

U.S. COLORED TROOPS' CALL TO FREEDOM

# *Juneteenth* @160

★ OUR JOURNEY TO PROGRESS ★

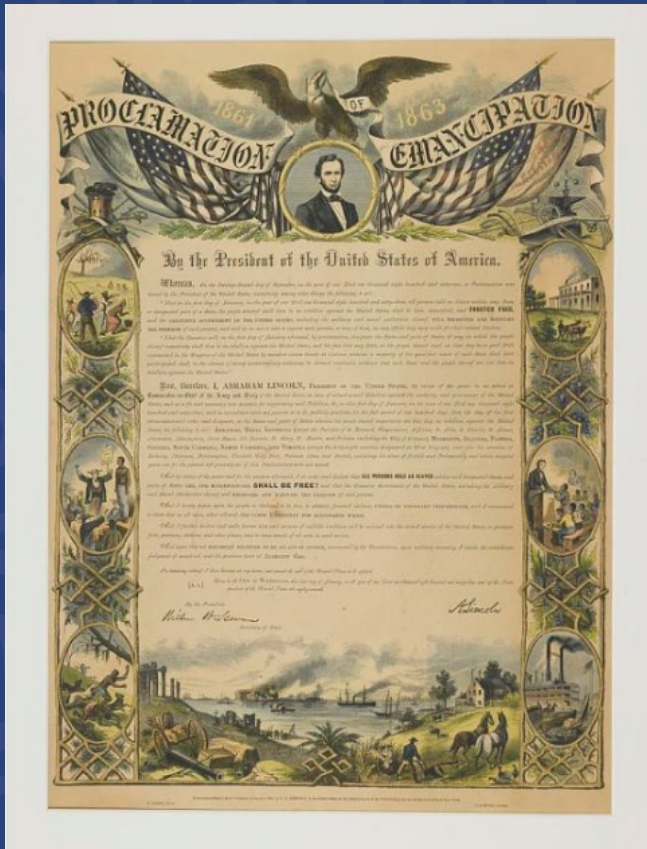


**JUNE 19 — 21, 2025**

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FOUNDATION

# Juneteenth @160

In 2025, the Center for African American Military History (CAAMH), which operates the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum (BSNM), will celebrate the 160th Anniversary of Juneteenth with a three-day celebration (June 19-21) centered on community engagement, empowerment, and education. The celebration will include exhibits, panel discussions, artistic installations, and interpretations related to the Emancipation Proclamation complemented by a living history encampment.



## PURPOSE & GOALS

Juneteenth@160 is a unique opportunity for all communities to gather, celebrate, and learn. BSNM has a special focus on youth, educators, history enthusiasts, and lifelong learners so that we, the people, develop a more meaningful understanding of the historical context of Juneteenth. The Emancipation Proclamation's essence was to free all formerly enslaved African Americans; however, in Texas, news and freedom arrived late. Juneteenth was the catalyst to emancipation for all African Americans, including those in Texas. The 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments cemented the road to citizenship.

Since the late 19th Century and to the present, Juneteenth has been a time of celebration, reflection, and empowerment in the African American community, which has evolved into the Federal Holiday that it is today. Through the 19th and 20th Centuries, Juneteenth has been revered throughout the African American community as well as other communities far and wide in the United States. In 2021, with the leadership of the Late Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, Juneteenth became the 11th Federal Holiday. While we, the American community, embrace and support the nationwide observances, we are also mindful to shine a light on the rich, as well as ghastly, history of Juneteenth, its impact on African Americans and all Americans, and the unique roles of Texas, the United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) and the Buffalo Soldiers.

The event will anchor Juneteenth in its historical context and center the Emancipation Proclamation as a moment in time and as the start of a reckoning toward the true creed of liberty and justice for all, which remains in process.



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It is my honor to welcome you to this momentous gathering commemorating 160 years since freedom was proclaimed to those who had long been denied in Texas. Today, we not only celebrate emancipation, but reflect on the ongoing journey towards progress.

As CEO of the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, and descendant of those who served and sacrificed for a country that did not always honor them in return, this moment is deeply personal to me. Every exhibit we create, every story we share, and every event like this one is guided by one truth: we must remember, we must teach, and we must uplift. Through this weekend's living history, music, dance, food, art, and dialogue, we hope you not only learn the stories of the past, but feel their relevance today.

