

### JUNETEENTH DOC

National Juneteenth
Observance Foundation

January 2019 Volume 2 Issue 1

# STEVEN WILLIAMS TO LEAD THE NATIONAL JUNETEENTH OBSERVANCE FOUNDATION INTO THE NEXT 25 YEARS

National Juneteenth Observation Foundation (NJOF) President, Steven Williams was raised in an environment recognizing Juneteenth. While working with the Congressional Internet Caucus Advisory Committee, he attended



a Juneteenth Breakfast at the National Press Club. At that breakfast, he met the NJOF founder and chairman and became actively involved in the National Juneteenth mission's holiday campaign and staunch supporter or Rev. Myers for

over 16 years in the Virginia / D.C. area.

He and the executive management team continue the mission to develop programming to serve and educate the community. We are updating our technology to distribute the message of freedom which followed the end of over 250 years of enslavement and gain the recognition of Juneteenth Independence Day on the national calendar.

#### NJOF National Agenda

Mission: Celebrate Freedom

Objective: Acknowledgment as the

Experts on Juneteenth

Goal: Recognition of Juneteenth as a

National Day of Observance

Community Advocacy: **Bridging the Digital Divide** 

Community Service: **Inter-County Exchanges** 

Welcome Dr. Charles A. Taylor, Author of "Juneteenth A Celebration of Freedom" to advise NJOF Education on the Juneteenth Curriculum.

National Juneteenth Observance Foundation 888-509-NJOF (6563) Keeping the Juneteenth Vision
The Legacy of Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr. M.D.

Rosetta Funches, Director
Oklahoma Black Museum and
Performing Arts Center
Receives Larry Johnson
Foundation Award



The annual Larry Johnson Foundation concert was held on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The foundation honored Rosetta Funches, founder of the Oklahoma Black Museum And Performing Art Center (OBMAPAC founded in 2008) and the National African American Jazz Legacy Museum (NAAJLM founded in 2016), both located in Oklahoma. National Juneteenth founder, Rev. Ronald V, Myers, Sr. M.D., served as artistic director of the museum.

Larry Johnson Music Foundation founder Norva Johnson stated, "Ms. Funches received this cultural award in recognition for the contributions she has made in the community, using her ability to show others how to use their God given talents." Rosetta said, "God has given everyone a talent. He didn't miss anyone. The museum is a place where everyone can come and express themselves. We seek to enlighten all about the value of creativity, the importance of history, the meaning of community and the need to help younger generations discover and future the talents within themselves."

#### Join NJOF's Weekly Conference Call

Every Saturday from 12:00 noon CST until 1:00 PM CST Use app or desktop browser for more interaction Join the call from computer:

https://www.uberconference.com/juneteenth

Dial in number: 720-453-2464

No PIN needed

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#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**1863** - Emancipation Proclamation was issued but **did not cover all states**. The proclamation declared "that all persons held as slaves" **within the rebellious** states "are, and henceforward shall be free."

**1870** - Senator Hiram Revels of Mississippi and Representative Joseph Rainey of South Carolina became the first African Americans to serve in Congress.

## How Do You Commemorate Juneteenth Freedom and Accomplishments?

Juneteenth is a grassroots movement and it continues to grow and expand. We have celebrated the construction of the <u>Sikanni Chief River Bridge</u>, in 1942, honoring the African American Army Engineers who built the historic Alcan Highway during World War II, ultimately ending segregation in the U.S. military in <u>1948</u>! Wreaths have been placed at historic sites such as Chicago's lakefront marking the untimely drowning of a black youth who swam through an unmarked line into a 'whites only' section of Lake Michigan, igniting one of 34 Red Summer Riots in 1919. In 2017, Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr., M.D. took the celebration to the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.

2018 showed another increase in Juneteenth events including beauty pageants, parades, picnics, Juneteenth Flag raisings, banquets, concerts, awards recognizing achievements, scholarships, and even one gathering to connect with the departed at a cemetery.

New York offered a Juneteenth Seder this year. There are gospel, r&b and Juneteenth jazz concerts, spoken word, readings of the Emancipation Proclamation and General Order #3.

We have recognized the descendants of African American descent who served as Sailors of the Civil War and the Women of the Military.

Some have even begun 2019 plans. If you have your date selected, please send an email and any other pertinent information to <a href="mailto:communications@nationaljuneteenth.org">communications@nationaljuneteenth.org</a>

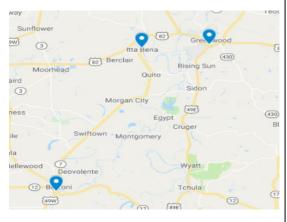
#### Tribute to Doc June 28-30 in the Delta

The three towns presently involved in the tribute are:

Itta Bena, Saturday events are taking place here. Belzoni, Docs' place in Mississippi Greenwood, has lodging and several venues plan

For more information or details email tributetodoc@nationaljuneteenth.org

on arriving Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> in Greenwood





#### **New Regional Directors Named**

To improve NJOF coordination and communications several people have stepped up to be Regional Directors. More on their role in facilitating the NJOF agenda to come, but for now here are the Directors and they States they are covering below:

Michael Harris & Tray Brown, California Region 1 (WA, OR, CA, NV)

Betty Sawyer Utah Region 2 (MT, ID, WY, UT) Lee Jordan, Minnesota Region 3 (ND, SD, MN, WI) Sonny Scroggins Region 4 (KS, MO, NE, IA, OK)

#### "TOGETHERWE WILL SEE

JUNETEENTH BECOME A NATIONAL DAY OF OBSERVANCE
IN AMERICA!"

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