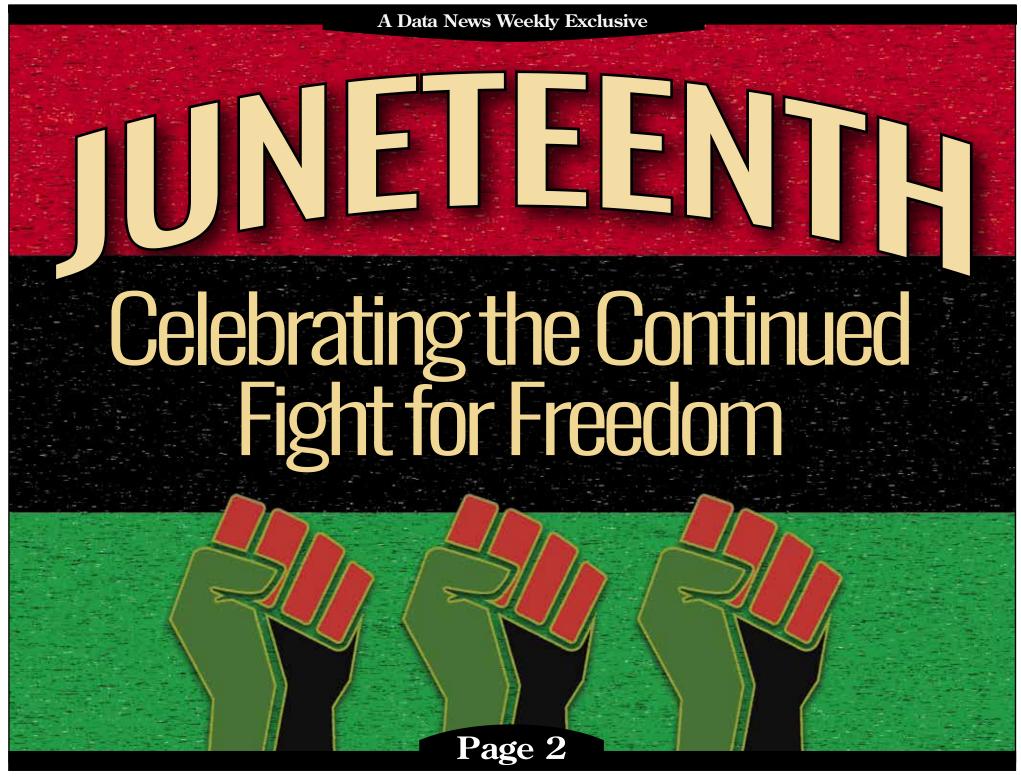


Cumulus Radio New Orleans Recognizes African American Music Appreciation Month

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June 19 - June 25, 2021 56th Year Volume 8 www.ladatanews.com





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### **Cover Story**

# JUNETEENTH

### Celebrating the Continued Fight for Freedom



Juneteenth is a holiday celebrated on 19 June to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in the US. The holiday was first celebrated in Texas, where on that date in 1865, in the aftermath of the Civil War, slaves were declared free under the terms of the 1862 Emancipation Proclamation.

Edwin Buggage Editor-in-Chief

### "We The People" Demand Freedom, Justice and Equality

In these troubled and fractured times for our city, nation, state and world, there continues to be a racial divide. The scars from slavery, Jim Crow, and continued injustice, continue to flourish in a nation that prides itself as a bastion of freedom and equality. While there have been strides towards the laudable goal of equality, this nation still struggles with the dilemma of how do we get to "We The People" meaning, all the people of this nation being treated as equal humans. We have seen what amounts to modern daylynch mobs shoot unarmed Blacks. We have witnessed people marching in the streets because they are sick and tired of being sick and tired. Last year, the murder of George Floyd set off a firestorm of cries for justice, but in recent years, and particularly following nationwide protests over police brutality and the deaths of Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and other Black Americans, there is a renewed interest in the day that celebrates freedom. These incidents, along with so many others have awaked the consciousness of this nation and the world to the historical plight of African Americans. Today, this is the backdrop for Juneteenth 2021.

### What is Juneteenth?

On June 19, 1865, about two months after the Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Va., Gordon Granger, a Union general, ar-

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P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622

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Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY.

Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

**Cover Story** 

### Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



"I continue to be committed to serving the community and inspiring young people especially, because they are the future leaders of our City," says LaFonta, anticipating the Juneteenth event. (LaFonta donates his time and resources to many worthy causes; from purchasing movie tickets, sports uniforms, or more recently sponsoring a COVID-19 Vaccine event).

rived in Galveston, Texas, to inform enslaved African Americans of their freedom and that the Civil War had ended. General Granger's announcement put into effect the Emancipation Proclamation, which had been issued more than two and a half years earlier on Jan. 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln.

The holiday received its name by combining the month of June and the number 19. The day is also sometimes called "Juneteenth Independence Day," "Freedom Day" or "Emancipation Day." The original celebration became an annual one, and it grew in popularity over the years with the addition of descendants, according to Juneteenth. com, which tracks celebrations. The day was celebrated by praying and bringing families together. In some celebrations on this day, men and women who had been enslaved, and their descendants, made an annual pilgrimage back to Galveston.

Today, while some celebrations take place among families in backyards where food is an integral element, some cities hold larger events, like parades and festivals.

#### Local Juneteenth Celebrations

New Orleans is a City with many festivals and on Saturday, June 19, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., local Attorney Juan LaFonta of Juan LaFonta & Associates, L.L.C. will hold the First Annual Juan LaFonta's Juneteenth Celebration on the New Orleans Lakefront. The family friendly celebration will honor Black History and will include free food and snowballs, and fun for the entire family. A fireworks show will conclude the celebration beginning at 8:30 p.m.



Angel Chung Cutno's Juneteenth will be held at BK House, 1113 Charters St .,from 11:30 a .m . - 1:30 p .m. She will be giving away over 100 books by and about African Americans.

According to LaFonta, "In our continuing role of serving our community, we are happy to celebrate Black History through an event like Juneteenth. As we continue to work toward equality and justice, let us remember those who are fighting today and those who have come before us. What better way to do this than to do what we do best... celebrate with friends and family."

The celebration will take place on the Lakefront behind the Lakefront Arena between Franklin Avenue and the Seabrook Bridge. "I continue to be committed to serving the community and inspiring young people especially, because they are the future leaders of our City." says LaFonta, anticipating the event.

LaFonta is not alone in his quest to make things better in the community for future generations. Angel Chung Cutno, a Louisiana native, has always been passionate about community involvement. With over a decade working with non-profits and youth mentorships, she continues to gain experience through serving on the boards of Front Yard Bikes Baton Rouge, The Asian Pacific American Society, The Faubourg St. Roch Improvement Association, Rotary Club of New Orleans, and most importantly she is a culture-bearer in her role as Queen of The Black Seminoles Black Masking Indians Tribe. Angel founded RE (ad) TREAT- a Literacy Program and "nomadic library" with the goals of connecting with all communities and building bridges of healing.

Cutno's event is also on June 19th. She will be at BK House, 1113 Charters St., from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. She will be giving away over 100 books by and about African Americans. She will also host Freddi Williams Evans, who will serve as a guest author.

"I have been giving these events for a while now, and I felt to have a book giveaway on Juneteenth was important because we must know our history if we are to make history today. And that is by doing things that will inform, inspire and uplift our community for the better."

There are many celebrations going on for Juneteenth. Here is a list of some of them:

### **Special 2021 Juneteenth Celebrations**

### **New Orleans African American Museum's Juneteenth** Celebration

Support Black artists, farmers, and vendors at the African American Museum's Monthly Arts Market. The market will be held on Saturday, June 19th (Juneteenth) from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. both inside the museum and outdoors on museum grounds. The event is family friendly and free to attend.

### **Dakar Nola's Chef Celebration of Juneteenth**

Every Tuesday in June, Dakar Nola will hold a pop-up dinner featuring a rotation of chefs in celebration of Juneteenth. The Prix-Fixe five-course tasting menu will highlight creations from some of the best chefs in the City, including Senegalese and Creole flavors. Check here for tickets and more information.

The Chase Family Foundation Juneteenth Celebration

Celebrate Juneteenth at Dooky Chase's Restaurant. Throughout the decades, the restaurant has been a mainstay in the African American community, serving locals, tourists, and presidents all the same. The Chase Family Foundation celebrates Juneteenth with a five-course, formal, sit-down dinner, spoken word and live musical performances on Saturday, June 19th. Purchase tickets here.