I must offer my deepest gratitude to all of our sponsors, community partners, program participants, staff, and volunteers for making this event possible. A special thanks to our friends at The Kinder Foundation, who did not hesitate for a moment when I approached them with what some might have called a wild idea—a two-day festival and art exhibition to mark this historic occasion.

To Seba Suber, my partner in shaping this masterful program—one that will now be etched into the institutional history of the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum—thank you for your unwavering commitment to telling our stories with depth, dignity, and power.

And to Cale Carter II—without your vision and the simple act of bringing this idea to me, this incredible event would not be here before us today. Thank you for helping to plant the seed that has grown into Juneteenth @ 160.



**Desmond Bertrand-Pitts**  
MBA, M.Ed.

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum  
Chief Executive Officer

*Desmond Bertrand-Pitts*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EVENT PRODUCER & CO-CREATOR

Juneteenth @160 is a reflection of my passion as a community builder and cultural producer. Through this project, we are both honoring the historical legacy of the United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.), while also creating intentional space for dialogue, remembrance, and healing. This is social sculpture—a living work shaped by the people, their stories, and their collective experiences.

Terms & Conditions: The Promise vs. Reality is an opportunity for visitors to engage with the layered realities of Black freedom through the lens of its beauty and its continued struggles regarding the relationship between African Americans and service in the military. This project serves as a testament to the enduring resilience, creativity, and agency of Black communities who, despite the conditions placed upon freedom, continue to shape culture, history, and progress.

It has been my honor to produce and curate this experience alongside a dedicated team of artists, historians, and community partners. Through my work with Southern Polymath Creative Consulting, LLC I remain committed to building platforms where art, history, and community intersect to preserve truth and inspire future generations.



**Seba Suber**

Event Producer Co-Curator

Southern Polymath Creative  
Consulting, LLC



# THURSDAY | JUNE 19, 2025

EXHIBITION RECEPTION:

**TERMS & CONDITIONS: THE PROMISE VS. REALITY**

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

University Museum at Texas Southern University

3100 Cleburne St, Houston, TX 77004

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**5:15 PM** **Doors Open**

**5:30 PM - 7:00 PM** **Exhibition Preview**

Guests Exit at 6:50

**7:10 PM** **Keynote Address “History Books Back, but Legacy Lives Forward” by Major General (Retired) Barrye L. Price, Ph.D**

Arrive at 7:00 for seating by 7:10

**7:45 PM - 8:30 PM** **Panel Discussion: The Promise vs. Reality: Exploring the Legacy of Juneteenth**

**Moderator:** Dr. Olenda Johnson

**Panelists:** Dr. María Esther Hammack, Darron Charles “DC” Overby, General Barrye L. Price, Ph.D. (Ret.), Cale Carter II

**Cocktails by** General Order No. 3 Vodka

**Lite Bites by** ChòpnBlok

# Juneteenth @160

**EXHIBITION:**

## Terms & Conditions: The Promise vs. Reality

The United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) fought for a freedom that was proclaimed but persistently withheld. Their service was a revolutionary act of self-definition, a radical claim to personhood, dignity, and citizenship, even as systems around them denied those promises. This exhibition reflects on the legacy and parallels of the U.S.C.T. and asks what freedom has looked like for Black Americans post 1865 through the current sociopolitical and cultural climate when it has so often come with conditions.

Terms & Conditions: The Promise vs. Reality invites audiences to explore the evolution of emancipation and Black liberation through historical context and Black imagination. Contemporary artists interrogate what freedom has meant to the U.S.C.T. and Black Americans across time and within systems of anti-Blackness. Interpretive panels and QR codes guide visitors through pivotal historical moments, from the myth of the Emancipation Proclamation to the loopholes of the Reconstruction Amendments.

The exhibition reveals how freedom in the U.S. has often been defined by exclusions rather than access. In response, Black communities have cultivated cultural practices that serve as tools for survival and liberation.

Curated by Seba R. Suber, with historical interpretation by Cale Carter II, Jason Fung, and Dr. Michelle Tovar of the Buffalo Soldier National Museum.

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FOUNDATION

In Partnership With:

  
UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Presented By:



# EXHIBITING ARTISTS



**Nathaniel Donnett**

@Nathaniel\_Donnett1  
nathanieldonnet.com



**David McGee**

@davidmcgee773  
inmangallery.com



**Cat Martinez**

@designsbycatd  
sculptedbycat.my.canva.site



**Kaneem Smith**

@kaneem\_smith  
kaneemsmithart.com



**Anthony Suber**

@suberanthony  
anthonyjsuber.com



**Ann Johnson**

@solesisterart  
solesisterart.com



**Tay Butler**

@stayclosetay  
stayclosetay.com



**Brian Ellison**

@theblackmanproject  
theblackmanproject.com



**Lanecia A. Rouse**

@larartstudio  
laneciarouse.co



**Phillip Pyle II**

@pipppyle2  
phillippylethesecond.com



**Alexis Pye**

@pyealexis  
inmangallery.com



**Robert Pruitt**

@robertpruitt  
robert-pruitt.com



## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Scan the QR code to learn more about the exhibition and the artists!

