

JUNETEENTH

★ Freedom Day! ★

Remember the Past. Celebrate Freedom. Inspire the Future.

JUNE 19TH
A DAY OF FREEDOM.
A LEGACY OF HOPE.



WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

Juneteenth, also known as **Freedom Day**, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It is celebrated every year on **June 19th**.

On this day in 1865, Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced General Order No. 3:

"The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves..."

This order came more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, making Juneteenth a powerful symbol of delayed justice, resilience, and true freedom.

★ THE VIRGINIA CONNECTION ★

Before Juneteenth, resistance against slavery was already underway right here in Virginia. In **1831**, enslaved African American **Nat Turner** led a bold rebellion in Southampton County with the goal of ending slavery. Though the rebellion was suppressed, it was one of the most significant uprisings in U.S. history and showed the unbreakable spirit of those fighting for freedom.



Statue: "Freedom" by Ed Dwight
Artistic depiction of Nat Turner
Portrait of Nat Turner courtesy of the Austin Branch NAACP.

Source: <https://www.naacpaustin.com/blog/black-history-month-nat-turner>



The Civil War ended in April 1865. On June 19, 1865, enslaved people in Texas finally learned they were free—two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation!

★ A HISTORY OF FREEDOM ★



JANUARY 1, 1863

President Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring freedom for enslaved people in Confederate states.



1831

Nat Turner leads a rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia, challenging the brutality of slavery and inspiring future resistance.



JUNE 19, 1865

Union General Gordon Granger arrives in Galveston, Texas, and issues General Order No. 3, announcing freedom.



APRIL 1865

The Civil War ends. Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in Appomattox, Virginia.



JUNE 17, 2021

Juneteenth is officially recognized as a federal holiday, honoring this important moment in American history.

★ WHY JUNETEENTH MATTERS TODAY ★



HONORS HISTORY

It marks the true end of slavery in the United States and honors those who fought for freedom.



CELEBRATES RESILIENCE

It honors the strength, resilience, and achievements of African Americans.



EDUCATES & INSPIRES

It is a celebration of culture, family, faith, and community that inspires future generations.



BUILDS A BETTER FUTURE

It calls us to continue the work of justice and equality for all people.



Let us remember.
Let us celebrate.
Let us continue the journey toward a more just and equitable world.

★ JUNETEENTH ★
Freedom Day
CELEBRATE ★ REMEMBER ★ HONOR ★ EMPOWER

HISTORICAL REFERENCES

- National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC) <https://nmaahc.si.edu>
- Library of Congress - Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/juneteenth>
- National Archives - Emancipation Proclamation <https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/emancipation-proclamation>

IMAGE & CONTENT CREDITS

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- Juneteenth flag image provided for educational purposes

ABOUT THIS PAGE

This page is intended for educational purposes to honor the history and significance of Juneteenth. Information compiled from trusted historical sources. Please visit the websites listed for more information.