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New Orleans

**Data**

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"The People's Paper"

## French Connection

A Virtual Fashion Show

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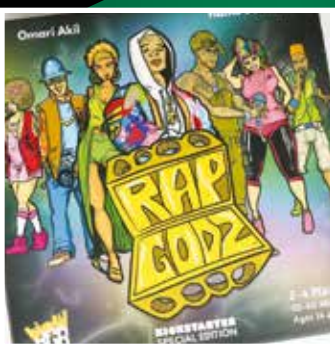
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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

# Juneteenth

## A Celebration of African American Freedom

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# Juneteenth

## *A Celebration of African American Freedom*



Today celebrating Juneteenth is more important now than ever because it is time for America to truly grapple with its legacy of slavery.

**Data News Staff Edited Report**

In the face of the racial crisis in America, it is an important time for Blacks in their continued struggle for equal rights and justice. This is the backdrop of this year’s Juneteenth, one where the nation will be elect its next U.S. President. Interest in the holiday have been renewed and a push to make it a holiday in many states and for that matter the nation is on the rise.

**What is Juneteenth?**

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

From its Galveston, Texas origin in 1865, the observance of June 19th as the African American Emancipation Day has spread across the United States and beyond.

Today Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is a day, a week, and in some areas a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics, and family gatherings. It is a time for reflection and rejoicing. It is a time for assessment, self-improvement and for planning the future. Its growing popularity signifies a level of maturity and dignity in America long overdue. In cities across the country including New

Orleans, people of all races, nationalities and religions are joining hands to truthfully acknowledge a period in our history that shaped and continues to influence our society today. Sensitized to the conditions and experiences of others, only then can we make significant and lasting improvements in our society.

**Juneteenth Celebration  
Historical Significance**

Today celebrating Juneteenth is more important now than ever because it is time for America to truly grapple with its legacy of slavery.

As the Civil War came to a close in 1865, a number of people remained enslaved, especially in remote areas. Word of slavery’s end traveled slowly, and for those who were largely isolated from Union armies, life continued as if freedom did not exist.

This was especially the case in Texas, where thousands of slaves were not made aware of freedom until June 19, 1865, when Union Gen. Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston and issued an order officially freeing them. Their celebration would serve as the basis of June 19th — or Juneteenth — a holiday celebrating emancipation in the US.

Ironically, while Juneteenth has become the most prominent Emancipation Day Holiday in the US, it commemorates a smaller moment that remains relatively obscure. It does not mark the signing of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation, which technically freed slaves in the rebelling Confederate states, nor does it commemorate the December 1865 ratification of the 13th Amendment, which enshrined the end of slavery into the Constitution. Instead, it marks the moment when emancipation finally reached those in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy.

**The Meaning of Freedom**

The reactions to this profound news ranged from pure shock to immediate jubilation. While many lingered to learn of this new employer to employee relationship, many left before these offers were com-

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Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

pletely off the lips of their former 'masters' - attesting to the varying conditions on the plantations and the realization of freedom. Even with nowhere to go, many felt that leaving the plantation would be their first grasp of freedom.

North was a logical destination and for many it represented true freedom, while the desire to reach family members in neighboring states drove some into Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. Settling into these new areas as free men and women brought on new realities and the challenges of establishing a heretofore non-existent status for Black people in America. Recounting the memories of that great day in June of 1865 and its festivities would serve as motivation as well as a release from the growing pressures encountered in their new territories. The celebration of June 19th was coined "Juneteenth" and grew with more participation from descendants. The Juneteenth Celebration was a time for reassuring each other, for praying and for gathering remaining family members. Juneteenth continued to be highly revered in



Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is a day, a week, and in some areas a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics, and family gatherings. It is a time for reflection and rejoicing. It is a time for assessment, self-improvement and for planning the future.

Texas decades later, with many former slaves and descendants making an annual pilgrimage back to Galveston on this date.

### The Flag of Freedom

While the world grapples with the former Confederacy and its many symbols of division, hate and treason to America; it is important to note that the Juneteenth Holiday and flag is one that inspires freedom, hope and patriotism.

