Barnes Art Adventures

Juneteenth Celebration

Juneteenth, or June 19, is an annual holiday that commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States in 1865.

Many African Americans and members of the African diaspora celebrate Juneteenth by gathering to share stories of abolition, freedom, resilience, and the continuing path toward empowerment.

In 1997, activist Ben Haith created a flag to recognize this day of emancipation and independence.

Freedom Flags

Use the Juneteenth flag as inspiration to create your own freedom flag. Incorporate colors, designs, and slogans that represent freedom to you.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

How did African Americans pursue their freedom before emancipation in 1865?

What do the colors and symbols of the Juneteenth flag represent?

MATERIALS

Plain white paper, colored construction paper, pencil, markers or crayons, scissors, glue

INSTRUCTIONS

• Use a sheet of paper or construction paper as the background for your flag.
• Think of designs, symbols, or slogans to add to your flag.
• Draw them with markers or crayons, or cut out shapes from construction paper and glue them to your flag.
• Write an artist statement explaining how you made your flag and what it represents to you.

SUBMISSION

Submit your artwork and artist statement for a chance to have your freedom flag featured on the Barnes Foundation’s Student Art Gallery online. Submit at barnesfoundation.wufoo.com/forms/student-gallery-submission-form.

JUNETEENTH FLAG

EXAMPLES OF SYMBOLS OF PEACE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT BARNESFOUNDATION.ORG/TEACHERS.