



LANSING JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
WWW.LANSINGJUNETEENTHCELEBRATION.ORG

Lansing Juneteenth Committee
Progressive Empowerment Education Resource Services – P.E.E.R.S. 501(c)(3)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 27623, Lansing MI 48909-7623

March 15, 2015

Dear Community Leaders and Friends,

Greetings from the Lansing Juneteenth Committee! We are excited to be celebrating Lansing's **22nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration** and the **11th year of "Juneteenth Day"** as a state of Michigan holiday. Since 1993, the Lansing Juneteenth Celebration has served as a respected voice in the community, with the city of Lansing as its backdrop. The 2015 celebration will take place from June 18 through June 20, 2015.

The Juneteenth Recognition Ceremony and Festival is a celebration of great historical significance. Juneteenth is the oldest African American Holiday; the celebration was first recognized on **June 19, 1865**. Juneteenth represents the joy of freedom, and new beginnings. Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States by celebrating the joys of liberty, educating the community about our heritage and by promoting positive cultural interaction. Our founding theme is "**Beyond Emancipation-Continuing Towards Empowerment-Moving to the Next Level**". The celebration dates are as follows and are all open to the public at no cost:

The **Opening Ceremony will Kick-Off the three-day event** which will begin on **Thursday, June 18, 2015 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Lansing City Hall Lobby Building**; with our keynote speaker, special recognitions, and music and refreshments. Our guests include Michigan's Legislative members, Lansing's public officials and area community leaders, and of course, all of you. The Juneteenth Celebration continues on **Friday, June 19th** and **Saturday, June 20th** at **St. Joseph Park in Lansing**. A special feature this year is the African-American Parade in memory of its founder, the late Rev. Dr. Michael C. Murphy, to be held on Saturday morning June 20, 2015. Our event includes food and merchant vendors, children's activities, a ballgame that commemorates the Negro League baseball games, a health fair, educational exhibits and musical entertainment. Celebration updates are available at our website at www.LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org or at Facebook www.facebook.com/LansingJuneteenthCelebration.

All forms for participation will be available at our website. If you would like to place an advertisement, be a vendor (food or merchandise), be a parade participant, be a volunteer, enter the Essay Contest or be a health fair participant there are many opportunities for your support of this year's celebration. We ask that you complete your forms and return it to the attention of the **Lansing Juneteenth Committee/PEERS, P.O. Box, 27623, Lansing, Michigan 48909**.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Marilyn Plummer at (517) 402-2927 or email at plummermarilyn@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your support for this year's **Juneteenth Celebration**.

Marilyn D. Plummer
Marilyn D. Plummer,
Co-Chair Lansing Juneteenth Celebration

Edwin Thompson
Edwin Thompson,
Co-Chair Lansing Juneteenth Celebration

The Lansing Juneteenth Celebration is made possible in part by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