### A Taste of the East

Check out this inaugural pop-up event over Juneteenth weekend featuring food, music, shopping and more. Come to 9701 Lake Forest Blvd. #103 on Friday, June 18th from 4-8 p.m. and Saturday, June 19th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to join the festival and support economic development in New Orleans East.

### The Juneteenth New Orleans Celebration & Market

Attend an arts market and live music event courtesy of The Juneteenth New Orleans Celebration & Market. On Juneteenth, head to Vybes Nation at 1681 Religious St. from 3-8 p.m. for a celebration hosted by Tonya Boyd-Cannon and performances from DJ Raj Smoove, DJ Captain Charles, Congo Nation with special guest Big Chief Donald Harrison, spoken word artists Nique'o, Tiffny "POETIC SHORTEE" Harris and Sporty's Brass Band. Black-owned food and product vendors will also be in attendance. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased here.

### **New Orleans Juneteenth Festival**

Celebrate Juneteenth all weekend long at NOLA Juneteenth Festival. From June 18th-20th, a variety of events will take place, including a book reading and film screening at the Tremé Center on Friday, a free festival in Armstrong Park on Saturday and a freedom gala on Sunday. For more information, see here.

### **Juan LaFonta's Juneteenth Celebration**

Join local Attorney Juan LaFonta at the Lakefront for free food on Juneteenth. The event is from 5-8:30 p.m., with the first 300 people receiving free food. A fireworks show will close out the event. Head to the Lakefront behind Lakefront Arena and between Franklin Avenue and the Seabrook Bridge.

**Juneteenth Blood Drive for Sickle Cell Awareness Day** Give back this Juneteenth by giving blood. Son of a Saint will team up with Ochsner Blood Bank on Juneteenth to host a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2541 Bayou Road. The day also happens to be World Sickle Cell Awareness Day, raising awareness for a disease that affects Black Americans at much higher rates than people of other ethnicities. Sign up to donate here.

### **Honoring Juneteenth at NOMA**

Commemorate Juneteenth with special programming at NOMA. Participate in family-friendly art activities, experience a moving dance performance co-presented by Edward Spots and Magnolia Dance & Company, view a photographic banner created by students at New Harmony High School and delve into online programming. All events and activities are free. To reserve your free ticket for admission to NOMA and the Besthoff Sculpture Garden.

### Newsmaker

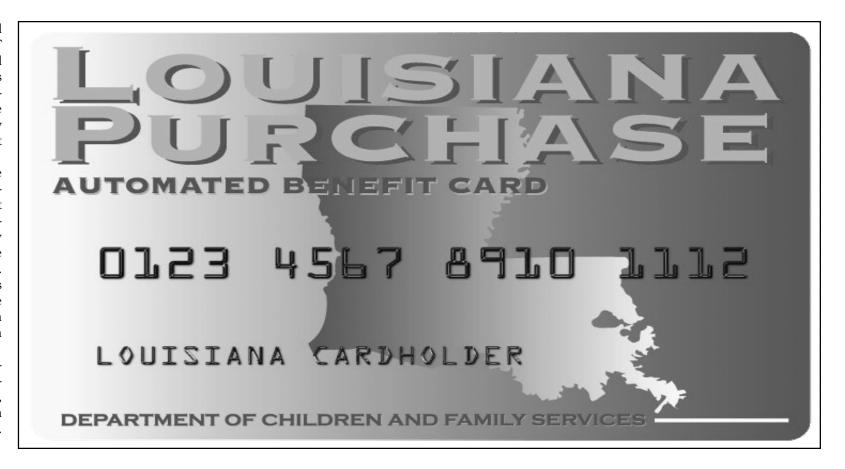
# **Pandemic EBT Benefits Coming!**

Eligible Louisiana Families could Receive up to \$120 per Month, per Student.

Eligible Louisiana families will soon be receiving Pandemic EBT Benefits for the 2020-2021 school year to help cover the cost of meals while students were learning remotely or in a hybrid model. We want to make sure families know these benefits are coming and not to throw out their cards (attached)!

Students are eligible to receive P-EBT if they would normally receive free or reduced-price meals at school, and no application is necessary this time around - they simply need to look out for their card in the mail over the next several weeks. Cards will be issued in the student's name and will cover the entire school year. The cards will arrive in a plain white envelope with a return address from Indiana.

