

PRESS RELEASE

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Stand Up for Black Lives+ Prairie Village

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**Prairie Village's Third Annual Juneteenth
Freedom Celebration & Poster/Essay Contest**



[Prairie Village, Kansas, April 21, 2023] — As part of our city's campaign to better know and welcome our diverse neighbors, STAND Up for Black Lives+ Prairie Village, the city of Prairie Village and its Diversity Committee, Village Presbyterian Church, and the Johnson County NAACP are sponsoring the Juneteenth Freedom Celebration at 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 17 in Harmon Park.

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. From its Galveston, Texas origin in 1865, the observance of June 19th as the African American Emancipation Day has spread across the United States and beyond. The day was first recognized as a federal holiday in 2021.

The annual, free event offers our community the opportunity to enjoy a late afternoon, early evening of food, drink, and fun featuring music from the band Funk Syndicate. They specialize in providing a completely entertaining and authentic recreation of your favorite past and present Funk, R&B, Soul, Disco, and Pop dance hits. Their vocalists bring energy and engagement to their performances that it irresistible for audiences of all ages to enjoy.

There will also be a wide variety of activities for the entire family; including face painting, balloon artists, arts and crafts, games, inflatables as well as an exciting water feature! During this event we will announce the winners of our Juneteenth Poster and Essay Contest winners!

The goal of the Juneteenth Poster and Essay Contest is to provide an opportunity for children, youth, and families to learn more about Juneteenth, create a poster or essay about it and join together for this celebration. The theme for both contests is "What Juneteenth Freedom Means to Me." Prizes will be awarded for First \$100, Second \$50, and Third \$25 place winners in each age bracket: 5 to 6, 7 to 9, and 10 to 12 year-olds for the poster contest and First, Second, and Third place winners in each age bracket: 13 to 15 and 16 to 18 year-olds for the 300-word essay contest. Submission deadline is June 12, 2023.

Visit www.standupblacklives.com (use QR Code below) for more information.

Stand Up for Black Lives+ is a grassroots coalition of concerned citizens with the mission to STAND Up to Advocate for Neighborhood Diversity, Equity and Inclusion through justice and compassion to make our city a better place to live for all our neighbors.