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



### Gen. Barrye L. Price (Ret.) Ph.D.

*President and CEO Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)*

Major General (Retired) Barrye L. Price is a 1985 Distinguished Military Graduate of the University of Houston's College of Business Administration. He earned a Master of Arts degree in History in 1994 from Texas A&M University, and in 1997 he became the first African American to obtain a doctorate from the Department of History in the 147-year history of Texas A&M University. He also earned a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University in 2004.

Major General Price served on the President and First Lady's Task Force on "Raising Responsible and Resourceful Teenagers" in 2000; served on President Clinton's "Mississippi Delta Task Force," which sought to revitalize the 207-county, seven-state region that comprises the Mississippi River flood plain from 1999 through 2000. He is the author of the 2001 volume *Against All Enemies Foreign and Domestic: A Study of Urban Unrest and Federal Intervention Within the United States*. He is also the author of the 2020 volume *Homeland Defense: Civil Unrest and Federal Intervention Within the United States of America*. In 2023, Major General Price wrote a screenplay and directed a movie titled *Interview with a King*.

Major General Price assumed his duties at CADCA as the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer on October 1, 2016. He became the President and CEO of CADCA on September 1, 2020.

## PANEL DISCUSSION:

## THE PROMISE VS. REALITY: EXPLORING THE LEGACY OF JUNETEENTH

## PANELISTS



### Dr. María Esther Hammack

Dr. María Esther Hammack is a Mexican scholar with Ph.D. in American History from the University of Texas at Austin whose work bridges the histories of liberation and abolition across the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. Her book, *Channels of Liberation*, reimagines the Underground Railroad by centering Black Americans who sought freedom in Mexico.



### Darron Charles "DC" Overby

Darron Charles Overby is a U.S. Army Reserve veteran, police officer, and living historian based in Arlington, VA. With 19 years of military service, including Operation Spartan Shield, he began reenacting at age 11. He volunteers at the African American Civil War Memorial & Museum and the Smithsonian NMAAHC. Specializing in African American military history from the Revolution through the Civil War.



### Cale Carter II

*Director of Exhibitions at the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum*

Cale Carter II earned a BA in History from Huston-Tillotson University and was a Research Fellow in the Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Fellowship. Carter has worked as a Living Historian with the Texas State Parks and Wildlife Buffalo Soldiers Heritage and Outreach Program, a Research Intern for ColumbiaSC63, and Curator of Exhibits for the South Carolina Military Museum.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR  
DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITIONS



## PANEL MODERATOR



### Dr. Olenda Johnson

Dr. Olenda E. Johnson is a native of Cheyenne, Wyoming – home of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Regiments, Fort D.A. Russell. Dr. Johnson is a noted pioneer within professional military education. She is the first Black Woman to serve on the faculty at the Army War College, the first appointed to the faculty at the Naval War College, and the first to achieve the rank of full professor. Olenda earned her Ph.D. in Organizational Behavior from the University of Pittsburgh, and both a B. S. and MBA from Florida A&M University. Prior to joining the Naval War College, Dr. Johnson was a tenured professor at North Carolina A&T State University. She previously served as the Distinguished Visiting Professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy and held adjunct faculty appointments at the Wellington School of Business and Government in New Zealand and Bentley University.

DISCLAIMER: Dr. Johnson is participating in this event in her personal capacity. Her participation does not constitute endorsement. The opinions expressed are solely hers and do not represent an official position of the U.S. Naval War College, the U.S. Navy, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Government.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

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UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
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**ike** SMART  
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# FRI - SAT | JUNE 20-21, 2025

## (U.S.C.T) LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT & ROOTS & RESILIENCE

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Each Day)

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum (BSNM)

3816 Caroline Street, Houston, TX 77004

Join us for a family-friendly festival on the lawn behind BSNM featuring a living history encampment of the United States Colored Troops. Educational festivities inside the museum include Roots & Resilience, a community gathering featuring local organizations sharing history, veteran resources, and youth history activations.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

