

JUNETEENTH

CELEBRATING WITH THE ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM



JUNETEENTH

The **Alexandria Black History Museum** has celebrated Juneteenth for almost 30 years. Then Museum Director Eugene Thompson worked with Randy Stevens and the African American Heritage Committee to realize his idea for the Museum to host an annual Juneteenth celebration.

The early celebrations were small festivals with a mayoral reading of the Emancipation Proclamation followed by food, vendors, performances, and children's games and crafts.

Later events featured film screenings, children's programming, an open house featuring doll houses of historic Alexandria, and lectures by notable speakers, such as U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black, co-sponsored by the Northern Virginia Urban League, and historian C.R. Gibbs.

For the second year ABHM's celebrations are virtual so we thought we would take a trip down memory lane at some of our past celebrations together...



Featured storytelling with Princess Ayo

2003





Featured the Psi Nu Chapter,
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity



2005



2006



2007



Featured
Alexandrian
comedian
Andy Evans,
Smooth & EZ
Hand Dance
Institute

2007



Featured storyteller
Baba Jamal Koram

2007

Alexandria Black History Museum

A Celebration of Freedom in the Spirit of Juneteenth

African-American Writers Event

Saturday, June 14

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Free

Authors presenting will include novelist Vannessa Grace; playwright Charnika Louise Hayes; local history writers Nathania Branch Miles and Jane Taylor Thomas; novelist, poet and Metropolitan police officer Quintin Peterson; and genealogist and columnist Char McCargo Bah.

South African Dance Workshop/

Film Screening

Wednesday, June 18

7:00 p.m.

\$15.00/person (or \$25.00 for June 18 workshop and June 19 performance)

Juneteenth Dance Performance

Lesole Dance Project

Thursday, June 19

7:30 p.m.

\$15.00/person (or \$25.00 for June 18 workshop and June 19 performance)

Nannie J. Lee Center*

1108 Jefferson Street

Alexandria, Virginia

703.838.4356

Juneteenth Play- "Running Scared, Running Free"

Friday, June 20- 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 21- 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 22- 2:00 p.m.

\$10/person

Reservations: 703.838.4356



Alexandria Black History Museum
902 Wythe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

25th Anniversary

"Kick-off" Celebration

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

6:30- 8:00 p.m.

Free

Join the museum staff and volunteers for the first in a series of events celebrating the museum's 25 years of operation and community involvement.

Lecture/Booksigning

"On the Road to Freedom"

Thursday, June 26, 2008

6:30- 8:00 p.m.

Free

Charles E. Cobb Jr. discusses his book of 400 sites where pioneers of the movement marched, organized and spoke.

*Unless otherwise indicated, all programs will be presented at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314. The Museum is 5 blocks from the Braddock Road Metro (yellow/blue lines).

Events line call: 703.519.3391

Alexandria Black History Museum 25th Anniversary Events

A Celebration of Freedom in the Spirit of Juneteenth

EVENTS

Juneteenth Dance Performance
Lesole Dance Project

African American Writers Book Signing

South African Dance Workshop/Film Screening



Juneteenth Play
"Running Scared, Running Free"



Meet Author
Charles E. Cobb Jr.

www.alexblackhistory.org

Featured a dance performance by the Lesole Dance Project and a book signing by Charles E. Cobb Jr.

2008

THE ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM
PRESENTS

“THE SECRET HISTORY OF JUNETEENTH”



Friday, June 19, 2009
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm



Behind the original Juneteenth celebration in Texas is a powerful and often overlooked story of courage and struggle, reaching back to the earliest arrival of Africans when the territory was under Spanish control. Join C.R. Gibbs, author, lecturer, and historian of the African diaspora, for an inspiring look at the powerful saga behind the celebration. Free but reservations required.

FREE!

Reservations are suggested.



Alexandria Black History Museum
902 Wythe Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703.838.4356
Website: alexblackhistory.org
Event Line: 703.519.3391

2009

PERFORMING ARTISTS:

QUIET STORM

CAPITAL HUSTLERS ENT.

GOOD MONEY

TARBIA

RENEGADE

UNIQUE PRAISE

G WRIGHT

LADY BEBE W3IRDOUGH

SARITA SCOTT

CIROC CLARK

PHINAMINON

SPECIAL OCCASSIONS

COOLMIND RECORDS

BLAC ROZ ENT.

SKYLINE RECORDS

YOUNG DOMI

S-WET AND PHIL BLAQ AND WES DA ILLEST WILL

AND MORE . . .