Juneteenth flag Designer L.J. Graf packed lots of meaning into her design. The colors red, white, and blue echo the American flag to symbolize that the enslaved people and their descendants were Americans. The star in the middle pays homage to Texas, while the bursting "new star" on the "horizon" of the red and blue fields represents a new freedom and a new people.

### Juneteenth In Modern Times

Today, Juneteenth is enjoying a phenomenal growth rate within communities and organizations throughout the country. Institutions such as the Smithsonian, the Henry Ford Museum and others have begun sponsoring Juneteenth-centered activities. In re-

cent years, a number of local and national Juneteenth organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations - all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture.

Juneteenth today, celebrates African American freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures. As it takes on a more national, symbolic, and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are not forgotten, for all of the roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride is growing.

The future of Juneteenth looks bright as the number of cities and states creating Juneteenth committees continues to increase. Respect and appreciation for all of our differences grow out of exposure and working together. Getting involved and supporting Juneteenth Celebrations creates new bonds of friendship and understanding among us. This indeed brightens our future - and that is the Spirit of Juneteenth.

JOIN ME IN CELEBRATING  
EQUAL RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES,  
AND FREEDOM FOR AMERICANS  
OF AFRICAN DESCENT.

{ "I would like to be known as a person  
who is concerned about freedom, equality,  
justice, and prosperity for all people."  
-Rosa Parks }

*Juneteenth*  
FREEDOM  
DAY



SENATOR TROY CARTER

*"I love New  
Orleans. I am a  
product of New  
Orleans and I am  
committed to New  
Orleans First."  
EARLY VOTING  
JUNE 20—JULY 4, 2020*



### "Qualified, Experienced, Committed"

I will **ENSURE** every person who comes into my courtroom has the same access to a fair and just legal system regardless of their race, age or income level.

**Born and raised in New Orleans**—Over 20 Years of experience.

**In Private practice dedicated to civil law and tax matters.**—Services as a an administrative Hearing Officer for the City of New Orleans, where she has considered testimony, examined evidence and rendered judgments in over 3,500 cases.

**Arbitrator, (FINRA)** Former, Disciplinary Hearing Officer, Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

**Work at Deloitte & Touche, LP**— Worked at U.S. Department of Labor.

**Education**—Graduate, Golden Gate University Law School. LL.M Taxation; Graduate, University of New Orleans, BA Political Science; Graduate, Eleanor McMain Magnet High School.

**Member**— Louisiana State Bar Association, and American Bar Association **Pro Bono Attorney, Justice & Accountability Center of Louisiana**—Volunteer, SCORE **Volunteer**, Clean-Up NOLA



# French Connection

## *A Virtual Fashion Show*



**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

New Orleans Fashion Week has built a reputation as the catalyst of brand exposure and industry leadership by bridging the gap between international style and local culture.

Last September, during its week-long fashion fête, NOFW collaborated with New Orleans' Sister City, Orléans, France to host a special fashion

**Data Zone,**  
Continued on page 5.



Tracee Dundas, New Orleans Fashion Week, Alana Harris, New Orleans Cultural Economy Director, Rosine Pema Sanga, Director of International Relations, Mayor's Office, Beatrice Odunlami, Deputy Mayor, Orléans France.



Designer: Tchambo R. (Photo Credit, Stephane Chaing)



## AUDUBON NATURE INSTITUTE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

### DEANA APPLEBERRY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AND FIRST RESPONDER SUPERVISOR

As executive assistant and first responder supervisor, Deana Appleberry has been keeping Audubon running smoothly for nearly 30 years. Deana's love for people and animals attracted her to the organization, and her favorite thing about being part of the Audubon family is spreading joy in our community by volunteering for our many diverse events. In her time outside Audubon, Deana is an ordained minister and has even officiated the weddings of other Audubon staff members!

*Celebrating the Wonders of Nature*

Be a part of the Audubon Team: [AudubonNatureInstitute.org/Careers](https://AudubonNatureInstitute.org/Careers)







Tracee Dundas and Vincent Sciamma, Consul General of France in Louisiana.



