

# BAKER DONELSON

**JUNE 19**  
**JUNETEENTH**  
FREEDOM DAY



As part of Baker Donelson’s solidarity with our Black colleagues, clients and communities, and our continued commitment to work tirelessly to effect change in our communities and our world, we will commemorate Juneteenth each year as a day of service, engagement and education. Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. Even though President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, proclaiming, “...all persons held as slaves are, and henceforward shall be free,” captured Africans remained in the forcible custody of white people in Texas until June 19, 1865, now recognized as Juneteenth.

This year, all Firm offices will be closed on Friday, June 18, and employees will once again be encouraged to spend the day taking concrete actions to serve as a voice of love, support, and justice for and with our Black colleagues.

There are a wide range of ways to celebrate Juneteenth, including reading books such as *White Fragility* and *Just Mercy*, participating in local celebrations, having courageous conversations, and volunteering with local organizations serving historically underserved and predominantly African American communities. However, one of the best ways to support your local black communities is participating alongside them in their own festivities, as well as spending the day supporting black businesses.

Baker Donelson is proud to take this step in our continuing role not only as allies but advocates, fulfilling our obligation to protect and expand human rights and advance social justice for all.

[The Juneteenth.com website](#) hosts the world’s largest database of Juneteenth events across the U.S. and internationally, and is a good source for details on the [history](#) and ways to [celebrate](#) in the workplace and at home with your families. The Firm has also curated a list of select resources below to help identify additional opportunities for engagement.

## EDUCATION

Click any of the links below to further your understanding on the history and the importance of Juneteenth to African American communities. These links give an in-depth explanation of the significance of this holiday and its backstory.

- [What Is Juneteenth?](#) (History.com)
- [What Is Juneteenth?](#) (PBS)
- [So You Want to Learn About Juneteenth?](#) (The New York Times)
- [The Historical Legacy of Juneteenth](#) (The National Museum of African American History and Culture)
- [What to Know About Juneteenth and Why People are Talking About it Now](#) (CNN)
- [Juneteenth: The 155-year-old Holiday’s History Explained](#) (CNBC)

## HISTORICAL AREAS

These links below highlight a few of the places around Baker Donelson's footprint that honor the end of slavery. You can find additional places that celebrate African American history [here](#).

- [The National Memorial for Peace and Justice](#) (Montgomery, Alabama)
- [The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration](#) (Montgomery, Alabama)
- [Cumberland Island](#) (Seashore, Georgia)
- [Ossabaw Island](#) (Savannah, Georgia)
- [Birmingham Civil Rights Institute](#) (Birmingham, Alabama)
- [The National Museum of African American Music](#) (Nashville, Tennessee)
- [The National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) (Washington, D.C.)
- [New Orleans African American Museum](#) (New Orleans, Louisiana)
- [1619: African Arrival Exhibition](#) at the Hampton History Museum, commemorating the 1619 arrival of the first 20 Africans that were brought to America by Portuguese missionaries (Hampton, Virginia)

## ATLANTA, GA

- Juneteenth Atlanta presents [Juneteenth Atlanta Parade & Music Festival](#) from 6/18 – 6/20.
- The Inaugural [JuneTeenth Atlanta 5K](#) is on 6/19 at 8:00 a.m. ET at Chastain Park.
- The Inaugural [Juneteenth Walk for Change](#), presented by the 7 Acts of Change & Friends, will be held on Saturday, 6/19.

## BALTIMORE, MD

- On 6/19, the [Juneteenth Popup](#) will be hosted by Black Bells Boutique. The popup highlights 60 plus black businesses, organizations, and sponsors.
- The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum will present a [Juneteenth Open Air Celebration](#) on Saturday, 6/19.
- A [Juneteenth Yoga Fundraiser](#) will be held on 6/19 to raise funds for the black community.
- The Academy Art Museums is hosting its [10th Annual Juneteenth Celebration](#) virtually on 6/19-20.
- Later in June, BLK Art House is showcasing an exhibit called [What Is Black Art Exhibition](#) from 6/25-27.

## BATON ROUGE, LA

- Old South Baton Rouge will present [Celebration of Juneteenth](#) on 6/19.
- There is a [Virtual Juneteenth 5k Run](#) hosted by Scotlandville Magnet High Pac on Friday, 6/18.
- Manship Theatre will present a [Juneteenth Speaker Series](#) starting on 6/18.
- The [Juneteenth Celebration](#) by Scotlandville Parkway is on 6/12 at 9:30 a.m. CT.

## BIRMINGHAM, AL

- The [National Juneteenth Festival and Parade](#) will be held at Birmingham's Kelly Ingram Park on 6/19.
- The Modern Green Book is hosting its first inaugural [Juneteenth Fest](#) on 6/19.
- The [Bessemer Juneteenth Celebration](#) is on 6/19 from 12:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- South Alabama residents can celebrate Juneteenth by going to the Dothan Civic Center for the [Tri-State Expo](#).

## CHATTANOOGA, TN

- The Bethlehem Center is supporting black entrepreneurs with its first annual [Juneteenth Festival](#) on 6/19.
- The [Big 9 Street Food Grand Opening](#) is on 6/19. There will be live music and entertainment, as well as delicious pan-African street food.
- The [Black Arts and Ideas Fest](#) has a full schedule in June packed with activities.

## COLUMBIA, SC

- If you are looking for something more formal, the South Carolina Juneteenth Freedom Fest [Gala Noir](#) is 6/18 at Doko Manor.
- The [5th Annual Juneteenth Freedom Festival](#) is 6/19 at the Dutch Square Center.

## FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

- Fort Lauderdale's recognition and observance of Juneteenth is growing. Check out this [site](#) for a list of opportunities to celebrate.
- For brunch, music, and vendors head to [C&I Studios' Black Art Brunch – Juneteenth Celebration](#) on 6/19.
- Enjoy some Jazz at the [A Smooth Jazz Juneteenth](#) on 6/19. Swing by El Rancho Dania Beach to welcome Commissioner Joyce L. Davis as everyone celebrates Freedom Day.
- The [Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration](#) hosted by S.E. Benchmark Insurance Agency is Saturday, 6/19.

## HOUSTON, TX

- Houston Community College is participating in the [149th Celebration of Juneteenth](#) by hosting the Emancipation Park Juneteenth Beatification event. Come out and experience the rich history of the very first Juneteenth celebration and assist in-person with the beatification efforts on 6/8.
- The [Juneteenth Historical Bike Tour](#) will be held on 6/13. This tour will introduce guests to the First settlement for Black people in Houston. Commemorate Freedom Day with Freedmens Town Bike Tours.
- The [Black Golf Alliance's Juneteenth Golf Weekend](#) starts on 6/17.
- Enjoy music by Bobby Rush at [A Gulf Coast's Juneteenth celebration](#). Grab your tickets to join this event in-person or virtually.
- BLCK Market Houston is celebrating Juneteenth on 6/19 with a [BLCK Market Expo](#) that will continue to take place every quarter. Show your support for local black businesses buy grabbing your tickets today.
- [Juneteenth Black Art Exhibit Opening Day](#) is 6/19. This exhibition at the Prime Art Gallery is a great way to support black artists and spark some courageous conversations.
- Come join the [All African People's Development & Empowerment Project](#) (AAPDEP) with a celebration of the life of late Houston omrade, Omowale Kefing, along with festive activities, food and more in the community garden for a discussion of how can truly be a liberated people.

## JACKSON, MS

- Get more information about participating in this year's Juneteenth On Farish Parade on 6/19 by visiting its [Facebook page](#).
- Grab your dancing shoes and head to [Juneteenth Blues In The Park](#) on 6/15.
- If you love watching basketball, support the [Juneteenth Jamboree](#), is a showcase event for girls' basketball.

## KNOXVILLE, TN

- Knoxville's MLK Commemorative Commission will host an in-person [Juneteenth Memorial March and Parade](#) on 6/19.

## MACON, GA

- A fun activity for kids is the [Juneteenth African Spelling Bee](#) that will be held on Thursday, 6/17 in Tattnal Square Park. Get your kids involved today.
- The [Warner Robins Juneteenth Festival](#) will be held on 6/19 at the Warner Robins Wellston Center.

## MEMPHIS, TN

- Memphis is a historically rich city with many events to commemorate Juneteenth. Check out a list of all [events](#).
- Major Taylor Memphis and Memphis River Parks Partnership Present the [Juneteenth Inaugural Freedom Ride](#) on 6/19. Grab your bikes and head on over to the website to register.
- The [Juneteenth Urban Music Festival](#) is all weekend starting on 6/18. Be sure and view the full schedule.

## NASHVILLE, TN

- On 6/19, the city is celebrating Juneteenth with its [Juneteenth On The River Celebration](#) at Riverfront Park.
- The [Music City Freedom Festival](#) will be held on 6/19 at historical Hadley Park.
- It is Black Music Month at the National Museum of African American Music. The music will specifically commemorate Juneteenth from 6/17-19. Visit the museum's [website](#) for further details.

## NEW ORLEANS, LA

- New Orleans has a cool [website](#) that list places and things to do to celebrate Juneteenth.
- New Orleans African American Museum is having a [Juneteenth Celebration](#) on 6/19.
- The [Juneteenth Jam '21](#) will be held on 6/19 at BG's Lounge. This is a networking event for New Orleans-area black-owned businesses.
- The [Juneteenth Freedom Gala and Black Art Gallery](#) on 6/20 at the SynerG Complex is a great way to continue the Juneteenth celebration into Sunday.
- If you can't participate in commemorative activities on Juneteenth, explore African American culture in New Orleans through food by supporting the [Chef Celebration of Juneteenth](#) on 6/22 at Dakar Nola.

## ORLANDO, FL

- [Juneteenth Celebration](#) at the Bronze Kingdom Museum will be held on 6/19.
- The [Annual Juneteenth Celebration: Knowing and Remembering](#) will be on 6/19 as well at the Hannibal Square Heritage Center.
- Get out and support some local black business by participating in [Black Friday Orlando – Juneteenth 2021](#) on 6/18.
- Black Barb'z Entertainment & Community Outreach Inc. will host a paint and sip event called "[Freedom Delayed](#)" on 6/19 which will also feature a theatrical performance that details the history of Juneteenth.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

- The Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture is celebrating Juneteenth with its [Celebration of Resilience](#). Get more educated about African American food and musical history, enjoy fun activities and much more.
- Art is + Empowerment Presents: [Juneteenth Open Mic in the Park Jam](#) session and open mic on 6/19 at the Malcom X Park.
- The [Juneteenth Jubilee](#) will also be held on Saturday, 6/19 at the Freedom Plaza.
- If you would like to get out and get active, join the [2nd Annual Juneteenth Run and Ride](#) 6/19-20. You can pick from a half marathon, 10k run, or multiple riding options.