



June 19-21, 2020

A weekend filled with Celebration and Conversation

Attend in person or stream on-line

430 High Street, Portsmouth, VA. (across the street from the Commodore)

www.juneteenthVA.org

The goal of Juneteenth 2020 is to truthfully acknowledge the American history that shaped and continues to influence the very essence of our lives in these extreme and existential times. Through the History Plays, community members become sensitized to the conditions and experiences of others -- only then, without shame or blame, can we make significant and lasting improvements in the work of dismantling slavery's infrastructure.

-- Sheri Bailey, award-winning playwright, community-builder and JuneteenthVA founder

JuneteenthVA 2020 Programming

Details at www.juneteenthVA.org

- **The History Plays:** JuneteenthVA programming is built around a weekend of founder Sheri Bailey's brilliant *History Plays*, filled with historical characters -- Come to listen, watch, and share your ideas.
- **Music, interviews, conversation:** The plays will run all weekend, along with live music, interviews with key community members, and lively conversation!
- **The Highlight of JuneteenthVA 2020's programming is the viewing of "Abolitionists' Museum."** The cast is Harriet Tubman, John Brown, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Sojourner Truth, David Walker, Nat Turner and Abraham Lincoln, who are wax figures in a museum. The curator has recently hung a Confederate flag and sparked a debate among the characters about whether or not to burn it. At the play's conclusion the audience will be asked to share their opinions about what to do with this symbol of the past that still means so much in the present.

Juneteenth is the oldest national commemoration that focuses on the end of slavery in the USA.

JuneteenthVA celebrates the birth of the American Dream with theatre arts education that uses our local Tidewater-Hampton Roads history to teach angry, sad, scared people how to come together for honest conversations about America's painful and violent past.