Parents can find more information on their eligibility for Pandemic EBT Benefits and when, where, and how they will receive them here: http://www.dcfs.louisiana.gov/page/pebt-louisiana



**State & Local News** 

# Gary Carter Jr. Wins State Senate District 7 Race

Eric Connerly Data News Weekly Contributor

In the race to replace Troy Carter in Louisiana Senate District 7; an area that covers Orleans, Jefferson and northern Plaquemines parishes a new state senator was elected on Saturday June 12, 2021.

Gary Carter Jr. easily was victorious getting 60% of the vote, according to the Louisiana Secretary of State's website.

The seat was formerly held by Congressman Troy Carter, who is the uncle of Gary Carter, Jr.

Carter Jr., a Democrat from Algiers, faced St. Rep. Mack Cormier (D) Belle Chasse, Joanna Cappiello-Leopold (D) and Patricia McCarty (P)

Gary Carter Jr. is currently the State Representative of District 102, which encompasses all of Algiers.

There will be an upcoming race to determine who will succeed him to serve the rest of his term.



Gary Carter Jr. easily was victorious getting 60% of the vote in the race for Louisiana State Senate District 7.

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www.ladatanews.com June 19 - June 25, 2021 Page 5

# CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

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



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### Data Zone

# **Cumulus Radio New Orleans Recognizes African American Music Appreciation Month**

KMEZ Radio FM 102.9 Spotlights the Social and Cultural Influences of African American Music

Throughout American history from African American Spirituals, to Gospel, Jazz, R&B and Hip Hop African American Music has played a key role in the social and cultural development of our country. It has been instrumental in serving as a bridge for social change, diversity, and the American constitutional pursuit of equality for all.

Inspired by the iconic Sound of Philadelphia International Records famed Producer Kenny Gamble and Media Executive Ed Wright they presented to President Jimmy Carter the Historic Impact of Black Music which resulted in President Carter officially proclaiming June as Black Music Month and in 2009 President Barack Obama would officially commemorate June as African American Music Month.

KMEZ Radio FM 102.9 recognizes June as African American Music Month and will be doing a month-long spotlight on the best of R&B music on our show "Throwback Saturday Night".

"Throwback Saturday Night" hosted by Radio Veteran Terry Davis is a music show that presents the stories of star music artist and the music they created that has influenced and continues to impact our world.

Through all the challenges in today's society regarding social justice, equality and economic empowerment African American Music remains a strong voice to help build a bridge for a more productive future in its pursuit of the American dream for all.



Gladys Knight & Patti LaBelle



Mary J. Blige



The O'Jays



Earth Wind &Fire



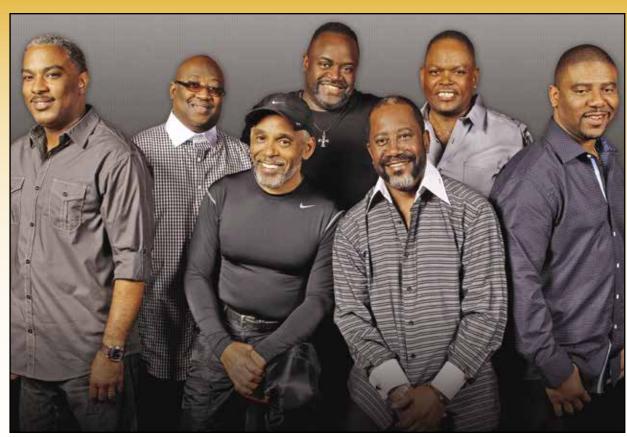
Chaka Khan

Data Zone, Continued on page 7.

Data Zone, Continued from page 6.







Frankie Beverly and Maze



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**June 19 - June 25, 2021** 

## From Desire To Purpose...A Dreamer's Journey

### 'Celebrating Our Sons In The Sun"



Renée Dugué Co-Founder and Executive Director of Reborn and Rising

How apropos is it this year that we celebrate Juneteenth as the sun, which exudes masculine energy, is rising at its highest, and then Father's Day on the first day of summer, also the longest day of the year? Moving into The Age of Aquarius with Mother Earth's femininity flowing, let's enjoy the age's first Summer Solstice by basking and recharging in the healing rays of the sun. Get outside, breathe in the fresh air, soak up the world's best vitamin D, and get your melanin popping, while giving honor to all of our Sons, Brothers, Uncles, and Fathers. Just as we could not exist without the sun, we would not

be if it were not for the village of men that raised and shaped us into who we are today.

