# National Juneteenth Juried Youth Art Competition & Exhibition



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**National Juneteenth Juried Youth Art Competition & Exhibition** 

**WHAT:** This competition and exhibit's focus is on how June 19, 1865, was a time of transformation when approximately 250,000 slaves in Texas became African Americans. Student artists are invited to be judged in the areas of Fine Arts - Sketching, Painting, and Carving to express their thoughts and opinions in unique ways. Students' submissions are based on their research of the 12 Freedoms Gained when Emancipation Came. Unity Unlimited, Inc's goal is that this experience will increase lateral and critical thinking skills in the youth participants as they discover how the freedom of Juneteenth relates to all Americans.

## Competition Overview:

The winning artists will receive prizes and their achievements will be recognized by sponsors presenting awards to the winners of the Juneteenth Youth Art Competition at Soul of Sycamore Art in the Park on Sunday, June 19, 2022, in Fort Worth, Texas.

## **CONTEST PERKS:**

Award • 2 VIP passes to all events • 1 entry in Opal's Walk for Freedom • a Swag Bag • 1 autographed book by Ms. Opal • The winning art will be on public display in Fort Worth from June 1st - July 5th

WHEN: Entries will be accepted from March 1st through April 24th

**WHERE:** Nationwide competition - Youth can upload pictures (JPEG) of their artwork to be judged. Get more information at www.juneteenthftw.com/art-competition

**WHO:** There will be a panel of judges from the community to select three winners in each school category and one overall winner (10 winners total).

Artists: Youth ages 8 to 18. Qualified entries will be submitted by national youth artists in Elementary or Primary School, Middle or Junior High School, and High or Secondary School. Artist must be a student in a traditional education system or home school and reside in the United States.

Special Guests include:

- Ms. Opal Lee, Social Impact Leader, Grandmother of Juneteenth
- Mrs. Dione Sims, Executive Director of Unity Unlimited, Inc.
- Marnese Elder, Chair of the JuneteenthFTW Art Competition

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#### **ABOUT 12 FREEDOMS GAINED**

When enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation reached Texas, those previously enslaved could now enjoy the basic human rights we take for granted: (1) To read and write (2) To marry who you want (3) To birth, name, and keep your children (4) To know and preserve your history (5) To create (6) To grow (7) To own property (8) To worship (9) To serve in the military (10) To vote, legislate and govern (11) To travel (12) To Dress. While the freedoms were short-lived, having the experience of the choices would anchor the souls of generations to come.

### **ABOUT MS. OPAL LEE**

Ms. Opal is the oldest living board member of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation (NJOF),

founded and led by the late Dr. Ronald Myers, Sr., whose initiative helped 43 states establish Juneteenth days of observance. To bring awareness to the cause, she started her Opal's Walks 2 DC campaign in 2016, where she walks 2.5 miles to symbolize the 2.5 years that it took enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation to reach Texas to free the slaves. In 2021, due in part to her unwavering efforts, Juneteenth became a national holiday.

Visit her website

View her **EPK** 

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