



February 14, 2020

Dear Community Partner,

Juneteenth is the oldest celebration of the emancipation of slavery in America. The holiday dates to June 19, 1865, when the remaining kidnapped Africans in Galveston, Texas were made aware of the signing of the emancipation proclamation in 1863. Texas declared Juneteenth a state holiday on Jan. 1, 1980. Today 47 states recognize or observe Juneteenth as a holiday.

We are very proud to announce our commitment and work to expand the awareness of the significance of Juneteenth. The Philadelphia Juneteenth Family along with other organizations state-wide supported House Bill 619 and as a result the Senate unanimously passed it on June 19, 2019. Juneteenth is now an official state holiday. "Juneteenth National Freedom Day". A state Proclamation and Citation was presented to the Philadelphia Juneteenth Family, Inc. for our participation in passing this bill.

On June 21, 2020 The African Cultural Alliance of North America Inc. (ACANA) is partnering with The Philadelphia Juneteenth Family Inc. to present "**The Juneteenth African World Music and Dance Festival**" designed to create a unifying environment through the hosting of African derived music and dance with a universal theme of love through the arts, recognizing that we are one and must unify.

The festival intends to bridge the gap between descendants of the African diaspora through arts and culture. Our vision is to realize the full potential of Africa Town in Southwest Philadelphia by utilizing music and dance to bring the diaspora together.

The goal is to present three headlining musical artists representing the three epicenters of our cultures: Caribbean, the continent of Africa and the African diaspora in the United States. We will also include a host of local talent, vendors' African diaspora cuisine and a children's village.

This is our message of unity and an invitation to the World.

We invite you to be an integral partner in our celebrating our culture and you will lend your hand to support this historical event to ensure its success. Please review our website at www.victory400.com.

Sincerely,

Tamara N. Staley

President \ Chief Executive Officer
The Philadelphia Juneteenth Family, Inc.

"The African Diaspora World Festival Team"