As I write from Houston, and you read wherever you are, if your roots run from The 504, I know you feel me when I say there's no place like home or a man like one from New Orleans. Cut from a different cloth, our men are truly a rare breed. We come from men who knew how to go out and get it, then come home with it, and give that bacon to women who made miracles in those cast iron pots. Working that voodoo, they served up that good food to the men who framed our definitions of a man and wore spit-shined shoes. Our first loves and superheroes smelled like Old Spice mixed with sweet tobacco smoke wafting from pipes; no snails or puppy dog tails, just everything nice.

I was blessed to have two Daddies, who taught me that men provide and protect, with actions that speak louder than words. When walking in public, my Daddies made sure to hold my hand and position themselves nearest the street to



Renée Dugué is pictured as a toddler with her father, Gerard Leo Dugué Sr. (deceased), and celebrating her birthday (May '21) with her father, Harold A. Baudy Jr. (top left), along with her maternal and paternal Grandfathers, Uncle, Cousins, her children's Fathers, and Significant Others. An LMT based in Houston, TX, her healing practice provides in-person and virtual services. Visit ReneeDugue.com to connect and learn more about her personal philosophy of healing through helping, and to support her WALK4WATER Campaign.

keep me safe. They instructed me to never open the passenger door. I was to wait for it to be opened for me after it was determined safe to. My experiences with them combined to verse me well across the

spectrum of understanding what moves a man. Love. From them I learned that men grow from boys, first loving their mothers, trusting them blindly, to freely giving all of themselves to a woman who val-

ues and cares for him, keeping his heart safe from harm, the way his mother's love kept him warm. A woman's love fuels him; the lack of is his kryptonite. The most sought after to vilify and dehumanize, prior to and still since June 19, 1865, our men are targets and systematically deprived of the human source of his strength. But just like our hair, they defy gravity and all the odds stacked against them, in skin energized with each new sunrise. Our

As we celebrate jubilantly, let's honor all our men. Generations of Kings, forever immortal, vibrating melanated masculine energy, exhibiting sought-after superhuman abilities to endure, survive, and thrive. Nurtured by The San with grace and mercy, their seeds sown will rise and blossom forever. Be reminded that we are only here because our ancestors made a choice to be free from this plane's constraints, knowing Our Creator will not fail our faithfulness. Let us be encouraged to love each other unfailingly. We are all we got.

**Dollars & Sense** 

# **Financial Fundamentals**

### Part I



Data News Weekly Contributor

"Popping tags" and "Ballin" are popular slang terms we often associate with riches or being financially well-off. When the beat drops and you hear "\$2,000 just for the shoes I put on, spin out and do a 360 for nothing (probably in a car most people can't afford)" ... your natural inclination might be to start nodding your head and swaying to the beat. Afterall that's the effect it's supposed to have right? If we didn't

feel the music ... "the culture" wouldn't be a thing because it wouldn't make money, which at its core is what we're glorifying right? Making money and living the good life.

As adults we have to separate the entertainment value from what we actually do with our money. When we seek to live out what we hear in our music or see in the media, things can take a turn for the worst. We can end up spending above our means, piling up unnecessary debt, and living paycheck to paycheck. If you're wearing and driving every penny you make ... you've popped too many tags and need to re-think what you consider "ballin."

"Ballin" is a state of mind that codifies hustle and self-discipline. It's not only about making money and then frivolously spending it

on depreciable consumer items such as cars and clothes. It's about managing the money you make to build wealth and ultimately have it work for you. That starts with building a solid financial foundation. To maximize our savings and investing, we first need to enfranchise ourselves into mainstream financial services and products.

McKinsey & Company produced a report called, The economic impact of closing the racial wealth gap stating that almost half of Black households (47%) are unbanked or underbanked. Underbanked being defined as not having sufficient access to mainstream financial services and products offered by retail banks. This means a large population within our community rely on alternative financial services like check cashing and prepaid cards, which charge significant fees to people accessing their own hard-earned money recorded at \$40,000 over the life of one's career.

