



CAP

CONFERENCE OF ALLEGHENY PROVIDERS

NEWSLETTER FROM THE
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

SPECIAL ISSUE: JUNETEENTH

WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1st, 1863. The final proclamation outlined the conditions under which slaves were to be freed throughout the confederate states. However, the proclamation itself was not self executing and so the actual freeing of slaves was dependent on the march of the Union Army south and west. It was not until the Civil War itself concluded in April of 1865 that the Emancipation Proclamation could fully be established across the reunified states.

It was on June 19th, 1865, that news of freedom reached Galveston, Texas and this is the date on which "Juneteenth" is celebrated. This year will mark the 157th observation of this day. And because of the work of activists like Opal Lee, it will be the 2nd year in which it will be observed as a federal holiday.

Juneteenth is a day to celebrate the freedom gained, to commemorate the hardships endured by the enslaved, and to highlight the need for greater change and progress.



The official flag of Juneteenth, Designed by Ben Haith

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"THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS
ARE INFORMED THAT, IN
ACCORDANCE WITH A
PROCLAMATION FROM
THE EXECUTIVE OF THE
UNITED STATES, ALL
SLAVES ARE FREE."

General Orders, Number 3;
Headquarters District of Texas,
Galveston, June 19, 1865

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