Designer: Tchambo R (Photo Credit, James Hercules)



Designer: Soleo (Photo Credit, James Hercules)



Designer: Soleo (Photo Credit, James Hercules)

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show. The event featured international fashions taking center stage at the historic Degas House with Orléans couture presented by renowned Designers Martial Tapolo, Soleo and Tchambo R, under the Direction of Tina Blanche of Defilé: FAMOUS ART of Orléans France.

The two are in partnership again to host a virtual fashion show. The idea was inspired by current global events and continuing to cultivate the relationship between the sister cities. Like New Orleans Fashion Week and the City of New Orleans; Famous Art provides a dreamlike space of hope, poetry, delight, and boundless culture to build a "Connected Capsule"

Tracee Dundas, NOFW Executive Director has expressed excitement for this special partnership intended to support the

French fashion identity to a city with similar influences. "This is a great opportunity that reflects the cultural commitment of the sister cities agreement while promoting the links and love of fashion between our two countries and the world of fashion aficionados."

The Virtual Fashion Show will take place Saturday, June 20th, 11AM via Facebook. Be part of the French Connection experience by joining the watch party from your laptop in the comfort of your home. The link to "Connected Capsule" will be available from the following New Orleans partners: Mayor's Office, City of New Orleans, New Orleans Cultural Economy, Consulate General of France, New Orleans, French American Chamber of Commerce New Orleans,

Krewe of Jeanne d'Arc, Degas House, The Vanity Studio, and Samantha Diana Co.

Visit [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com) for more photos from these events



## If I could do one thing, I'd have a daycare closer to work.

If you could do one thing for your community, what would it be? More daycare centers? More funding for Head Start? Completing the 2020 Census is a safe and easy way to inform how billions of dollars in funding flow into your community for hundreds of services. **Respond online, by phone, or by mail.**

Complete the census at:

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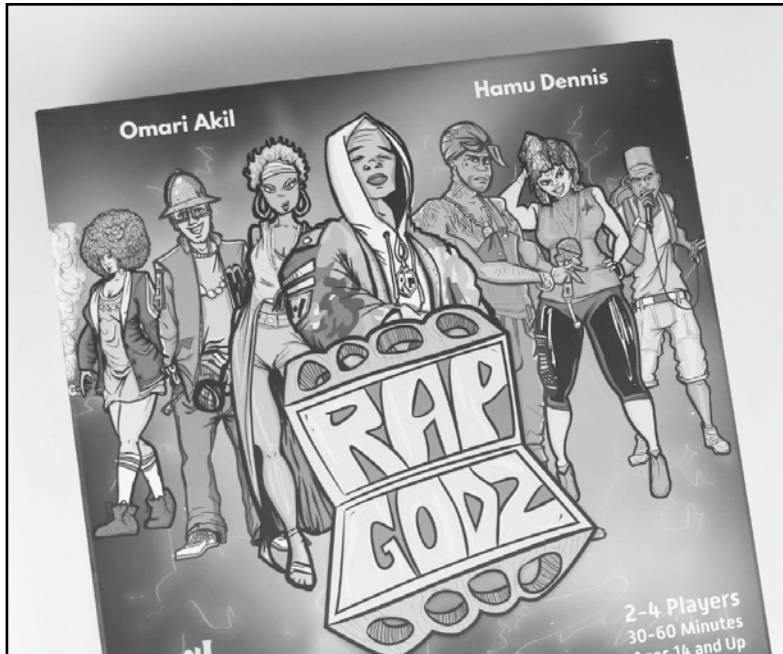
# New Orleans Board Game Creators Raise More Than \$80,000 For Racial Justice

*In one week, Board Game Brothas sells out of award winning Rap Godz, with part of sales plus matching donations going to fight racism*

Data News Weekly Staff  
Edited Report

[NEW ORLEANS, June 2020]  
— In an impromptu week-long fundraising frenzy, Board Game Brothas helped raise more than \$80,000 for anti-racism initiatives in response to Black Lives Matter protests across the United States.