"Ballers" do not let 40 bands slip through their hands by not having the right financial products at their disposal. As Jay-Z said, "If you owe me \$10 dollars, you ain't paying me \$9." You get a checking account to manage your inflows (money coming in) and outflows (money you owe to other people). You keep a savings account to stack your paper up in case of an emergency, save for a big purchase, or accumulate dollars to invest in other larger interesting bearing financial vehicles (e.g., CDS, IRAs, stocks, bonds, commodities, alternative investments, real estate, etc.) that build your wealth.

If you're in the market for a checking account and savings account, think about supporting your local Black depository institution (https:// mightydeposits.com/posts/ bank-black).

In Louisiana, that would be Liberty Bank and One United Bank. Otherwise check out https://www.businessinsider. com/personal-finance/best-nofee-checking-accounts. These bank accounts offer great terms and fees and allow for \$0 dollar balances. Likewise, when opening a savings account, make sure to maximize the amount of interest earned on your deposits (money you put in the bank) by opening a high-yield savings account. A list of the best high-yield savings accounts can be found here https://www. bankrate.com/banking/savings/best-high-yield-interestssavings-accounts/.





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**Data News Weekly** 



# It's Official... Drew Brees Placed on Saints Retired List

#### Fleur De Lis **Data News Weekly** Columnist

It's been a while y'all, but who would have thought this day would finally come. Its official, Drew Brees's name has been added to the NFL's reserve/retired list on June 11, 2021.

Call it the end of an era, as the City and the league celebrates on the all-time greats to ever get on the gridiron.

Brees leaves the Black and Gold as the G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time) not just for the Saints, but in league history. He was a winner on all levels and



broke records throughout Drew Brees leaves the Black and Gold as the G.O.A.T (Greatest of All Time) not just for the Saints, but in the history of the NFL.

his career. And he took a team that fans once wore bags over their heads to the Super Bowl and won against Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts in 2010.

We in NOLA wish him well in his next career as he is gearing up for his first season in broadcast work, calling Notre Dame football games for NBC Sports.

We wish him and his family well, and as fans of the Black and Gold; also, we die-hard fans know

that we can rebuild a winning team. Because look at it; while Brees was injured the past two seasons, the team still ran like a well-oiled machine; regardless of who was under center.

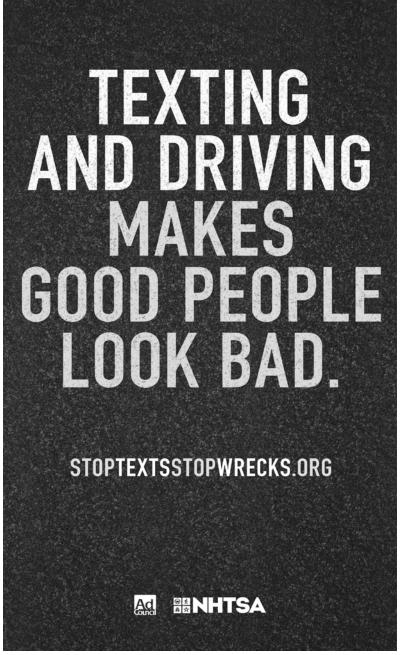
The Saints are a team full of weapons and are good on both sides of the ball, so many of us are confident we have what it takes to make the big one.

Who knows, when that day happens, it may be Drew Brees calling the game for NBC.

The Black and Gold and Who Dat Nation is turning the page, but it will be a great day to see our Superdome filled with fans, when number 9 is raised to the rafters as the greatest of all-time.

This is Fleur De Lis, telling all to continue to be safe, get vaccinated and always rep the best of the 5-0-4.





# Black Voters Matter Announces New Voter Outreach Initiative on 60th Anniversary Of The Original Freedom Rides

Campaign launches June 18th out of New Orleans at the Treme' Center, 900 N. Villere Street @ 12:00 AM - 2:00 PM

#### **Louisiana Unity Coalition**

www.ladatanews.com

NEW ORLEANS (6/14/2021) - Black Voters Matter (BVM) has announced the launch of its Freedom Rides for Voting Rights, a voter outreach campaign to engage Black voters and build Black voting power across the South. Beginning in June, BVM will board its signature "Blackest Bus in America" for a voter outreach tour from Georgia to Washington D.C., making stops in key southern states to rally with partner organizations, meet with voters, and discuss the issues impacting their communities.

The announcement also coincided with the 60-year Anniversary of the launch of the original Freedom Rides from Washington D.C. throughout the South to challenge segregation in busing and public facilities.