CHARLES HOUSTON REC CENTER
901 WYTHE ST., ALEXANDRIA, VA



**CELEBRATE LIFE
CELEBRATE FREEDOM
CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH**

TENANTS AND WORKERS UNITED
&
ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM
&
MT JEZREEL BAPTIST CHURCH

PRESENT
JUNETEENTH 2010 CELEBRATION

CHARLES HOUSTON REC CENTER
901 WYTHE ST., ALEXANDRIA VA

12:00 PM TO 8:00 PM



2010



Featured The Washington Revels Jubilee Voices
and members of a Buffalo Soldiers education group



2011

For our last two in-person Juneteenth celebrations in 2018 and 2019, the Alexandria Black History Museum partnered with the Northern Virginia Urban League to host events at both Freedom House and the Shiloh Baptist Church.



2018 & 2019

Alexandria's Juneteenth Celebrations



Meet the Dollhouse Creators

Meet Sharon J. Frasier and Linwood M. Smith, creators of the museum's new exhibition – *Our Alexandria: Dollhouses from the Sharon J. Frasier and Linwood M. Smith Dollhouse Collection*.

Saturday, June 16th 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street

Tour the Freedom House with Local Historians

Local historians available for special tours and to answer questions about the museum and the important slave history relating to the building. Participants will also get a chance to learn about a new Alexandria Civil War discovery and to see artifacts related to Freedom House and Alexandria's Black History.

Saturday, June 16th 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke Street

Juneteenth Commemoration with Senate Chaplain

Barry C. Black

Juneteenth Commemoration, Reception and Blessing for Barry C. Black, the Chaplain for the United States Senate. On the fiftieth anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Chaplain Black's talk will be on *The Journey Beyond the Mountain*. The event will start with a reception at 6:00 p.m. at Freedom House Museum and then participants will walk to Shiloh Baptist Church for the keynote at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 19th 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke Street

Shiloh Baptist Church, 1401 Jamieson Avenue

Admission to Freedom House and the ABHM is waived for Juneteenth and special discounts in all OMA museum shops will be offered.

The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended. To request a reasonable accommodation, e-mail black.history@alexandriava.gov, or call 703.746.6256, Virginia Relay 711.

Emancipation Celebration

Conversation with Lillian Stanton Patterson.

A fourth-generation of Alexandria, Lillian Stanton Patterson graduated from Parker Gray High School in 1944. She is curator at the Alexandria Black History Museum, and has worked for the city since 1977.

What is Juneteenth?

It's a celebration that people in Texas started in 1865. The Emancipation Proclamation freed people in many states, but the news that they had been freed took a long time to get to Texas. When they heard the news, they had a big celebration. It happened in June 19, 1865 — and they called it Juneteenth.

Where & When

The Alexandria Black History Museum will host the annual Juneteenth Celebration from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on June 16 in the 900 block of Montgomery Street. The free event family-oriented celebration includes music, poetry readings, genealogists and food vendors. For more information, call 703-638-4356.

What happens during the Black History Museum's Juneteenth event?

It's mainly a celebration of freedom, and we have a reading of the Emancipation Proclamation. We also have religious music, secular music, food and dancing. It's all of the things that you do for a happy occasion.

How did it begin?

We have been doing it here at the mu-



Lillian Patterson, curator at the Alexandria Black History Museum.

seum for 10 or 11 years or so. The director of the museum back then was Eugene Thompson, and he came up with the idea to celebrate Juneteenth because it was an African-American celebration. So he began working with the African American Heritage Committee, and we've been doing it ever since.

Why is celebrating Juneteenth important?

It's one of those inherently African-American celebrations. It represents us as people, and it celebrates our culture and our heritage. We keep going so that our descendants will always know about their culture and heritage. It's something we pass along because we are proud to say who and what we are.

What events are planned?

There will be vendors with food, mainly soul foods like chicken and fish. Also, hot dogs and hamburgers, of course. Ice cream and punches, no hard drinks — all soft. There will also be children's crafts, like how to make small pieces of jewelry or a small pin or earrings. We are also going to have a step team called the Sons of Shiloh, and also hand dancing demonstration.

What do you like about the festival?

I like seeing all the people coming together to celebrate being African American and having fun. It's a good place to meet people and enjoy a good day out in the community.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

In the News: Alexandria
Gazette Packet June 7, 2007

Back to Africa – A Spiritual Search for Family and Ancestral Heritage – follows Sade's spiritual quest from America to Nigeria in search of her father, Professor Ajayi Esan

Workin' from Can't to Can't: African American Cowboys in Texas

Black Pioneers: True Facts of the West

Dreadlocks and the Three Bears

Earl Lloyd: A Living Legend – a biographical sketch of the Alexandrian basketball player

Funn Around Town: Black Facts: An Alexandria Historical Perspective

Quilombo – Carlos Diegues' historical saga about the self-governed communities of self-emancipated people in the mountainous regions of Brazil

