

# The Monmouth County Library with the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History & Culture invite you to



Juneteenth celebration in 1900 at Eastwoods Park. Credit: Austin History Center.

## Commemorate Juneteenth

Available to view on the Library's website

The Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, but not implemented in places under Confederate control. Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "Juneteenth," by the newly freed people in Texas.

Juneteenth is a time to celebrate, gather as a family, reflect on the past and look to the future. The Monmouth County Library, together with the National Museum of African American History and Culture, invite you to engage in history and discover ways to celebrate this holiday.

- The Historical Legacy of Juneteenth
- Celebrate Juneteenth - Freedom Calling: Interactive Tour with Founding Director Lonnie Bunch III who leads a tour through the Museum's Slavery and Freedom exhibition
- Making African America: The *Making African America* symposium brought together fifty-three scholars, journalists, activists, curators, filmmakers and writers to discuss how immigration has shaped and is continuing to reshape what it means to be Black in the United States.
- Tuning In to Juneteenth: Steven Lewis (NMAAHC Curator of Music and the Performing Arts) and Herman Marigny (Acting Assistant Director of Visitor and Guest Services) will discuss the premier of the Juneteenth Playlist as it features the best of disco, gospel, hip hop, jazz, rock and roll, roots, soul, rhythm and blues, classical, country, and other genres.
- Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives offers a tour through Emancipation Documents, i.e., Certificate of Freedom for Joseph Trammell
- Find *InfoBase' African American History Resources* on Monmouth County Library Research/DateBase tab. Topics may be filtered by subject or era, offering over 1,200 videos, 400+ Primary Source documents which include famous speeches, Segregation and Integration Documents, Slavery and Abolition Documents, Maps and Charts, including Migration & Settlement Maps, and more.

The Smithsonian Institution was established with funds from James Smithson (1765–1829), a British scientist who left his estate to the United States to found "at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge."

Once established, the Smithsonian became part of the process of developing an American national identity - an identity rooted in exploration, innovation, and a unique American style. That process continues today as the Smithsonian looks toward the future.

The National Museum of African American History and Culture, opened on September 24, 2016, is a place where all Americans can learn about the richness and diversity of the African American experience, what it means to their lives, and how it helped us shape this nation.

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