

Zoom in –
Tues, June 11 at Noon

12 | Welcome
12:05 | Topic Overview
12:25 | Video
12:35 | Full Conversation
&/or Breakout Groups



The Truth About Juneteenth

Daniel Middleton for Unique Coloring/Black History Explainer

Rev. Dr. Richelle Foreman Gunter

Associate Minister, St. Paul's Baptist Church of West Chester

Chair of Political Action & Religious Affairs Committees, NAACP West Chester

Rev. Lawrence E. Claiborne (he/him)

Youth Pastor, St. Paul's Baptist Church of West Chester

Dr. Tracey Ray Robinson (she/her)

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, West Chester University

???Theresa Thornton, Black Light Projects, Phxy

THANKS TO OUR PROMO PARTNERS



- Please be respectful to all.
- Some may never have dealt with these topics before while others may have lived through traumatic experiences.
- Unmute yourself + turn on your video to encourage open dialogue.
- Mute yourself during the video streaming.
- Raise your hand or use the chat room to make a comment or pose a question.
- Tackle problems, not people.
- Discuss the undiscussable.



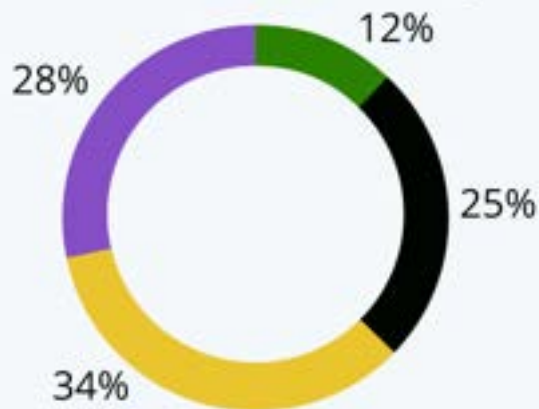


Americans' Familiarity With Juneteenth Still Limited

Survey responses among U.S. adults about Juneteenth (2021)

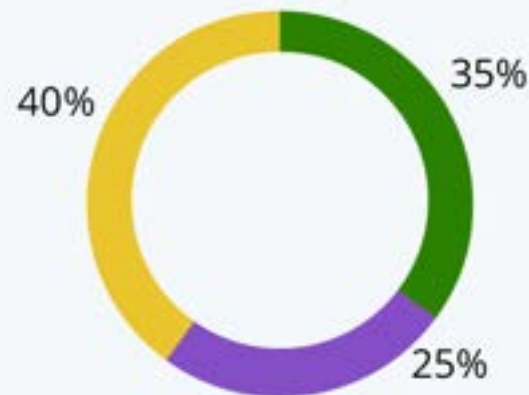
How much do you know about Juneteenth?

- A lot
- Some
- A little bit
- Nothing



Should Juneteenth be a federal holiday?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know





