
Commemorating when word of Emancipation Finally Reached the Last Enslaved Americans

Nearly two-and-a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, federal troops reached the remaining enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865 to inform them that they were finally free. Regarded as the oldest African American holiday and now an official federal holiday, Juneteenth (a portmanteau of "June Nineteenth") honors the end to slavery in the United States.

This month we will focus on Black stories and related topics from across Duke and Durham in commemoration of this important holiday.

Update from Racial Equity Advisory Council

Over the past year, the [Subcommittees](#) of the [Racial Equity Advisory Council](#) (REAC) have focused on addressing the challenges that have impacted Black and other underrepresented members of the Duke community, which were highlighted by the first Climate Survey on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. They paid particular attention to hiring, opportunities for professional growth and advancement, and lived experiences on campus. The year one report provides a comprehensive look at the evolving structural plan laid out by REAC with the goal for it to positively impact staff, faculty, and students at Duke.

[READ REAC'S YEAR 1 UPDATE ANNOUNCEMENT](#) ⇨

Changing the Narrative: Chantell Evans Aims to Set an Example



Chantell Evans, a cell biologist, realized at an early age that her interest in science and math made her different from other children. Her mother encouraged her to embrace that difference and pursue a career in biology. Despite the support, the lack of Black women in academic science led Evans to consider leaving her field early in her career. She kept going, and now teaches and serves as a role model for other minority women interested in STEM fields, while keeping up with her own research on how the mitochondria of nerve cells are related to neurodegenerative diseases.

[READ MORE ABOUT CHANTELL EVANS](#) ⇨

How Black Women Offer New Ways of Thinking

Professor of Romance Studies Annette Joseph-Gabriel discusses the interdisciplinary and collaborative opportunities she has enjoyed at Duke, as well as her literary research that focuses on historically marginalized peoples in the colonies of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. In her current study, "Enslaved Childhood," she explores how enslaved children from those periods dealt with issues of citizenship and freedom.

Racial Inequality Research Grants Awarded to Duke Faculty

The Office of the Provost has selected 18 projects for funding through The Duke Endowment that engage topics related to the issue of racial inequality. These research projects will be led by Duke faculty members during the 2022-2023 academic year. The new projects cover a wide range of topics that highlight the depth and diversity of faculty expertise at Duke. Priority consideration was given to proposals that engage with issues of particular relevance to Durham and North Carolina.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECTS](#) ⇨

Black Alumni Collective Holds National Conference at Duke University

Black alumni from schools and universities around the country gathered at Duke University for a four-day conference. The collective, which was co-founded by Duke alumnus Sanders Adu, is a forum for Black professionals to work on issues important to campus life and to the wider communities.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COLLECTIVE'S CONFERENCE](#) ⇨

Durham's Gem: The Museum of Durham History

One of Durham's hidden treasures can be found in a small building downtown. The Museum of Durham History is dedicated to educating the public about the city's fascinating past through engaging exhibits. Students from Duke, UNC-

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF DURHAM HISTORY](#) ⇨

In Search of Jacob Chiles

Kelsey Zavelo, a Duke history Ph.D. student, was inspired by an 1847 letter written by a former slave on the topic of freedom. A pair of blog posts by Zavelo discusses her research on Jacob Chiles's life.

[READ PART 1](#) | [READ PART 2](#)

Leading the Fight for Justice

Jim Coleman, second from left, and Jamie Coleman, back row, stand with family members of Charles Ray Finch after he was released from prison in 2019 for a crime he did not commit. Photo courtesy of the Duke Law School.

The Wrongful Convictions Clinic in Duke Law investigates plausible claims of innocence made by people incarcerated for felonies occurring in North Carolina.

[READ MORE ABOUT THE WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS CLINIC](#) ⇨

Black in Blue: The Duke Sports and Race Project

Black in Blue: The Duke Sports and Race Project is a faculty-led initiative that critically studies race and sports at Duke and beyond. This faculty-led project has three pillars, with each examining the politics and histories of intercollegiate athletics and athletes, particularly in revenue-generating sports.

Movement that Changes the World

podcasts, music, and lectures were all part of Amari Jones' programs for participants in her workshops to better understand their own Black identities. Using dance and poetry, Lee Edwards is a multidisciplinary movement artist and storyteller. They both recently completed Duke's MFA in Dance: Embodied Interdisciplinary Praxis (MFA/EIP) terminal degree program.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR PROJECTS AND THE PROGRAM](#) ⇨

New Music by Duke Professor Explores Juneteenth

The composition *Spirituals of Liberation* by Duke professor and composer Anthony Kelley chronicles the fight for liberation commemorated on Juneteenth. The piece will be performed for the first time on June 18 as part of the North Carolina Symphony's "Summerfest: Juneteenth Celebration." Kelley spent a year turning a song that was "flying about in his head" into a Juneteenth story.