Noted New Orleans Photographer Fahamu Dennis, Co-Founder of Board Game Brothas, said, "As a company created to diversify the board game world, we were looking for a way to support Black Lives Matter. The fundraising began when Rap Gods supporter and YouTube personality DannyPlaysGamez offered to donate \$10 for every copy of Rap Godz we sold. Although we're a small company with limited cash flow, we decided to



Noted New Orleans Photographer Fahamu Dennis, Co-Founder of Board Game Brothas, said, "As a company created to diversify the board game world, we were looking for a way to support Black Lives Matter."

match his donation. Soon other supporters were also matching or exceeding the original \$10 per game, with one company matching all donations."

Between June 1st and June 7th, Rap Godz sold 653 copies, clearing out current stock. In addition to DannyPlaysGamez and Board Game Brothers, seven companies and approximately 50 individuals contributed matching donations, including Rap Godz Manufacturer Panda Games, board game Publishers Cephalofair, board game Designer Geoff Englestein, and board game Designer Eric Lang.

Panda Games said, "We are honored to have played a part in the creation of Rap Godz and to join them and others by donating \$10 per game to Black Lives Matter and other anti-racist causes."

Dennis added that for him and

his brother Omari, his fellow Rap Godz Creator, watching this spur of the moment fundraiser take off on social media was an emotional and overwhelming experience. "It's a moment that we will be proud of forever."

Proceeds from the Rap Godz Fundraiser will go to the National Black Lives Matter, Black Lives Matter CA, the NAACP, and the Know Your Rights Camp.

Rap Godz is based on the rise of hip-hop in the 1980s, Fahamu notes, "We kept it clean so anyone can play. We also made sure to represent women and the entire LGBTQ Community, and to use a variety of skin colors and hair-styles. We really want everyone to be able to identify with some part on the game."

Designed for 2 to 4 players ages 14 and up to play in about an hour, Rap Godz is currently sold out.

## State and Local

# Early Voting

*Early voting dates  
June 20 through July 4*

**July 11, 2020  
Presidential Preference  
/ Municipal Primary  
Election**

Data News Staff Edited  
Report

In these crucial times for our City and Nation, it is more important than ever to get out to the polls and vote.

Presidential Democratic Candidate Joe Biden has been declared the presumptive nominee and will face off against President Donald Trump in the November Presidential Election.

But Data News Weekly as "The People's Paper" always encourage voting, there are several races on the ballot including a race for judge that is very important. So, we encourage all to go out and vote.

As a service to our community,

we have below information regarding voting in the upcoming elections:

Deadline to request an absentee by mail ballot is July 7, 2020. Voted absentee ballots are due into the Registrars' Office by 4:30p.m on July 10, 2020. (excluding military and overseas). The deadline for military and overseas voters to submit their ballots is. To request an absentee ballot online, please visit GeauxVote.com. To mail a request for an absentee ballot, please select and print the application that best meets your needs. 1. General absentee application 2. Disability application 3. Military/Overseas application.

Early voting dates June 20th through July 4th, excluding Sunday.

Voters who need help finding their polling location can call (504) 658-8300 or use the Louisiana Voter Portal.

Voting, Continued on page 6.



Urban League of  
Louisiana

**JUNE  
TEENTH**  
JUNE 19

*Celebrating  
Freedom!  
Emancipation Day!*



**WAKE UP  
GEAUX  
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## 2020 EMPOWERMENT CHECKLIST

- ☐ CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH!
- ☐ Be counted in the 2020 Census!
- ☐ Register to vote!
- ☐ VOTE! Your VOTE is your POWER!

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[urbanleaguela.org/voice](http://urbanleaguela.org/voice) to learn more!

# Black-Owned Laboratory uses Artificial Intelligence-Based Drug Discovery Platform to Develop Treatment for COVID-19

Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
Correspondent

The novel coronavirus has ravaged most of the globe, but in the U.S., African Americans and other communities of color have disproportionately borne the lethal impact of the pandemic.