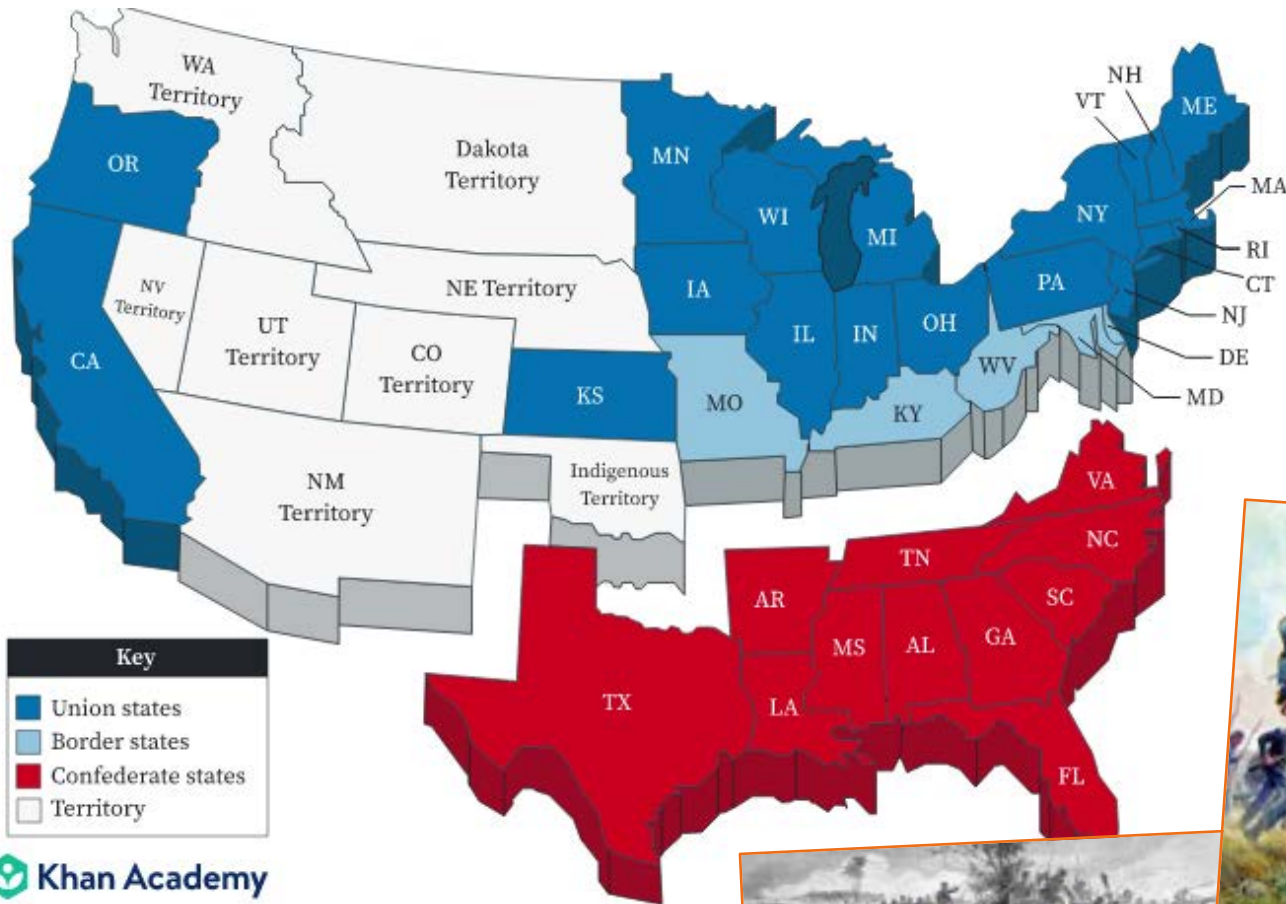
American Civil War – Four-year war (1861 to 1865) between the U.S. and 11 Southern states that seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America. The conflict began primarily as a result of the long-standing disagreement over the institution of slavery.



Emancipation Proclamation – The January 1, 1863 proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln declared “all persons held as slaves” within the rebellious (**Confederate**) states “are, and henceforward shall be free.”

13th Amendment – Emancipation became **national** policy. It was passed by the Senate on April 8, 1864 and by the House on January 31, 1865. The joint resolution was signed by President Abraham Lincoln on February 1, 1865. It was the first of three Reconstruction Amendments following the Civil War.

Juneteenth – Holiday celebrated on June 19th to mark our country’s second independence day. Although it has long been celebrated, this monumental event has been unfamiliar to many people outside of the African American community.



<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/civil-war-era/reconstruction/a/juneteenth>



President Lincoln's **January 1, 1863 Emancipation Proclamation**, which was issued during the Civil War, had little to no impact in Texas due to the minimal number of Union troops to enforce the new Executive Order.

~2.5 years later, the **April 9, 1865 surrender by General Robert E. Lee** of his 28,000 Confederate troops in Appomattox, VA to Union General Ulysses S. Grant meant the end of the Civil War. But enslaved people in far-away places still under Confederate control didn't know.

On **June 19, 1865 Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger** arrived in **Galveston, Texas** with news that the Civil War had ended. 250,000+ enslaved African American people in Texas were now free by executive decree.