**U.S.C.T. 101: “An Introduction to the U.S. Colored Troops, 1862-1867”** | Brian Cheeseboro

11:20 AM - 12:15 PM

**“Uncivil War” & Legal Examination of the Colored Experience of the American Civil War & Reconstruction Era, 1862-1877** | Bernie Siler

12:20 PM - 1:05 PM

**“Bricks Without Straw”- Teaching Newly Freedmen in Post-Civil War Texas** | Leslie Bramlett

1:10 PM - 2:00 PM

**“Juneteenth: If We Can Keep It”: An Examination of Slavery, Emancipation, Juneteenth & Other Liberation Observances in Texas & Elsewhere** | Joseph McGill

2:10 PM - 2:25 PM

**Dance Performance by Nia’s Daughter Movement Collective**

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Youth Book Reading with Dr. Michelle Tovar, BSNM**

3:10 PM - 4:00 PM

**“Wounds of War”: The Women and African American Experience of Fighting on the Frontlines of Medical History** | Alexis P. Glover-Oruh

# MUSEUM-BASED ACTIVATIONS

## The Future Is Free: Youth History Activation Hub

Celebrate Juneteenth through hands-on learning, creativity, and joyful exploration at The Future Is Free: Youth Activation Hub. Designed for young learners and their families, this two-day interactive space features a dynamic lineup of activities that bring history, nature, art, and science to life.



SCAN HERE FOR  
THE SCHEDULE

From live historical reenactments and storytelling to STEAM challenges and live animal encounters, each session empowers youth to connect with the past, engage with the present, and imagine a liberated future rooted in freedom and possibility. Join us for a celebration of curiosity, creativity, and community!

## Featured Performance

*Presented by Nia's Daughters Movement Collective*  
[www.niasdaughters.com](http://www.niasdaughters.com)

Nia's Daughters is a multidisciplinary movement collective rooted in womanist perspectives, ancestral memory, and Black Southern storytelling. Under the direction of Stacey Allen, the group explores liberation through choreography, spoken word, and embodied research. Their Juneteenth performance invites audiences into a physical reflection of resistance, cultural memory, and radical joy.



### Stacey Allen

*Artistic Director | @theblackartsymom*

Stacey Allen is an award-winning dancemaker, curator, and advocate for arts education, equity, and reproductive justice. She is the Founder and Artistic Director of Nia's Daughters Movement Collective and the author of *A Little Optimism Goes a Long Way* and *D is for Dance: Dancing Through the Diaspora*.

## U.S.C.T. Living History Encampment Presented by Living History Co.

Step into a living timeline that brings the service and sacrifice of the U.S. Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) to life. Reenactors portray authentic 19th-century military camp life and highlight the continuing legacy of Black military service in America.

### Living History Co.

Living History Co. is a Black-owned, veteran-led historical interpretation organization committed to reclaiming narratives of Black service members through immersive storytelling, public engagement, and educational programming. Their reenactors connect past and present, making space for multigenerational learning rooted in dignity, truth, and liberation.



## Liberation Market

*Curated by SOA. Co. Books | Owned by Cherrelle Duncan*

The Liberation Market offers curated products by Black vendors, including literature, handmade goods, wellness products, and more. As part of the Roots & Resilience activation, the market supports small businesses that honor the spirit of freedom and entrepreneurship.





## LIBERATION MARKET VENDORS

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- Luvng Jules
- Brenda and Glenda Crafts
- Especial Clothing Co.
- The Free Black Women's Library
- Sugar Cookie Books
- Art of Fufu
- Tabit Journals & Healing Conversations PLLC
- Wick Haus Co.
- Butter Grove Co.
- The Hydrated Hottie
- Scotia Studios
- Shawnti Refuge Journals
- Hou in Bloom

## VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

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- Combined Arms
- Harris County Veteran Services Department
- American Legion (Houston Chapter)
- 9th & 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association – Buffalo Soldiers
- Texas Veterans Leadership Program
- Mayor's Office of Veterans and Military Affairs
- Grand Canyon University (Military Division)
- National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS) – Houston Chapter #20
- Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center
- NABME Houston Chapter

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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- AARP TX
- Arte Público
- Brazos Bend State Park
- COPE
- Dr. Regina Sims – Author of Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom
- Emancipation Park Conservancy
- Freedom Tree Park
- Harris County Clerk's Office
- Harris County Curiosity Cruiser
- HPL – African American History Research Center
- Houston Community College
- Houston Freedmen's Town Conservancy
- InRangeTV
- Kindred Stories HTX
- MECA
- Memorial Park Conservancy
- METRO
- Texas Parks and Wildlife
- Rothko Chapel

ISABELLA St.