"Sixty years after the original Freedom Rides, Black Americans are still facing significant barriers at the polls," said Cliff Albright, co-founder of Black Voters Matter. "Legislation in Georgia, Florida, and dozens of other states threatens to further disenfranchise our communities and rob us of our power. We are launching the Freedom Rides for Voting Rights to build on the legacy on the original Freedom Rides and continue to fight those same systems of racism, segregation, and voter suppression that are impacting our communities today."

"The original Freedom Rides did not only send a message to state and local leaders; they were also a demand for federal leadership on the issues and challenges impacting Black communities," said LaTosha Brown, co-founder of Black Voters Matter. "On the 60th anniversary of the Freedom Rides, we are launching this campaign to echo that sentiment and deliver a message straight to Washington: our communities cannot wait for voting rights reform. We need fed-

eral leadership and the immediate passage of HR1 and HR 4 to protect voting rights now."

On May 4, 1961, thirteen young men and women boarded interstate buses in Washington D.C. to challenge local laws enforcing segregation after two U.S. Supreme Court decisions declared segregation on buses, in bus terminal waiting rooms, and at other public facilities unconstitutional. The bus was meant to stop in New Orleans, but the "Freedom Riders" encountered so much violence and racism along the way that they were forced to end the ride in Birmingham, Alabama. In the weeks and months that followed, civil rights activists planned dozens more Freedom Rides to protest the treatment of Black people in America.

BVM's Freedom Rides for Voting Rights, which continues the tradition of the original Freedom Rides, comes as more than 40 states consider legislation to restrict voting rights, which would have a disproportionate impact on Black communities. In addition to voter outreach and engagement, the bus tour will raise awareness about this harmful legislation and empower communities to combat restrictions to early voting, absentee ballots, and other important reforms. Similar to the original Freedom Rides, BVM is also encouraging organizations, activists and supporters to join the caravan for part or all of the route, creating space for those who would like to participate whether for just one day or multiple days.

Louisiana Unity Coalition and Black Women's Roundtable Louisiana is pleased to partner with Black Voters Matter and many other organizations in helping to plan and promote this initiative which pays homage to those who paved the way to the rights we enjoy today. We are particularly pleased to bring a spotlight to New Orleans' contribution to the civil rights movement.

# Hip Hop Icon Dr. Dre Opening the 'Coolest High School in America'

### Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

Hip Hop and business icon Dr. Dre said he lasted just two weeks in a college program and believed that many young ones don't want to attend school because it's boring.

"You keep flipping the same thing over and over again, year after year, with the same curriculum, the same teachers," demanded Dre, whose real name is Andre Young.

The star, who reportedly has a net worth of more than \$1 billion, revealed he and music mogul Jimmy Iovine are establishing the "coolest high school in America."

"I want to reach the inner-city kid, the younger me," Dre told the Los Angeles Times.

"Here's a place that you can go where there's something that you can learn that you're really interested in," he continued.

The concept has been approved by the Los Angeles Unified School District, the nation's second-largest school system.



According to the Times, Dre and Iovine's School will be located at Audubon Middle School in Leimert Park, a longtime Black cultural hub, but in a larger community where many Black and Latino students have struggled with low achievement.

The Times reported that more than 80 percent of students are Latino and Black and about the same number come from low-income families.

According to the Times, Dre and Iovine's school will be located at Audubon Middle School in Leimert Park, a longtime Black cultural hub, but in a larger community where many Black and Latino students have struggled with

low achievement.

The newspaper reported that the new school would be a "magnet," meaning that students can apply from across the sprawling district.

## Transportation will be provided for those outside the local area.

The school will enjoy high-tech equipment and projects with private industry

"A task could have something to do with music or incorporate an element of music," the newspaper reported. But as Iovine said, this is no music school or Hip Hop High.

"This is for kids who want to go out and start their own company or go work at a place... like Marvel or Apple or companies like that," Iovine stated.

"Working successfully in these areas means breaking down silos between different jobs and skills — and disrupting familiar patterns with creativity and purpose," Iovine continued

"This is nowhere near a music school," he said.

Los Angeles Schools Superintendent Austin Beutner said the district must find new, better, and more engaging programs.

He said the new venture could create "the coolest high school in America."

"We can better connect what a student learns in a high school today with a job opportunity in the future," he said.

### **DATA CLASSIFIED**

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Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper, is looking for freelence 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

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