

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD CELEBRATES JUNETEENTH



ACKNOWLEDGING THE JOURNEY: FREEDOM, RESILIENCE, LIBERATION, AND EMPOWERMENT

The University of Hartford, along with other institutions of higher education and people across the country, celebrates Juneteenth.

Observed on June 19, Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, marked a turning point in Black history. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring a formal end to slavery in the United States. However, change was not instant. Nearly two and a half years later, on June 19, 1865, enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas received the news from Union army troops that freedom had finally come. The following year, the people of Galveston commemorated that day as Juneteenth. On June 17, 2021, President Biden signed into law a bill making Juneteenth a federally-recognized holiday.

You can learn more about the history of Juneteenth [here](#).

UHart's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement and the Office of Student Engagement and Inclusion encourage members of our campus community to reflect on the importance of this day, to honor the legacy of those who fought for freedom, and to think about what we can do to ensure a just world for all.

Celebrating Juneteenth on Campus ...

Join us for fun, food, music, and reflection on why we celebrate Juneteenth!

- **Date:** Wednesday, June 12
- **Time:** noon – 3 p.m.
- **Location:** Gengras Student Union Lawn and Hawk Lounge

The event is free, but registration is required. [Register here!](#)

Co-Sponsors: The Office of Student Engagement and Inclusion, the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, and the Office for Diversity and Community Engagement.

... and Beyond

- [2024 West Hartford CommUnity Juneteenth](#)
- [New Britain Museum of American Art Juneteenth Family Day](#)

Reading and Video Materials

What is Juneteenth? Noted scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. discusses the place of Juneteenth in African-American history

Why Celebrating Juneteenth is More Important Now than Ever: An interview with historian Karlos Hill on Juneteenth and the collective memory of slavery

Juneteenth's Role in the American Story: An interview on the DIY Democracy podcast with Annette Gordon-Reed on her new book, On Juneteenth.