

JUNE 2021 DIVERSITY CALENDAR

June is **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month**, established to recognize the impact that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on the world. LGBT groups celebrate this special time with pride parades, picnics, parties, memorials for those lost to hate crimes and HIV/AIDS, and other group gatherings. The last Sunday in June is Gay Pride Day.



June is **Immigrant Heritage Month**, established in June 2014, gives people across the United States an opportunity to annually explore their own heritage and celebrate the shared diversity that forms the unique story of America. It celebrates immigrants across the United States and their contributions to their local communities and economy.



African-American Music Appreciation Month is an annual celebration of African-American music in the United States. It was initiated as Black Music Month by President Jimmy Carter who, on June 7, 1979, decreed that June would be the month of black music.

In 2009, the commemoration was given its current name by President Barack Obama. In his 2016 proclamation, Obama noted that African-American music and musicians have helped the country "to dance, to express our faith through song, to march against injustice, and to defend our country's enduring promise of freedom and opportunity for all."

Caribbean Heritage Month commemoration was adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2005 to recognize the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States. The resolution passed the Senate in Feb. 2006 and President George H.W. Bush issued the proclamation in June 2006.



JUNETEENTH

Celebrate Freedom

JUNE 19

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free. Note that

this was two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation - which had become official January 1, 1863. The Emancipation Proclamation had little impact on the Texans due to the minimal number of Union troops to enforce the new Executive Order. However, with the surrender of General Lee in April of 1865, and the arrival of General Granger's regiment, the forces were finally strong enough to influence and overcome the resistance.

Juneteenth became a State holiday in Texas in 1980, and a number of other States subsequently followed suit. The day is also celebrated outside the United States, with organizations in a number of countries using the day to recognize the end of slavery and to celebrate the culture and achievements of African Americans.

Despite the lack of Federal recognition, the holiday has lived on through rich traditions, including lively celebrations in the form of festivals and parades with local bands playing, storytelling, picnics, and a Juneteenth staple — barbecues.

June 3: Corpus Christi, a Catholic holiday celebrating the presence of the body and blood of Christ, in the Eucharist.

June 11: Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart is a solemnity in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church.

June 14: Flag Day in the United States, observed to celebrate the history and symbolism of the American flag.

June 15: St. Vladimir Day, a Roman Catholic feast celebrating St. Vladimir.

June 15: Native American Citizenship Day, commemorating the day in 1924 when the U.S. Congress passed legislation recognizing the citizenship of Native Americans.

June 16: Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev, observed by members of the Sikh faith. Guru Arjan Dev was the fifth Sikh guru and the first Sikh martyr.

June 19: New Church Day, according to Christian belief, on this day the Lord called together the 12 disciples who had followed him on earth, instructed them in the Heavenly Doctrine of the New Jerusalem, and sent them out to teach that “the Lord God Jesus Christ reigns, whose kingdom shall be for ages and ages.” This was the beginning of the New Christian Church.

June 21: National Indigenous Peoples Day or First Nations Day, a day that gives recognition to the indigenous populations affected by colonization in Canada.

June 21: Litha, the summer solstice celebrated by the Wiccans and Pagans. It is the longest day of the year, representing the sun’s “annual retreat.”

June 29: Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul, a liturgical feast in honor of the martyrdom in Rome for the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul in Eastern Orthodox Christianity.

Last Sunday in June: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Pride Day in the United States. It celebrates the Stonewall Riots on June 28, 1969.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?



JUPITER HAMMON, FIRST BLACK AMERICAN PUBLISHED AUTHOR
BY SUSAN GILL-ORANGE

Did you know that the first black poet to be published in America was a Long Islander? Jupiter Hammon was born a slave on the Henry Lloyd Manor house in what is now Lloyd's Harbor in 1711. Jupiter became a highly literate man thanks to the education he received most likely from Mary Lloyd who was in favor of providing it to the young Hammon . Because of his intellect and the closeness of his relationship with the family he was often sent to New York City to arrange for business deals for the manor. It is interesting that the children of Henry Lloyd referred to him in their correspondence as "our brother Jupiter." And that even when he had the choice to be free from slavery, his decision was to remain in it. During the Revolutionary War, he and Joseph Lloyd sought refuge in Connecticut because they both were Patriots and as the British occupied the whole of Long Island at the time, it was unwise to remain at the Manor house.

During his time in Connecticut, Hammon wrote two pamphlets one of which was entitled, *A Winter Piece*, published in 1782, Hammon makes his point that only education, not any inherent racial difference, separated him from his white critics. However, what had brought Hammon to fame was the earlier publishing of his poem, *An Evening Thought. Salvation by Christ with Penitential Cries: Composed by Jupiter Hammon, a Negro belonging to Mr. Lloyd of Queen's Village, on Long Island, the 25th of December 1760,*" This made him the first published author of his race. Hammon was to publish one more work in his lifetime. In 1787 his "*An Address to the Negroes in the State of New York,*" was printed in Philadelphia. Later on, Pennsylvania Quakers were to reprint it as a foundational document in the cause of abolition. In this pamphlet, Hammon encourages slaves of New York to act in ways that would not jeopardize the cause of emancipation and give the enemies of abolition grist for their mill. Hammon returned to one of his favorite themes, that slaves should exhibit by their praiseworthy behavior that they are better Christians than "*a great many white people . . . some who are rich and great gentlemen.*"

There is no record of Hammon's exact date of death nor where his grave is located. It is generally accepted that he died in 1806 and was buried somewhere on the Lloyd estate but no site has been discovered yet. The Joseph Lloyd Manor House is now a museum and the property of Preservation Long Island. They recently presented their initiative, *The Jupiter Hammon Project* which was designed to "develop a more relevant and equitable interpretation of the Joseph Lloyd Manor house. "(<<https://preservationlongisland.org/jupiter-hammon-project/>>) The legacy of Long Island's First Published Black Author continues to this day to be a source of inspiration for the cause of freedom everywhere.

AN
ADDRESS

TO THE
NEGROES

IN THE
STATE OF NEW-YORK.

BY JUPITER HAMMON,

Servant of JOHN KATY, Jun. Esq. of the Manor of Queens's Village,
Long-Island.

"Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of
persons:

"But in every Nation, he that feareth him and work-
eth righteousness, is accepted with him."—

Acts x. 34, 35.

NEW-YORK:

Published by SAMUEL WOOD, No. 342 Pearl-street.

1806.

Printed first at New-York City, this essay was

Jupiter Hammon's Address to the

Jupiter Hammon

LITERARY LANDMARK CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 17, 2020



COMING SOON

June 24 – 12:30 p.m – Lunch and Learn on “Having Difficult Conversations about DEI”

August 11 – 12:00 p.m. - Lunch and Learn – LGBTQIA - Part 1

August 18 – 12:00 p.m. – Lunch and Learn – LGBTQIA – Part 2

Summer Ice Cream Social – Date to be Finalized