

HUNTER:

DIVERSITY IN ACTION NEWSLETTER



JUNE

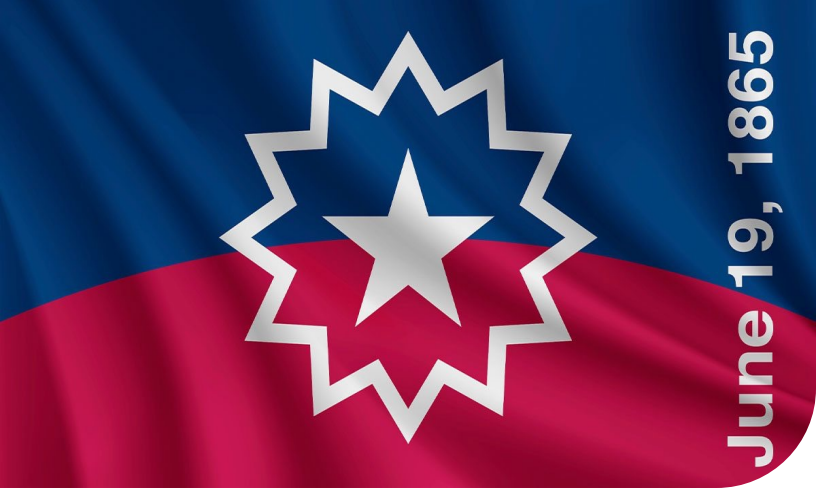
**LOUD AND PROUD: CELEBRATING
IDENTITY AND LIBERATION**

June is always an action-packed month full of important cultural events and recognitions. For one thing, it's Pride, a month long celebration of the LGBTQ+ community that includes no shortage of parades, parties, protests and more. Juneteenth, otherwise known as Juneteenth National Independence Day, is an annual federal holiday that's celebrated on June 19th to commemorate the end of slavery. June is also Caribbean Heritage Month, an occasion that honors the many traditions and cultural contributions of Caribbean immigrants and their descendants. Read on for a deeper dive into the history of each occasion.

CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

As the Institute of Caribbean Studies [reports](#), "Caribbean immigrants have been contributing to the well-being of American society since its founding." In fact, Founding Father Alexander Hamilton hailed from Nevis, an island in the Caribbean Sea. Other famous Caribbean Americans include former Secretary of State Colin Powell, actress Cicely Tyson, sociologist W.E.B. Dubois, and legendary entertainment icon Harry Belafonte, to name just a few. The Institute first called for Caribbean American Heritage Month to be recognized in 1999, and June was permanently established as Caribbean American Heritage Month in 2006.

Today, Caribbean Heritage Month is a bustling series of parades, festivals, educational forums and community gatherings that recognizes and celebrates the rich heritage and enduring impact of the Caribbean diaspora.



JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth is observed on June 19 to recognize the day Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas (June 19th, 1865) to announce the abolishment of slavery. However, as [USF](#) notes, “the history of this important celebration is complex and often misunderstood.”

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In the words of Professor Erin Stewart Maudlin, “Juneteenth is neither the beginning nor the end of something. The end of the Civil War and the ending of slavery didn’t happen overnight and was more like a jagged edge than a clean cut.” Because of this, Juneteenth serves as a sobering reminder that freedom for Black Americans was far from instantaneous.

Today, Juneteenth is a day of healing and celebration that honors the resilience and activism of Black communities, complete with parades, educational programs, and calls for continued social justice. In 2021, Juneteenth was finally recognized as an official federal holiday in the United States and that same year, HUNTER was proud to begin commemorating the day by officially closing its offices annually.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

What does Juneteenth means to me... tap [HERE](#) to take a listen.



Ceronne Mitchell (sir-ron)
Senior Social Media Community Manager

PRIDE MONTH

Every June marks Pride Month, a time that celebrates and honors LGBTQ+ people, their cultural contributions and their ongoing struggle for equal rights. The occasion also commemorates The Stonewall Riots, which began in the early morning hours of June 28th, 1969, following a police raid at The Stonewall Inn. For six days, people took to the streets of New York City to protest police harassment and targeting of LGBTQ people. This protest sparked the modern LGBTQ rights movement in America and around the world.



Pride Month is also a great time to honor early organizations like the [Mattachine Society](#) (founded 1950) and the [Daughters of Bilitis](#) (founded 1955) who laid much of the groundwork for activism and important LGBTQ+ icons like Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson, both transgender women of color who were instrumental in instigating the Stonewall Riots.

This Pride month let's remember the activists, both known and lesser known, who dared to fight for a world where everyone can be proud of who they are.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

What does Pride means to me... tap [HERE](#) to take a listen.



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