The celebration of June 19th has been called

- Emancipation Day
- Freedom Day
- Jubilee Day
- the country's second Independence Day
- Juneteenth

<https://www.nytimes.com/article/juneteenth-day-celebration.html>

Photo description: Crowds of formally enslaved people carry copies of the Emancipation Proclamation and celebrate



HONORING JUNETEENTH

1863

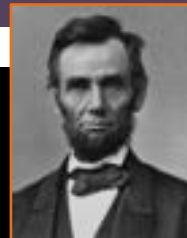
January 1 President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation but slavery continued.

1865

June 19 In Texas, enslaved Africans learned of the Civil War's end and celebrated their emancipation.

December 6 The 13th Amendment of the Constitution was ratified, officially abolishing slavery.

ACLU



THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever, free; and the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do so not or acts to oppress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

The Galveston Daily News.

HOUSTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1865.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TEXAS. }
GALVESTON TEXAS, JUNE 19, 1865. }

General Orders, No. 3.

The people 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, and the coexistence heretofore existing between them, becomes that between employer and hired labor.—The Freedmen are advised to remain at their present homes, and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts; and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere. By order of
Major-General GRANGER.

(Signed.)

F. W. ENEMY, Maj. & A. J. G.





Emancipation Day Celebration June 19, 1900 Eastwoods Park, Austin TX



Civil War re-enactors

Photo taken by

Grace Murray Stephenson

Photo Credit: Austin History Center



January 1, 1980: Juneteenth became an official state holiday in Texas through the efforts of Al Edwards, an African American state legislator.

June 17, 2021: President Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law establishing Juneteenth as a federal holiday.



Al Edwards, Texas State Representative
"Mr. Juneteenth"



Lawmakers gathered around President Joseph Biden as he signed the Juneteenth bill include Democratic Senators Raphael Warnock of Georgia and Tina Smith of Minnesota, and Rep. Joyce Beatty of Ohio, the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. Also present was **Opal Lee**, a 94-year-old activist from Texas who has long-campaigned for the holiday's recognition. Vice President Kamela Harris put her arm around Lee as Biden signed the bill.

JUNETEENTH FLAG: 1997



The Juneteenth flag was created in 1997 by activist Ben Haith, founder of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation. The flag was revised in 2000 into the version we know today:

The **star** represents Texas, the Lone Star State. It also represents the freedom of African Americans in all 50 states.

The **curve** represents a new horizon: the opportunities and promise that lay ahead for Black Americans.



The **red, white and blue** represents the American flag, a reminder that enslaved people were and their descendants are all Americans.

The **bursting outline** around the star is inspired by a nova, a term that astronomers use to mean a new star. This represents a new beginning for African Americans.

In 2007, the **date** "June 19, 1865" was added.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/17/us/juneteenth-flag-meaning-explainer-cec/index.html>



In the early years, few outside of the African American community participated in Juneteenth.

Today, Juneteenth celebrates African American freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures.



