



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The Newark Museum of Art Presents Community Day: Juneteenth, Sat., June 19, 2021  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

*Virtual activities such as “George Floyd’s Legacy” and “Tearing Down the Fourth Wall: The True Meaning of Juneteenth” will educate families about racism in America*

**Newark NJ - June 14, 2021** - On Saturday, June 19, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., The Newark Museum of Art will hold its next virtual Community Day, highlighting the significance of Juneteenth. The day will be filled with educational and creative sessions that explore the history of inequities and racial divides in America, including participation by representatives of the family of George Floyd and the George Floyd Foundation.

Events will be available on Zoom, YouTube, Twitter and Twitch. Admission for The Newark Museum of Art’s virtual Community Days are free through the generous support of the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey and the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Attendees will start the day with an art-making activity with children’s author and artist Kween Moore, and end it with an in-depth and unfiltered panel discussion about the meaning behind Juneteenth and its relevance in today’s society. The Museum is particularly honored to host the family of George Floyd as a part of the event, which will include a moment of remembrance followed by updates on the initiatives of the George Floyd Foundation.

Juneteenth is a celebration of the emancipation of those who we enslaved in the United States. In September 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation designating Juneteenth as a state and public holiday.

“While the reckoning over race in this country is fresh on our minds, learning about and honoring Juneteenth is so important for the Newark community, as well as across New Jersey and the nation,” said Silvia Filipini-Fantoni, Deputy Director of Learning & Engagement at The Newark Museum of Art. “We are proud to honor a day that underscores the need to continue to address the inequities and the chasm in the racial divide across America. We are eager to share The Museum’s unique use of culture to teach our community and the public about race inequality in America and the efforts made to promote racial diversity in many aspects of society. This will be an important day of virtual events that should not be missed.”

The schedule for *Community Day: Juneteenth* includes the following:

### **In Living Color**

10 a.m.

*Recommended for all ages*

Kick off the day with this engaging art-making activity with children's author and artist [Kween Moore](#). Creative journaling is a form of self-care and self-expression, and a direct way to connect with the past, present and future utilizing creativity. Gather the family and embark on this experience using personal images and found materials including a black journal or notebook, scissors, glue sticks, Elmer's Glue or tape, family photos, selfies, movie tickets, concert tickets, magazines, construction paper, decorative paper, newspaper, acrylic paint, watercolor paint, markers, colored pencils, artificial leaves/flowers, feathers, hair, fabric and stamps/ink pad.

[REGISTER](#)

### **George Floyd's Legacy**

11:30 a.m.

*Recommended for all ages*

A member of the Floyd family will present this moment of remembrance and an update on the initiatives of the [George Floyd Foundation](#).

[REGISTER](#)

### **Soul Steps Master Class & Performance**

1 p.m.

*Recommended for all ages*

In this dynamic program, learn about the art and symbolism of stepping with [Soul Steps](#), and the role of this dance style within the African American community. Soul Steps brings this explosive art form to the stage in a high-energy performance that combines percussive movement, hip-hop rhythms, and call and response.

[REGISTER](#)

### **Virtual Live Walking Tour**

2:30 p.m.

**The Last Northern State to Abolish Slavery: Black Freedom @ The Newark Museum of Art**

*Recommended for all ages*

Experience the City of Newark from a totally different view, as we explore Newark's rich history. New Jersey was the last state to abolish slavery, and by the end of the Civil War, there were more than 15 people living as "slaves for life." Here on the land of The Newark Museum of Art, Noelle Lorraine Williams will tell three interrelated stories connected to Black freedom. The

first one is about Governor Marcus Ward, whose house and carriage house sit on the grounds where The Newark Museum of Art is today. The second story talks about the Billings Family, an African American family who lived in Wards's carriage house for several decades. Finally, we will discuss the Coe Well one of the oldest surviving objects by enslaved people in New Jersey. This program will be available on the Museum's social media channels and led by Noelle Lorraine Williams, Curator and Researcher of the [\*Black Power! 19th Century: Newark's First African American Rebellion\*](#) exhibition.

### **Tearing Down the Fourth Wall: The True Meaning of Juneteenth**

4 p.m.

*Recommended for ages 16 and up*

An unfiltered panel discussion with thought leaders and advocates for change for the Black community. Dive deep into the relevance of Juneteenth and explore why it is not just another holiday. Moderated by Leslie Short, owner of [The Cavu Group](#), a diversity, inclusion and culture firm. Panelists include Junius Williams, Newark historian, author, and activist; Tezlyn Figaro, political consultant and Senior Advisor for the George Floyd Foundation; and Principal Baruti Kafele, school leadership expert and author of *the Equity & Social Justice Education 50: Critical Questions for Improving Opportunities and Outcomes for Black Students*.

[REGISTER](#)

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### **About The Newark Museum of Art**

Founded in 1909, The Newark Museum of Art is the largest art and education institution in New Jersey and one of the most influential museums in the United States. Its renowned global art collections, supported by significant holdings of science, technology and natural history, rank 12th among North America's art museums. The Museum is dedicated to artistic excellence, education and community engagement with an overarching commitment to broadening and diversifying arts participation. As it has for over a century, the Museum responds to the evolving needs and interests of the diverse audiences it serves by providing exhibitions, programming and resources designed to improve and enrich people's lives.

The Museum also encompasses the 1885 Ballantine House mansion, the Victoria Hall of Science, the Alice and Leonard Dreyfuss Planetarium, the MakerSPACE, the Billy Johnson Auditorium, the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Memorial Garden, an authentic 1784 Schoolhouse, and the Newark Fire Museum.

The Newark Museum of Art, a not-for-profit museum of art and science, receives operating support from the City of Newark, the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State (a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts), the New Jersey Cultural Trust, the Prudential Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, the Estate of Phyllis and Sanford Bolton, the Wallace Foundation, and other

corporations, foundations, and individuals. Funds for acquisitions and activities other than operations are provided by members and other contributors.