Rhythms of the World Anthology – the very best of world beat music hosted by Peter Gabriel and Bobby McFerrin

Roots of Resistance: A Story of the Underground Railroad

The Massachusetts 54th Colored Infantry

Uncle Tom's Cabin – an adaptation of Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel

These are just some of the many films we have screened at our Juneteenth celebrations over the years. Some have a national/international theme and others focus on Alexandria

Adbul Malik Sabazz - Artist
Aboki
African Heritage Dancers & Drummers
Andrew Robinson – Black history speaker
Andy Evans – Alexandria comedian
Anita Boyd – musical performer
Arnie “Stoker” Russell
Baile’s African Drum Works
Bi-Divine Band
“Captain Fly” – WPFW disc jockey
Captain Moorehead – children’s entertainment
Char McCargo Bah – genealogy workshop
Chaz Conic – comic and hip hop artist
Christian Love Gospel Singers
Christopher Fields - poet
Clarence Turner Blue Band

Company of Sisters – oral history program
Dancing with a Purpose – praise dancers
Daoud Adamu – singer
DC Blues Society Inc.
Dean Drummers
DeLoris L. Davis
Dena N. Newman – gospel singer
Dr. Akinsola Akiwowo – Yoruba language classes
Dr. Feelgood – ULS band
Dr. Judith Saunders Burton - storyteller
Dr. Robert Byrd Blues Band
Dr. Schroeder Cherry – puppet performer
East of the River Boys & Girls Steel Band
Edith Sodolo
Eternity Gospel Singers
Extreme Band

These are just some of the many artists, performers, musicians, dancers, historians, educators and more that have featured in our many Juneteenth celebrations over the years

Habeebah Muhammad – history of the Muslim community
In The Basement Productions
Isabelle Smith – martial arts
Jeanette Carson – lecturer on Black memorabilia
Jermaine Shannon “Soul Enforcer”
Jim Beck Blues
Joe Carter – educator
Joel Davessel – recording artist
Kim Gordon - dancer
Kwabena Sawyer - drummer
Larry Jarvis – motown and jazz band
Louis Carter
Louis Chamberlain – genealogy workshop
Mr. Chet Hines – D.C. Blues Society
Mt. Jezreel Specials

Nyemiah Wigglesworth - African head wraps
One Stop Entertainment
Ondrea Ryhems - poet
Pam Ward
Pearline Waldrop, The Anacostia Museum – face painting
Princess Ayo Durodola – storyteller
Richmond Boys Choir
Robert Byrd Blues Band
Robert Norhern – wind instruments & African drums
Sandi English - storyteller
Sandra Y. Johnson – singer
Shamel Turner, aka “Ms. P” – a capella vocal performance
Sherwood Blues band

These are just some of the many artists, performers, musicians, dancers, historians, educators and more that have featured in our many Juneteenth celebrations over the years

Smooth & EZ Hand Dance Institute
Sons of Shiloh Step Team
Sonny Warner – R&B artists
Steven Samuel & Company
Tapestry Theatre
T. C. Williams Step Center
The Amazing Clown
The Amazing Josini - actor, illusionist, ventriloquist
The Charles Houston Dancers
The Poetry Man
The Singing Angels
The Twirl Factory
The William Ramsay Center Dancers
Toni Samuel
Trinidad Musical Group
True Expressions

Twana Williams
Voices of Agape Choir
Wanda Aikens – children's crafts
Washington Revels Jubilee Voices
Xavier Jackson

