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# City of El Paso, Black Voice El Paso Host Free Juneteenth Celebration

**EL PASO, Texas** - The City of El Paso invites the community to come together in celebration of Juneteenth during a free, family-friendly event from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, at Nations Tobin Park, 8831 Railroad Dr.

Hosted by the City's Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the nonprofit organization Black El Paso Voice, the third annual Juneteenth Celebration will honor the history, culture and contributions of Black Americans while bringing the community together for an evening of education, reflection and fun.

"The Juneteenth celebration serves as a meaningful reminder of the importance of freedom, resilience, and community," said Parks and Recreation Director Pablo Caballero. "Through this event, we honor the past while bringing people together to celebrate the diversity and unity that make El Paso such a vibrant city."

The celebration will begin with a ceremonial opening and proclamation reading by Mayor Renard U. Johnson. Thanks to sponsorships from El Paso Electric, Marathon Oil and Statewide Remodeling, attendees can enjoy live music and performances, family games, interactive activities, inflatable attractions, food vendors and informational booths hosted by local organizations and City departments.

"Juneteenth provides an opportunity to reflect on and better understand the profound journey of Black Americans in our nation and our community, while inspiring us to continue working toward equity for all," said Monica Tucker, Black El Paso Voice President. "We are proud to partner with the City of El Paso, especially the Parks and Recreation Department, to host an event that welcomes everyone to celebrate, learn and connect."

In addition to the June 13 celebration, the City will commemorate Juneteenth throughout the month with a variety of community events. A complete schedule is available at [www.ElPasoTexas.gov/Juneteenth](http://www.ElPasoTexas.gov/Juneteenth).

## About Juneteenth

Juneteenth, observed annually on June 19, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. Also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, or Emancipation Day, the holiday marks June 19, 1865, when enslaved people in Texas learned of their freedom more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

The earliest documented Juneteenth celebration took place in Galveston, Texas, in 1866. Juneteenth was officially recognized as a federal holiday on June 17, 2021.

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