

PRESS RELEASE

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**Prairie Village's Second Annual Juneteenth
Freedom Celebration & Poster Contest**



Maintaining Freedom through Voter Rights

[Prairie Village, Kansas, May 16, 2022] — 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 Diversity Committee, Village Church, and the Johnson County NAACP are sponsoring the Juneteenth Freedom Celebration and Poster Contest: "What Juneteenth Freedom Means to Me."

The Juneteenth Freedom Celebration will take place in Prairie Village on Saturday, June 18th at Harmon Park at 7727 Delmar from 4 to 8 PM. The family celebration will feature a poster contest ceremony, Black-owned vendors, coloring sheets, crafts, face painting, and more. A 30-minute program beginning at 5:30 PM with Congresswoman Sharice Davids, Mayor Eric Mikkelson, and local high school students, live music featuring Kansas City's own, James Ward Band will begin at 6 PM. The JCNAACP will provide for purchase a Fried Fish Fundraiser dinner (\$10). Please plan to join us in learning, viewing the posters and enjoying all the free, family fun activities. For more information visit our website at www.standupblacklives.com.

The Juneteenth Poster Contest provides children ages 5 to 12 and their families an opportunity to learn together about the Juneteenth holiday and create a poster to turn in by June 16. Gift card prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 will be awarded to the top 3 posters in each age group: 5 to 6, 7 to 9 and 10 to 12. All student posters will be on public display at the celebration.

JUNETEENTH, June 19, 1865, is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. On that date, months after the Civil War ended, Union General Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas and read General Order No. 3 informing the quarter of a million African Americans who were still slaves in Texas that they were free. That December, slavery in America was formally abolished with the adoption of the 13th Amendment. Juneteenth (June 19th), also referred to as "Freedom Day" has been celebrated by African Americans for the past 156 years.

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.

SPONSORED BY STAND-UP FOR BLACK LIVES + PV, PV DIVERSITY COMMITTEE, VILLAGE CHURCH AND THE JCNAACP