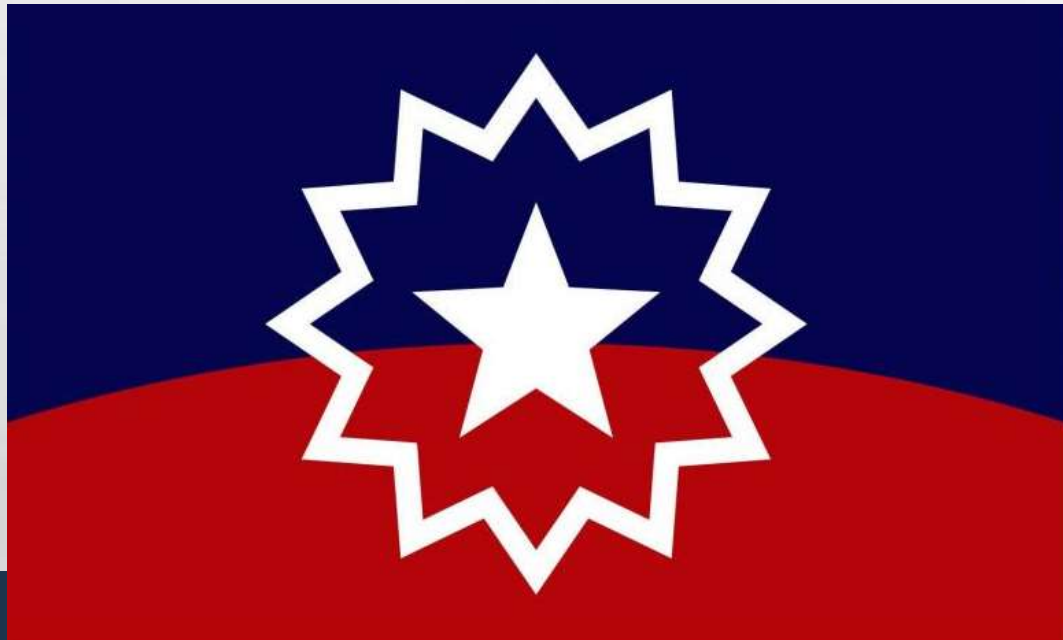
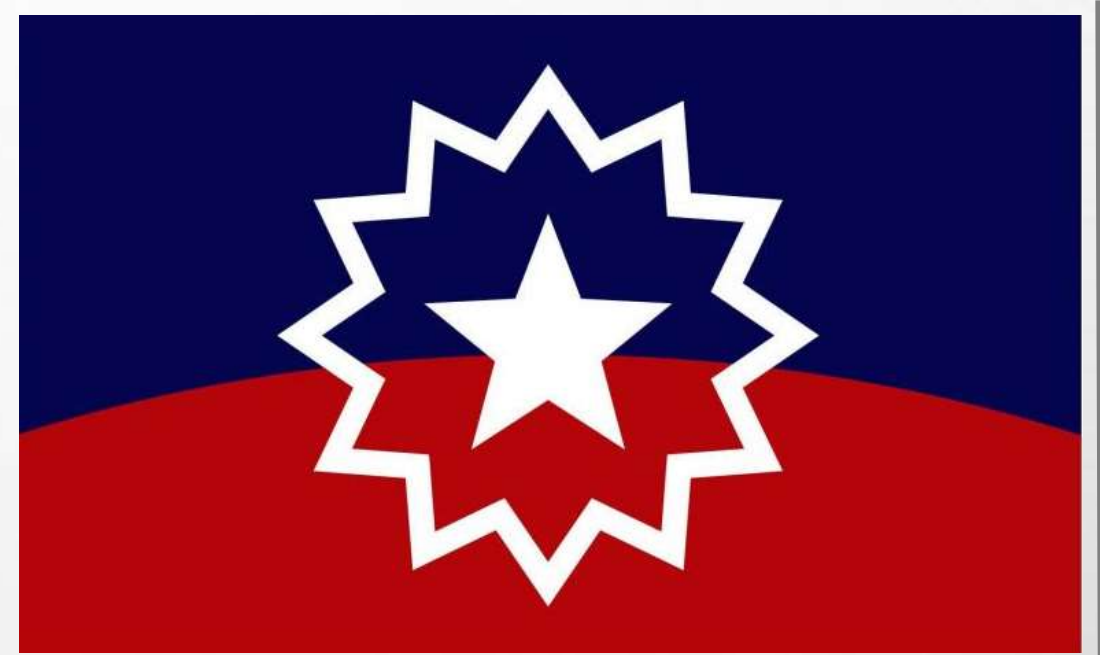
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African American Female Re-Enactors
Association for the Study of African American Life
and History (ASALH)
Boy Scouts of America
Buffalo Soldiers of Alexandria
Center for Afro-American History & Culture
City of Alexandria Information services
Democratic Committee
Departmental Progressive Club
Ebenezer Baptist Church
First Agape Baptist Church
GMMAC
Hopkins House
Housing Development Authority
Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National
Historic Site
MHCDO Headquarters

Mount Jezreel Baptist Church
NAACP Alexandria Va. Branch
National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America
National Underground Railway (NPS)
Saint John Baptist Church
Shiloh Baptist Church
Sixteenth Tabernacle (Black Jewish Congregation)
The Great Blacks In Wax Museum
The National Associations of Juneteenth Lineage, Inc.
The Ovation Group
The Red Hatters of Alexandria
Vincent Walker
Washington City Paper
WETA
Whole Foods
Wholistic Family Agape Ministries Institute
Wm. Euille & Associates

These are just some of the many organizations and groups that have worked with us at our many Juneteenth celebrations over the years

We would like to say a big thank you to all the many members of staff and volunteers who have helped us run these events over the years. We could not have done it without you!



Did you attend a Juneteenth event at the Alexandria Black History Museum? If so we'd love to hear from you. Recognize anyone in the photographs? We'd love to hear about that too.

