

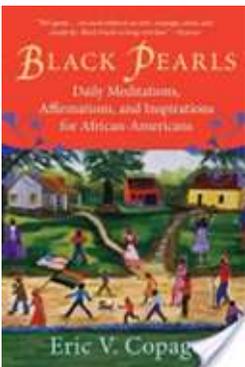
## Juneteenth- June 19<sup>th</sup>

In the long memory I have cultivated over my lifetime, the “Juneteenth” of my pre-adolescent years will always linger. Even in our youth, we were not only learning our roots, we were also planting seeds: in our own inherited land, and in our own time.  
-James Thomas Jackson

“Juneteenth” commemorates the day black Texans learned about the Emancipation Proclamation. For years it was an official holiday, celebrated with gatherings of family and friends. Our special holidays are wonderful opportunities to celebrate our history, but let’s not wait for a specific date to teach our children about their heritage.

On this day, (June 19<sup>th</sup>), I pledge to pick up a book, take in a museum exhibit or go through the family photo album. We can create our own special days to bring family members together and talk about the family history that has such relevance for our lives and the lives of our children.”

-Eric V. Copag



# Juneteenth!

On September 10, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation (S19), which designates the third Friday in June as a State and public holiday, known as Juneteenth Day. “Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas to inform enslaved people of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation and their freedom. “It gives me great pride to celebrate emancipation and New Jersey’s great diversity by designating Juneteenth as an official State holiday.” said Governor Murphy. “Commemorating this date is just one component of our collective approach to end a generational cycle of pain and injustice that has gone on for far too long. Every Juneteenth, we will celebrate the end of the physical chains which once held Black Americans down. While more work lies ahead to undo the oppression that remains, Juneteenth is important marker that reminds us of our mission to create a society that enables our Black communities to achieve the full equality which they deserve.”

“Juneteenth is a reminder that centuries later, not all of us are treated equally and that freedom and democracy are not a given. Our fight for civil rights and freedom from discrimination and oppression continues today,” said Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver, who serves as Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs. “Now, Juneteenth will forever be observed and celebrated so that we can collectively reflect upon the indelible mark that slavery has left on our country as we fight for meaningful reforms. I commend and thank Governor Murphy and the legislators who have chosen to make Juneteenth a State holiday.”  
<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/20200910b.shtml>

This week at Pride, we will recognize Juneteenth Day through providing activities and resources for students and staff over the course of Spirit Week. Next year, our 2021-2022 School Calendar will designate the third Friday in June as a day of no school in recognition of the State declared



<https://www.newarkmuseumart.org/community-day-juneteenth>

### Community Day: Juneteenth Presented by Horizon Foundation for New Jersey Saturday, June 19, 10am - 5pm

It’s official! Juneteenth is a recognized national holiday, but what does that mean? How should we honor a day that underscores the inequities and the chasm between the racial divide in America? Explore the significance of Juneteenth with us as we deep dive into history to better equip ourselves with the tools necessary to bring reform and activate change in the present and future. All programs are on the following platforms unless otherwise noted: ZoomIcon, Facebook Live, YouTube Live, Twitter Live, Twitch  
Please view the Newark Museum of Art website to view more details and to Register for events.”