Juneteenth West Chester



JUNETEENTH WEST CHESTER PLANNING PARTNERS

Honorable
Lillian L. DeBaptiste
West Chester Borough Mayor

Mary Gazdik
*Chester County Library &
District Center*

Alice Hammond
West Chester NAACP

Conor Hepp
Pachy Banks-Cabral
Chester County History Center

Fredda Maddox Esq.
Chester County Sherriff

Timmy Nelson
Community Volunteer

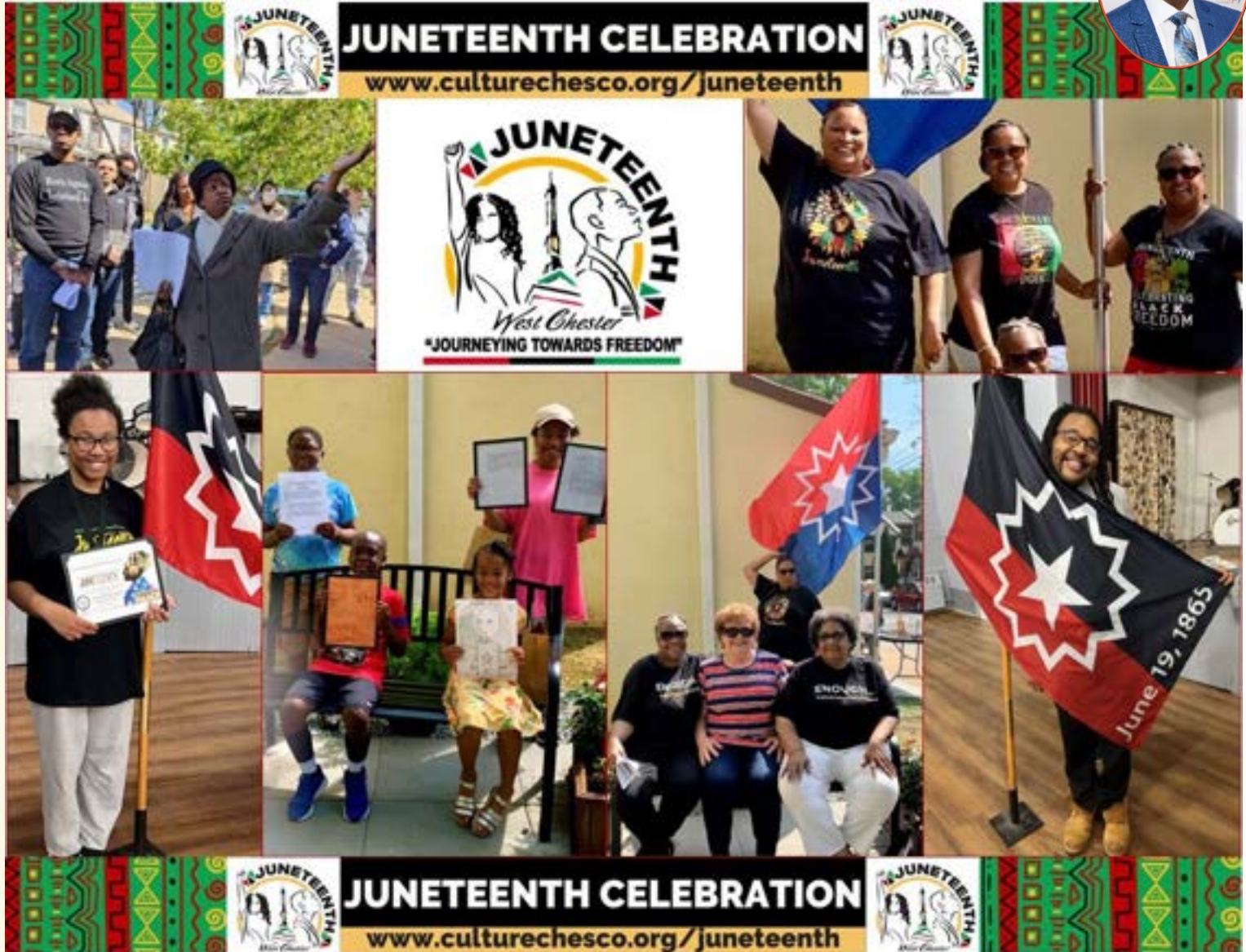
Denice Velez
*West Chester University
Office of Diversity, Equity &
Inclusion*

Renee Washington
Charles A. Melton Center

Carol Weaver
Seba Enrichment Academy

Reginald Weaver
MRW Business Solutions

Karen Simmons
Lilly Mercado
*Chester County Community
Foundation*
*Fiscal agent
28 W. Market St, West Chester
www.chescocf.org
610.696.8211
EIN 23-2773822



<https://www.culturechesco.org/>



JUNE TEENTH

JUNE 14-19 2023

Journeying Towards Freedom

WED	14	FROM WHENCE WE CAME: GENEALOGY
		7PM
THURS	15	AFRICAN AMERICAN QUILTING ART SHOW
		5:30PM
15-16		WEST CHESTER AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TOURS
		5:30 & 6PM
17-18		WEST CHESTER AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TOURS
		11 & 11:30AM
SAT	17	KEYNOTER & PANEL DISCUSSION
		7PM
SUN	18	RELIGIOUS SERVICES: WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH MORNING
MON	19	WEST CHESTER NAACP FLAG RECOGNITION CEREMONY
		10AM
MON	19	FREEDOM FESTIVAL
		3PM

www.culturechesco.org/juneteenth



FREEDOM FESTIVAL June 19th

*Come Celebrate with us!!!
The Milton Center
511 E. Main St*

10AM - 12noon
WC NAACP Flag Recognition Ceremony & Reception
featuring "The 20 Men Project"

