



How to Honor and Celebrate Juneteenth

06/16/2022 *The Fortune Society*.

On Juneteenth, the Fortune Society is continuing our commitment to education, celebration, reflection and action.

June 19, 1865 marks the day the last enslaved people learned of their freedom in Texas and has evolved into a day to honor Black history and culture, while also acknowledging how much progress is left to achieve. In 2021, President Biden made Juneteenth a federal holiday, making it the first federal holiday approved since Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983.

On June 20th 2022, and each Juneteenth going forward, our offices will be closed to fully stand in solidarity with the Black community and allow for proper acknowledgment of what this day means and the power it holds.

Fortune has compiled some resources for further learning and exploration, as well as suggestions for events to participate in on this momentous day and ways to support the local Black community.

Learn the History

Ground yourself in the history of Juneteenth – which is sometimes referred to as our “country’s second independence day.” The National Museum of African American History and Culture provides a comprehensive account of the holiday’s history. The museum also offers a virtual tour of the museum’s Slavery and Freedom exhibition, highlighting stories behind objects related to emancipation in their collection.

Though we celebrate July 4th as Independence Day, that day does not mark liberation for all. Rather, Juneteenth is a true day of freedom. Consider reading [Frederick Douglass' speech "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?"](#) from July 5, 1862 for more context and [this article about liberation and freedom on Juneteenth](#).

Center Black Voices and Stories

[Explore The Atlantic's extensive project titled "Inheritance"](#): "a project about American history, Black life, and the resilience of memory" for more historical context and to examine the lasting legacy of slavery in the United States.

[Browse this collection of films that elevate stories of Black experiences](#) – all of which are free for viewing through the IFC Center.

Explore the Legacy of Slavery Today

Celebrate Juneteenth by watching [True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality](#). The film follows Stevenson's efforts to create fairness in the criminal justice system and examines how racial injustice was born, how it has evolved and been protected, and how to push back against it in criminal justice.

Attend an Event or Gathering

Juneteenth NYC is hosting its 13th three-day celebration. Join in from June 17th through June 19th for a virtual summit, festival and concert in Brooklyn, NY. [See the full schedule of events and register for the event here](#).

[Broadway Celebrates Juneteenth on June 19th from 12PM – 1:30PM in Duffy Square](#) (Broadway between 45th and 47th streets.) Black performers from a variety of Broadway shows will perform their own works of art, including songs, dance and poetry, in this industry-wide recognition of Juneteenth.

The Brooklyn Museum is honoring Juneteenth by hosting a full-day of activities celebrating self-expression, community and Black liberation. [Learn more and register in advance to attend](#) on Sunday, June 19th from 12PM to 6PM.

Celebrate Juneteenth with KowTeff African Dance Company's 12th Annual Juneteenth Celebration. The outdoor day of activity will include dance classes, performances, and more. [View the full offering of events and register now to attend on Saturday, June 18th](#).

Support Black Communities

Shopping or dining at a Black-owned business demonstrates support for economic and racial justice. Check out these [community-compiled lists of Black-owned restaurants and eateries in New York City](#) and [Black-owned bookstores throughout the country](#).

Suggested Reading on Juneteenth and Anti-Racism

- *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin

- *We Were Eight Years in Power* by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- *Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* by Ibram X. Kendi
- *Sweet Taste of Liberty: A True Story of Slavery and Restitution in America* by W. Caleb McDaniel
- *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson