



2.5-MILE JUNETEENTH WALK-A-THON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Friends of Doleman Black Heritage Museum Hosts 2.5-Mile Walk-A-Thon to Commemorate Juneteenth and Celebrate Freedom

Hagerstown, MD—The Friends of Doleman Black Heritage Museum (FoDBHM) is thrilled to announce its upcoming 2.5-mile Walk-A-Thon event to commemorate Juneteenth and the long-awaited freedom that reached Galveston, Texas, two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation.

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day, commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of slavery. This momentous occasion marked the belated enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. The delayed announcement in Texas symbolizes the enduring struggle for freedom and equality faced by African Americans.

FoDBHM invites individuals and groups to participate in a 2.5-mile Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, June 15, 2024, to honor this historic milestone and raise awareness of its significance. The event will start and finish at Wheaton Park, located at 114 Charles Street, Hagerstown, MD. Registration will occur from 11 am to 11:45 am, with the walk commencing at noon.

Participants can complete the 2.5-mile walk individually or as part of a group. Each sponsorship is **\$10 per mile, totaling \$25 for the entire 2.5-mile walk**. Participants can also choose to complete the walk at their convenience starting as early as April 10, leading up to the official event date on June 15. **There is no limit to the miles you walk above the 2.5-mile minimum.**

Proceeds from the Walk-A-Thon will benefit the Doleman Black Heritage Museum and support next year's Juneteenth celebration, ensuring the preservation and celebration of African American history and culture.

"We are excited to host this meaningful event to commemorate Juneteenth and honor the resilience and perseverance of our ancestors," said Ms. Marcia Saunders, President of Friends of Doleman Black Heritage Museum. "Walking together symbolizes our commitment to justice, equality, and freedom for all."

Join us as we take steps toward unity, education, and empowerment. Together, we can make a difference and continue Juneteenth's legacy for generations to come.

For more information and to register for the 2.5-mile Walk-A-Thon, please contact Ms. Marcia Saunders at saunders@dbhm.org or visit our website at <https://www.dolemanblackheritagemuseum.org/news> to download your registration sheet. If you elect to complete your walk before the Juneteenth event, you can simply mail your donation directly to the museum or drop it off at the event.

Thank you for your continued support!