12noon - 2:30pm
Family Fun Crafts, Movie and Snacks
Theresa@uptownwestchester.org

3pm - 6pm
Kick-Off and Welcome to Afternoon Activities

- Juneteenth Unity Day Choir
- Scavenger Hunt
- Family Friendly Large Group Games
- Food Trucks & Vendors
- Family Friendly Large Group Dances
- Old School Rap Challenge
- Milton Center Dance Team Performance
- West Chester Dance Works Performance
- Drum Circle
- Juneteenth Proclamation & Benediction



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjmSnQ03J6M&t=83s>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjmSnQ03J6M&t=3s>

<https://www.culturechesco.org/>

Juneteenth Kennett

(as of 5/8/2023)

KENNETT AREA JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE

Honorable Leon Spencer

Kennett Community Volunteer

Joan Holliday

Chester County Public Health Nurse (retired)

Crystal Crampton

Saving Hallowed Grounds

Bucktoe Cemetery

Kennett Underground Railroad Center

Deborah Burston

Kennett Underground Railroad Center

D. Lynn Sinclair

Kennett Heritage Center

Sheila Tekavec

Anson Nixon Park

Kennett Friends Meeting

Mary Hutchins

Joe Mulry

Amanda Murphy

Kennett Library

Sonia Hanson

Bella Hanson

Kennett Community Volunteers

Michael Hahn

Kennett Flash

Karen Simmons

Lilly Mercado

Timmy Nelson

Chester County Community Foundation

JUNETEENTH 2023 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



SUNDAY, JUNE 11

3:00pm "A Pilgrimage to Freedom" w/ Ken Johnston

Kennett Friends Meeting House, 125 W. Sickie St.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

8:00pm Fashioning Freedom lecture and fashion show

Curated by Dr. Kimberley Jenkins, Longwood Gardens

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

9:30am-2pm Abolitionists, Conductors and Underground Railroad Stations Exhibit

Presented by Kennett Underground Railroad Center, 120 N. Union St.

10:00am Walk with Ken Johnston: Kennett's First Free Black Community

Departs from the corner of East State & Race Streets

10am-1pm Journey Toward Freedom: QR-Guided Walk of Underground Railroad Activity

Maps at Kennett Underground Railroad Center, 120 N. Union St.

11am-4pm Feed Your Soul Box: Pre-order \$15 Lunch by calling 302-750-1926

To benefit the New Garden Memorial UAME Church, 309 E. Linden St.

11:15am Slam Poetry

Presented by Kennett Library, Anson B. Nixon Park Bandstand

11:00am Juneteenth Dedication: Journey to Freedom Opening Remarks

Anson B. Nixon Park Bandstand

12:00pm Lunch with BBQ Food Trucks

Anson B. Nixon Park Bandstand

1:00pm Kennett Community Gospel Choir with Leon Spencer

Anson B. Nixon Park Bandstand

2:00pm Think Emancipation! and Juneteenth: Talk with Dr. Cheryl Gooch and Reenactors

Kennett Friends Meeting House, 125 W. Sickie St.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

1:00pm Kennett Underground Railroad Bus Tour: \$23 at KennettUndergroundRR.org

Departs from CCGVB at Longwood, 200 Greenwood Rd.

3:00pm Bayard Rustin by People's Light and Theatre

Presented by The Kennett Flash, 102 Sycamore Alley

3:30pm Journey To Freedom Open Mic hosted by Leon Spencer

Presented by The Kennett Flash, 102 Sycamore Alley

6:00pm Freedom's Table Dinner of Friendship

Presented by Voices Underground, Lincoln University, 1570 Baltimore Pike

<https://www.culturechesco.org/juneteenth-kennett-square>

<https://www.culturechesco.org/>



Juneteenth Coatesville (as of 6/13/2023)