GATE

REGISTRATION

LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT  
DEMONSTRATIONS

SEATING TENT

FAMILY/YOUTH  
CONCESSIONS

FAMILY/YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES  
*OBSTACLE COURSE*

SPONSORS, PARTNERS  
& VOLUNTEERS TENT

RESTROOMS

CAROLINE St.

STREET CLOSED

TRUXILLO St.

FOOD TRUCK PARK

ENTRY

BSNM CAMPUS  
ROOTS & RESILIENCE ACTIVITIES

## (U.S.C.T.) LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT MAP & ROOTS AND RESILIENCE

10-00 AM - 4:00 PM (Each Day)

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum (BSNM), 3816 Caroline Street, Houston, TX 77004



COOLING/HYDRATION  
STATION



FOOD/CONCESSIONS



EMERGENCY EXIT



RESTROOMS



EMT/MEDIC

# SATURDAY | JUNE 21, 2025

## PRIVATE EVENT

### CALL TO ACTION CLOSING PARTY: "BOOTS ON THE GROUND"

8:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Eldorado Ballroom at Project Row Houses

2310 Elgin St, Houston, TX 77004

Join us for the culminating celebration of Juneteenth @ 160, as we transition from remembrance to renewed commitment. The Call to Action Party is an evening of joy, movement, and empowerment that honors the legacy of Juneteenth and those who continue the fight for freedom and justice.

Fans Provided | 21+ Event

Lite Bites by Mo' Better Brews

Cocktails Sponsored By General Order No. 3

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

8:00 PM	Doors Open
8:30 PM	Reflections from Sam Collins III, Juneteenth Historian and Preservationist
9:00 PM	Special Remarks by Jacqueline Bostic-McElroy, Esq.
9:15 PM	Community Line Dance Instruction by Imani Bell
9:45 PM - 11:00 PM	Dance Party with music by DJ Flash Gordon Parks

## SPECIAL GUESTS



### Sam Collins III

Sam Collins III is a historian, preservationist, and co-chair of the Juneteenth Legacy Project. A Galveston native, Collins has spent decades elevating the story of General Order No. 3 and advocating for accurate representation of Black history in Texas. His dynamic speaking style and deep knowledge make him one of the nation's leading voices on Juneteenth. Collins continues to use public history as a tool for healing, justice, and civic engagement.



### DJ Flash Gordon Parks

DJ Flash Gordon Parks is a Houston-based ethnomusicologist, DJ, and cultural archivist known for curating experiences that celebrate the richness of Black music and culture. With deep roots in soul, funk, jazz, and hip hop, his soundscapes are both a party and a history lesson. A mainstay in Houston's arts scene, Flash Gordon Parks has performed at major institutions and underground events alike.



### Imani Bell

Imani Bell, a New Orleans native, moved to Houston in 2018 to pursue her master's. Though her professional background is in health and technology, movement has always been her passion. As a step aerobics and line dance instructor, she creates high-energy, music-driven fitness experiences. She firmly believes that movement, music, and community are the heartbeats of a healthier, happier life.





### SPECIAL REMARKS BY

## Jacqueline Bostic-McElroy, Esq.

Jacqueline Bostic-McElroy is a Fort Bend County Assistant District Attorney serving as Mental Health Prosecutor. Formerly a managing partner in civil and immigration law, she's a dedicated advocate for justice, equity, and community empowerment. She has led initiatives at YWCA Houston, serves on multiple nonprofit boards, and is active in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and The Links, Inc. Jacqueline and her husband, Pastor Lou McElroy, serve at the historic Antioch Missionary Baptist Church—Houston's oldest African American Baptist church—where her great-great-grandfather, Rev. Jack Yates, was the founding pastor.

## CHECK OUT OUR EXCLUSIVE JUNETEENTH MERCHANDISE!



You can purchase merch at the Terms & Conditions Exhibition opening reception on June 19 @ University Museum at Texas Southern University and on June 20-21 at the BSNM Merch Store inside the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum!

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# *Juneteenth* @160



EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS: THE PROMISE V.S. REALITY**

**THURSDAY | JUNE 19, 2025**

**5:30 PM — 8:30 PM**

*University Museum at Texas Southern University  
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WANT TO KNOW MORE?  
**SCAN HERE**