Darnisha Harrison, a Louisiana State University grad and Founder and CEO of Georgia-based Ennaid Therapeutics, says that scientists working for her company are developing a drug-based therapy whose laboratory tests continue to show promise. If successful, her scientists' solution could be instrumental in blocking the continued spread of COVID-19.

Ennaid Therapeutics uses artificial intelligence (AI)-based drug discovery platforms to develop antiviral drugs.

The drug that shows so much promise has been labeled ENU200, a repurposed, patent-pending, and orally deliverable antiviral drug that was previously approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a different indication. The development of ENU200, as a therapeutic, is targeted to treat the up to 80% of asymptomatic, mild to moderate cases of COVID-19 viral infections.

"Our science strongly suggests that ENU200, a repurposed drug with a well-established clinical and safety profile, has the potential to be a broad solution to address the COVID-19 pandemic and, specifically, the near 80 percent of coronavirus cases that



Darnisha Harrison, Louisiana State University grad and founder and CEO of Georgia-based Ennaid Therapeutics, LLC.

are asymptomatic, mild to moderate," said Harrison. "Key to ENU200 is its target of two proteins on the SARS-CoV-2 virus that interfere with the virus' ability to enter healthy cells and its replication. Additionally, unlike other COVID-19 drugs in development, which must be administered via injection or intravenously under the care of a physician, ENU200 can be administered orally, thus enabling in-home treatment for COVID-19 infections."

"The FDA has been very supportive at fast-tracking review every step of the way, and that is true around the world," Harrison told WBRZ-TV in Baton Rouge.

"We anticipate the clinical trials could start within 90 days. The clinical

trial itself could take a month. We feel quite optimistic that in the 120-day window, when our clinical material would be ready, we could have a drug that could be safe and effective at treating COVID-19."

The in-silico drug discovery platform applied state-of-the-art codes by combining virus targets and a wide range of libraries of compounds, Harrison added.

Computational steps include:

- A first geometrical and electronic optimization of the drug-candidates based on quantum chemistry within density functional theory (DFT) methods.
- The resulting refined structures were next implemented in blind docking calculations,

an approach that allows to scan the whole protein surface in the search of main binding pockets.

- Only the best poses are retained for the analysis, so that the provided structures correspond to the drug-target interaction with the largest affinity.

## Harrison said in vitro work is now being completed.

"Currently, we have in vitro and in vivo data supporting ENU200's inhibition of a viral protease in a different viral infection. Both viruses are RNA viruses. We think it is noteworthy to mention as proof that ENU200 is indeed an antiviral," she stated.

Since ENU200 has a well-tolerated safety profile, Ennaid is confident that being allowed to treat the up to 80 percent asymptomatic, mild/moderate cases of COVID-19 infections will reduce COVID-19 viral shedding and severity, Harrison noted.

Ennaid believes it can quickly bring ENU200 to market by treating patients with COVID-19 in a Phase 3 in-home, self-dosing clinical trial of patients with asymptomatic, mild to moderate coronavirus infections utilizing their iClickCare® secure clinical reporting software service to monitor the in-home trials.

"ENU200 would also reduce worldwide fear and allow continued economic and operational development worldwide.

ENU200 can mitigate COVID-19 and may even cure coronavirus," she said.

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### Job Opportunity

### Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We want to hear from you if you are a working journalist, or an aspiring journalist who has 2 years or more of newspaper or PR writing experience. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net) and [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net).

We can't wait to  
hear from you!

### Voting, Continued from page 6.

#### Early Voting Sites

##### City Hall

1300 Perdido Street, Room 1W24  
New Orleans, LA 70112

##### Algiers Courthouse

225 Morgan Street, Room 105  
New Orleans, LA 70114

##### Chef Menteur Voting Machine Warehouse Site

8870 Chef Menteur Highway  
New Orleans, LA 70126

##### Lake Vista Community Center

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# CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

*and those who continue to grow and  
reach for the values of freedom and  
justice in our community*



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