COATESVILLE JUNETEENTH PLANNING COMMITTEE

- James Logan, Coatesville City Manager
- Donna Rowland, NAACP Coatesville Area Branch President
- Jeff Deacon, Coatesville Historical Commission
- Mary Kyle, City of Coatesville Codes / Coatesville NAACP
- Anna Bond, Coatesville NAACP
- Kaye Coleman-Smith, Coatesville NAACP
- Vincent Miles Jr., Coatesville Public Affairs Representative
- Ajene Livingston, Artist & Organizer

JUNETEENTH
Coatesville, PA
Celebrating Freedom In 2023

**Community Events
June 16 - 19th**

**Friday
June 16th
7PM**
Second Baptist Worship Center Presents...
857 Lumber Street, Coatesville
Rev. Dr. James L. Smith, Senior Pastor
THE WIZ
Admission Tickets \$10
Advanced Ticket Purchase:
secondbaptist.ticketleap.com/thewiz/

**Saturday
June 17th
1PM & 7PM**

**Sunday
June 18th
12PM & 6PM**
**Juneteenth Freedom Festival
at Ash Park**

SPOKEN WORD
Amanda Winkey
Ajene Livingston

**ME.WE.CITY
COMMUNITY CHOIR**
DJ DREMONEY & BOP & CHA CHA CONTEST

**BASKETBALL & Horseshoes with
Chuck Brewer, Ricky Campbell &
Friends**

**Ritchie's
"Juneteenth"
Water Ice**

**Monday
June 19th
10AM**
107 S. 17th Avenue
Coatesville
**Women Destined for Change
Juneteenth Jubilee Breakfast**
Reservations Are Free & Necessary
RSVP: WEAREWDFC@GMAIL.COM
C.Arvilla Hunt - 484-889-2147

**Funding by: Voices Underground &
The Chester County Community Foundation (CCCCF)**

<https://www.culturechesco.org/>



The Truth About Juneteenth

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Brief Intros

<https://extension.harvard.edu/blog/dce-juneteenth-panel-a-discussion-of-our-past-present-and-future/>

- Who are you? What brought you to today's Community Conversation?
- What did you want to learn? What have you learned?

Discussion Questions

- How can we **increase awareness** about the meaning, history and importance of Juneteenth?
- How do we make sure that Juneteenth becomes **more than a moment**, more than a monument, and becomes a **call to action**?
- Freedom is just the beginning. It's the bare minimum. So..
 - ☐ What are the **biggest challenges** we still face in our society related to **racial justice**?
 - ☐ What can an **individual** do to fight for true equality and true equity?
 - ☐ How can we **help our children** to understand, respect, and aim for a more equitable society?
 - ☐ What are best practices for how our **communities** can ensure equal treatment for everyone without bias?
- How do **Juneteenth and July 4th** relate to each other? How/can we respectfully, joyfully celebrate (and connect?) both holidays?



Rev. Dr. Richelle
Foreman Gunter



Reverend Dr.
Lawrence E.
Claiborne



Dr. Tracey
Ray Robinson

???Theresa
Thornton, Black
Light Projects,
Phxv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LG_39v-Xa1Y

Spread the Word

Community Conversations

Zoom in at noon – 2nd Tues monthly - free

DATE	TOPIC	TITLE	SPEAKER
10/10/2023	Income Inequity	<u>Income Inequity: Building Bridges To Get Out of Poverty in America</u>	<u>The Economist</u>
11/14/2023	Diversity	<u>Implicit Bias--How It Effects Us & How We Push Through</u>	Melanie Funchess TEDx Flour City
1/9/2024	Equity & Education	<u>The Consciousness Gap in Education - An Equity Imperative</u>	Dorinda Carter Andrews TEDxLansingED
2/13/2024	Black History	<u>The Mission to Safe Guard Black History in the US</u>	Julieanna L. Richardson, Founder The HistoryMakers
3/12/2024	Nutrition, Health & Wellness	<u>What We Get Wrong When We Think About Food Insecurity</u>	Leslie Campbell TEDxYouth@PCI
4/9/2024	Latinos & Race	<u>A Conversation With Latinos on Race</u>	<u>The New York Times</u>
5/14/2024	Get Out The Vote ChesCo	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bB-J4sxLEo https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw7MOGISE-Q	
6/11/2024	Juneteenth	<u>The Truth About Juneteenth</u>	Daniel Middleton for Unique Coloring/Black History Explainer

