

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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1st Annual Juneteenth in Carroll

A celebration on June 18 in Downtown Westminster

The Juneteenth in Carroll Planning Committee is excited to announce the 1st Annual Juneteenth in Carroll! The festivities will take place both inside the Carroll Arts Center and the surrounding downtown West Main Street area from 12pm – 4pm. Enjoy an afternoon of live performances from choirs, comedians, and storytellers plus panel discussions, community vendors, food trucks, kids' activities, and more. Admission for all festival programs is free. The full festival schedule will be announced soon on CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org.

Officially declared a federal holiday in 2021, Juneteenth (or Freedom Day) commemorates June 19, 1865, when the announcement of General Order No. 3 was given by Union Army general, Gordon Granger. It proclaimed freedom for the enslaved African-American people in Texas, which was the last state of the Confederacy with institutional slavery. This new annual Carroll County festival will honor the history and celebrate the future of African heritage. Through these special events, the Juneteenth in Carroll Planning Committee hopes to inspire a community dialogue of equality and empathy, resulting in increased compassion, understanding, and social justice for all.

The Juneteenth in Carroll Planning Committee includes representatives from African American churches such as Strawbridge United Methodist Church (UMC), Union Memorial Baptist Church of Westminster, Union Street UMC, and West Falls Christian Community Church as well as

community representatives from various local organizations. They all have a common goal: to raise awareness of African heritage throughout Carroll County, MD through Juneteenth programming.

Vendor registration for the festival is now open online. Artists and community organizations' registration is \$35. Food truck registration is \$75. Registration closes June 13 at 6:00pm. Register online at CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org.

The Juneteenth in Carroll festival is sponsored by the Carroll County NAACP Branch #7014, McDaniel College, Carroll Community College, the Carroll Media Center, and the Carroll County Arts Council.

The festival will take place inside and outside the Carroll Arts Center at 91 W Main Street in Westminster, MD. Parking is available on the street and in the Grace Lutheran Church lot at 21 Carroll Street in Westminster. For more information, call 410-848-7272, visit www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org, or visit the [Juneteenth in Carroll](#) Facebook page.

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CALENDAR LISTING (please list under Festivals, or related category):

“1st Annual Juneteenth in Carroll” Sat. June 18, 12pm to 4pm. Celebrate Freedom Day outside the Carroll Arts Center with an afternoon of live performances, panel discussions, community vendors, food trucks, kids' activities, and more. Free. Carroll Arts Center, 91 W Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157. 410-848-7272. www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org.