[READ THE STORY AND BUY TICKETS FOR THE PERFORMANCE](#) ⇨

Artist Antoine Williams and Spoken Word Artist Dasan Ahanu

Antoine Williams, whose paintings are shown in the Nasher exhibit [Reckoning and Resilience: North Carolina Art Now](#), and Dasan Ahanu, a poet, performance artist, cultural activist, educator, scholar, and emcee, are featured on the most recent episode of the Nasher Museum Podcast.

[LISTEN TO THE PODCAST](#) ⇨

Graduate to Help Underserved Communities

Onyema Nwanaji-Enwerem was encouraged to pursue a career in health disparities research after observing the disparities firsthand while growing up in Concord, North Carolina, a primarily African American community. As he completes his medical degree, he looks forward to completing his residency at Duke and serving in the National Health Service Corps.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT ONYEMA NWANAJI-ENWEREM](#) ⇨

NCCU Ethnodrama Team Published in Journal of Cervical Cancer Research

The Duke-NCCU partnership on ethnodramas in clinical research was highlighted in a paper published in the Journal of Cervical Cancer Research by members of the research team at NCCU. The ethnodrama about cervical cancer was the main focus of the paper.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ETHNODRAMA](#) ⇨

New Nursing School Podcast Breaks Barriers

School of Nursing Center for Nursing Research. The podcast focuses on how health equity can be improved at each level of the research process, and it explores ways of putting what has been learned into practice in the clinic and in the community. Shannon Zenk, director of the National Institute of Nursing Research, appears in the premiere episode.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW PODCAST](#) ⇨

Updates in Moments to Movement

As part of the School of Medicine's ongoing effort to dismantle racism and better understand the underlying causes, consequences, and solutions that underlie racial injustice, updates in Moments to Movement (M2M) will provide a brief snapshot of the progress made by various units and stakeholder groups across the institution.

[READ THE UPDATES](#) ⇨

Juneteenth Programming

Fri, Jun 17 | 1:00 PM

Goodson Chapel: *Juneteenth Interfaith Prayer Service*

Fri, Jun 17 | 4:00 PM

Black Think Tank & MLWC: *Juneteenth Celebration | Penn Pavilion | RSVP*

Sat, Jun 18 | 8:00 PM

NC Symphony: *Juneteenth Celebration | featuring a composition by Duke professor Anthony Kelley | BUY TICKETS*

Happy Pride Month 2022

OIE celebrates Duke's LGBTQIA+ community during this year's Pride Month, which recognizes the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York, a key moment in the struggle for gay liberation. Throughout the month there are many

individuals. Find more information on Pride celebrations and resources for the Duke Community at [Duke CSGD](#), [Duke Student Affairs IG](#), [Duke Health](#), [Duke Population Health](#), and [Duke University Press](#).

Special Opportunities

Faculty Advancement: Fall 2022 Faculty Group Coaching

[Registration](#) will remain open until the program fills, and no later than July 1. Questions? Contact Maria Wisdom (maria.wisdom@duke.edu)

Faculty Advancement: National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD) Institutional Membership

Program runs from August 28-November 19. The Office for Faculty Advancement is offering a limited number of fully funded slots on a first-come first-served basis. [Registration](#) deadline is July 27. Interested faculty should contact Jennifer Goins (jennifer.goins@duke.edu).

Duke Health Disparities Research Curriculum (HDRC)

DRC is designed to increase knowledge and skill in the design and conduct of health disparities research. [Application](#) deadline is July 25. [View the 2022-2023 RFA](#).

Meetings & Events

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nasher Museum of Art *Reckoning and Resilience: North Carolina Art Now*

An art exhibition that brings together approximately 100 works by 30 emerging and established artists from North Carolina. The exhibition runs through July 10, 2022.

John Hope Franklin Center: *Raíces, Rutas, y Ritmos: The Influence of Latin American Music in North Carolina*

The photography exhibition by Roderico Yool is open daily at

Thu, Jun 30 | 9:00 PM

Nasher Museum of Art: Outdoor Film in the Sculpture Garden | *Summer of Soul*

Thu, Jul 7 & 21 | 11:00 AM

LIVE FOR LIFE @ Duke Farmers Market 2022 | Duke Medicine Pavilion Greenway

Find more Diversity & Inclusion events on the *Duke Event Calendar* or follow OIE's *Instagram*

OFFICE FOR INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY

ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT & TITLE IX

Duke University Institutional Statement of Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

Duke aspires to create a community built on collaboration, innovation, creativity, and belonging. Our collective success depends on the robust exchange of ideas—an exchange that is best when the rich diversity of our perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences flourishes. To achieve this exchange, it is essential that all members of the community feel secure and welcome, that the contributions of all individuals are respected, and that all voices are heard. All members of our community have a responsibility to uphold these values.

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