

# FREEDOM DAY

# JUNETEENTH

June 19



## WHAT IS IT?

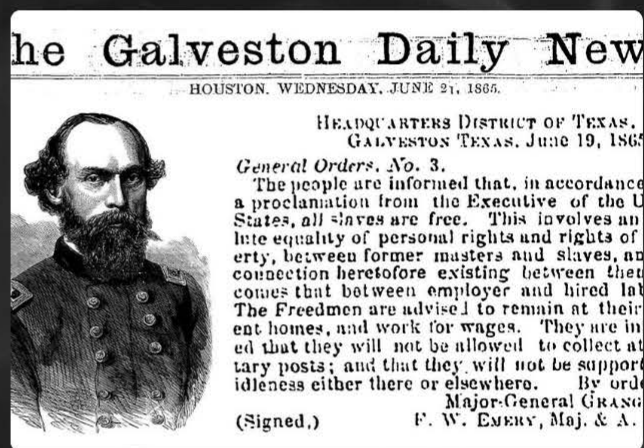
Juneteenth (short for "June Nineteenth") marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end of slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday.

## JUNETEENTH CHRONOLOGY



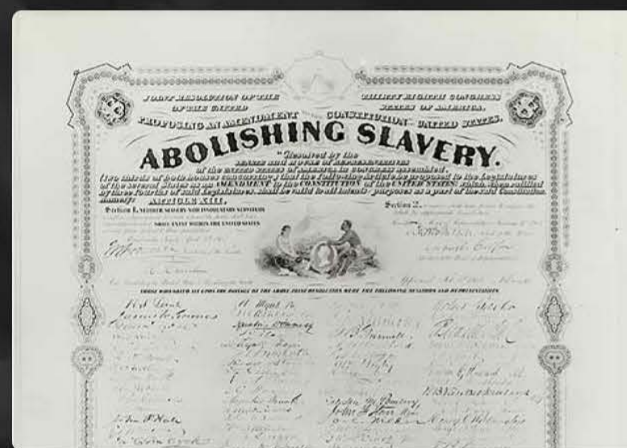
**1863** January 1

The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Lincoln, went into effect; however it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control.



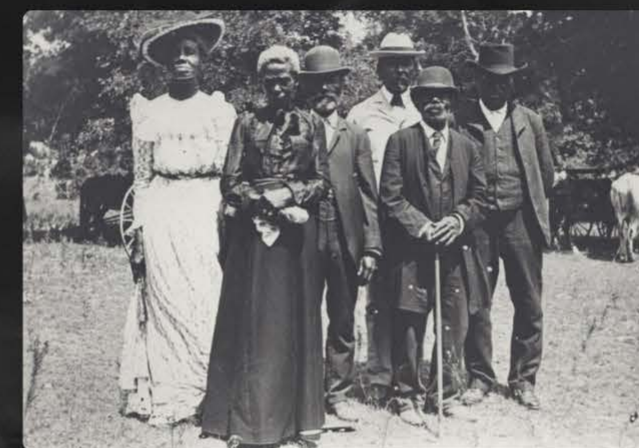
**1865** June 19

2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas. The army announced that more than 250,000 enslaved Black people in the state were free by executive decree.



**1865** December 6

The 13th Amendment of the Constitution was ratified, officially abolishing slavery in the United States.



**1866** June 19

Formerly enslaved people in Galveston celebrated a year of freedom with the "Juneteenth" holiday. Juneteenth celebrations quickly spread to the rest of the country, and continue to be the oldest known tradition honoring the end of slavery in the U.S.



“If the cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail. Because the goal of America is freedom, abused and scorned tho' we may be, our destiny is tied up with America's destiny.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Use the QR code to visit the NMAAHC Juneteenth website to learn more



How can I CELEBRATE ???

- 1 Attend a Juneteenth festival or event in your community.
- 2 Watch a documentary, read or listen to books written by Black authors and poets.
- 3 Support Black-owned businesses.
- 4 Volunteer or donate to Black-led nonprofits and community organizations.
- 5 Attend a virtual event or webinar.
- 6 Visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC).

