Celebrating Juneteenth

June 14th, 2022

Since 1866, people in the state of Texas have celebrated Juneteenth in commemoration of June 19th, 1865, when the enslaved people of Galveston, Texas, were finally informed that they had been freed by national decree. Over the years, the celebrations grew out of Texas to many parts of the United States, and Juneteenth was finally recognized as a federal holiday in 2021.

If you are interested in learning more about the history of the holiday and celebrating Freedom Day, there are a number of events happening right here in the Hudson Valley that you can check out this year.

~ Juneteenth 2022, Albany’s Premier Freedom Festival, Saturday, June 18th ~

- A community celebration featuring food, art, exhibitions and entertainment, sponsored by the African American Cultural Center, 106 South Pearl St to Morton Avenue, 12pm-5pm

~ Hudson’s 3rd Annual Juneteenth Celebration, Friday June 17th – Sunday, June 19th
Hudson Waterfront Park ~

- 6/17: Movie screening: Miss Juneteenth, 7pm-9pm
- 6/18: Revival of the Fittest Lipsync Show, 7pm-10pm
- 6/19: Community celebration featuring music, vendors, local artists, talent shows & community conversations, 12pm-9pm

*Check out this Juneteenth page from the Hudson Area Library for more information about these events and other happenings at the library for Juneteenth.
~Kingston Juneteenth Events, Thursday, June 16th – Saturday, June 18th ~

- 6/16: Program on the History of Juneteenth with Kingston Alderman Rita Worthington, Kingston Library, 6:30pm-7:30pm
- 6/18: Harambee Presents Juneteenth 22, a community celebration with vendors, food, music, art, and more, Pine Street African Burial Ground, 11am-2pm
- 6/18: Resistance Revival Chorus Concert, Old Dutch Church, 7pm-11pm [$30 and up]

~New Paltz Juneteenth, Saturday, June 18th & Sunday, June 19th ~

- 6/18: Remembrance Ceremony, New Paltz Rural Cemetery, 12pm – 1pm
- 6/18: Speakers, Tours, Exhibits, Live Music & Picnic Lunch, Historic Huguenot Street, 2pm-6pm
- 6/19: Hubby Jenkins Concert, Unison Arts Center, 4pm [$10 General Admission/$8 HHS members, seniors, students & children under age 13]

~Poughkeepsie Juneteenth Events, Thursday, June 16th - Sunday, June 19th~

- 6/16: Fighting ‘Slavery, that Foul Giant Sin and Darkness;” The Black Community of the Nineteenth Century. Program from Bard College VP & Professor Myra Armstead, Boardman Road Library, 7pm-8:30pm [This event is full, but contact the library to check for cancellations]
- 6/18: 2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration in honor of Theodore “Tree” Arrington, featuring live music, food, entertainment, and Rover the Roaming Library, Mansion Square Park, 12pm-6pm
- 6/19: PPLD & the Bardavon Present: author Imani Perry, Bardavon 1869 Opera House, 5pm-6pm [tickets are free, pick up in person at the Bardavon or any PPLD branch library. Limit 2 per person]