award for Lifetime Achievement in Performance, this iconic artist has brought his feel-good blues to all kinds of stages from corner dives to the White House. Rooted in the blues, his music slips and slides away from classification, mixing classic blues with country, pop, soul, and Americana, all delivered in an easygoing growl that draws the listener in. Gather your friends for an unforgettable good time with Keb' Mo'! For more information, visit vafest.org/williamsburg-live/

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FOUNDATION

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation will be offering free admission on Monday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth. Special highlights include:

African American Religion Exhibit | 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Trace the development of an African American Baptist congregation in Virginia and the religious heritage of transported African Americans and their descendants. African American Religion Exhibit.

First Baptist Church Archaeological Site | 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Visit archaeologists conducting excavations to uncover two buildings, the remains of the mid-19th century First Baptist Church and a smaller building that preceded it. First Baptist Church Site.

Albert Durant Photography | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join community members and staff of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library at the Lane Auditorium at Bruton Heights School to see a short vodcast that introduces Albert Durant and the Albert Durant Photography Collection. The collection documents the photographic production of Williamsburg's first black city-licensed photographer. Durant's photographic output provides a priceless visual history of Black life in Williamsburg and surrounding Virginia communities from the late 1930s to the early 1960s. Lane Auditorium.

"I made this...": The Work of Black American Artists and Artisans | Open Daily 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

This exhibit celebrates the lives of eighteenth through twentieth-century Black American artisans and artists through the material culture they created. The title comes from a quote by 19th-century enslaved potter David Drake who inscribed these words on one of his pots despite laws prohibiting literacy for enslaved people. Drake is just one of the many artists represented in this exhibition. Objects from both Decorative Arts and Folk Art collections will be displayed in the same gallery contrasting the aesthetics and designs of men and women from different times, places, and backgrounds. These pieces represent the inspirations, resilience, and legacies of these talented makers. Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg

Freedom's Paradox Tour | 10 - 11 a.m. and 2 - 3 p.m.

On this walking tour, examine slavery's evolution and the reliance upon it by patriots like Peyton Randolph to build a city, a colony, and eventually a nation, and explore the paradox of the institution of slavery and the movement for independence by looking at the experiences of the free and enslaved members of the Randolph Household. Peyton Randolph House.

Visit with a Nation Builder: Gowan Pamphlet | 10 - 10:35 a.m. and 3:30 - 4:05 p.m.

Step into the past with Nation Builder Gowan Pamphlet, Revolutionary Black Baptist Preacher. Governor's Palace Stage.

Answer the Call Drum Circle | 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Much of African Music is based on call and response. The drum is the first to announce itself and send a message bringing the community together. As the drum calls, the community is expected to respond by playing back to the drummer or hollering out by voice. How will you answer the call? Compton Oak.

A Taste of Freedom | 1:30 - 2:15 p.m. and 3 - 3:45 p.m.

Before Juneteenth and the Emancipation Proclamation, thousands of formerly enslaved men, women, and children gained freedom and sanctuary by escaping to Union camps in the South after Shepard Mallory, Frank Baker, and James Townsend secured their liberty at Fort Monroe. Learn about one of those men, Americus Weston, and his journey to freedom in this performance developed to commemorate Juneteenth. Hennage Auditorium.

Darryl Reeves: Master Blacksmith | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Join us at the Public Armory for talks and demonstrations by Master Blacksmith Darryl Reeves, a 3rd generation metal worker and owner of Andrew's Welding & Blacksmith Shop in New Orleans. Reeves is reviving the traditions of New Orleans' 18th- and 19th-century African-American ironworkers by transmitting his vast institutional knowledge and trade skills to a new generation of apprentices through the New Orleans Master Crafts Guild. Public Armoury.

THE VILLAGE INITIATIVE IN EDUCATION EQUITY JUNETEENTH FREEDOM CELEBRATION

Monday, June 19 | 1 - 7 p.m.

Parade and DJ General XO, Funga Alafia with drums, Rhythm Project All-Stars, Loco Strut Runway Productions, The Gresham Brothers Gospel Singers, Free Food, Food Trucks, Children's Entertainment, International Flag Performers, Vendors. For more information, visit villagewjjcc.org.

COMING TO THE TABLE - HISTORIC TRIANGLE: JUNETEENTH AFTER PARTY

Tuesday, June 20 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Coming to the Table - Historic Triangle's monthly meeting will focus on Reflections of Juneteenth, 2023. We will discuss the significance of Juneteenth and ask people to share their thoughts about local events, and what they would like to see happen for Juneteenth 2024. To register for this meeting, please email [ctt](mailto:ctt@historictriangle@gmail.com). historictriangle@gmail.com.

To learn more about Juneteenth and the Juneteenth Community Consortium, visit juneteenthcc.org