

Massachusetts Based Diversity Equity & Inclusion Organization Addresses Juneteenth Celebrations Amid Increased Racial Tension In The US and UK

For Immediate Release
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Boston, Mass - The US UK Summit On Race kicks off its most recent signature event with its June 3rd Virtual Program titled "Juneteenth, Black Pride or Peril?" The two-hour program will pay tribute to the legacy of Juneteenth as the country wrestles with the second anniversary of George Floyd's death and mass shootings, including the recent mass murders in Buffalo, New York.

The virtual event takes place on Friday, June 3, 2022, from 11 am to 1 pm EDT on the Zoom platform. Nearly 200 attendees are expected to participate from multiple countries, including the United States and the United Kingdom. The event is free and open to the general public worldwide.

The keynote speaker is Youth Activist and doctoral candidate **Pilar Tucker** who will examine the Juneteenth legacy in the face of current social justice issues. Panelists include **Rev. Alvin Riley**, historian and Senior Pastor of Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in Newport, Rhode Island; **Chantelle Lunt**, Community Leader, and former law enforcement officer in Liverpool, England; and **George (Chip) Greenidge**, Visiting Fellow at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

Juneteenth, which is celebrated annually, is an important holiday in the Black community. The day has become the most prominent Emancipation Day holiday in the United States and commemorates the moment when emancipation finally reached those in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy on **June 19, 1865**. It is a holiday meant for celebration rather than mourning and remembrance.

The word is a combination of the month of **June** and the **19th**, the exact day in 1865 when Major General Gordon Granger marched into Galveston, Texas with 7000 "colored troops" and read General Order Number 3 announcing the end of the Civil War and Slavery. The war had actually

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ended two months earlier, and the slaves in the region had actually been freed 2.5 years earlier, but their slave masters had NOT set them free. After reading the order, it was posted on the door of Reedy Chapter AME Church in Galveston.

The US-UK SUMMIT on RACE is an initiative launched by the Boston-based Multicultural Symposium Series (MSS) and its Founder, Global Diversity Professional Carole Copeland Thomas. The Summit explores the impact of RACE in the United States and the United Kingdom as both countries struggle with racism, strife, and discriminatory practices that are associated with oppression across the world.

Founded in 2021, following the first anniversary of George Floyd's murder, the US UK Summit On Race has held four virtual events that have attracted hundreds of attendees from ten countries worldwide. It is sponsored by several US-based corporations and continues to identify corporate sponsors who value the advancement of global diversity, equity, and inclusion.

US UK Organizers include William Wells, Jr. (Minneapolis, Minnesota), Garth Dallas (Liverpool, England), and Denise Gray-Felder (Greater New York City).

Advance registration - which is free- is required to participate.

For additional information and to register, visit www.usukrace.com.