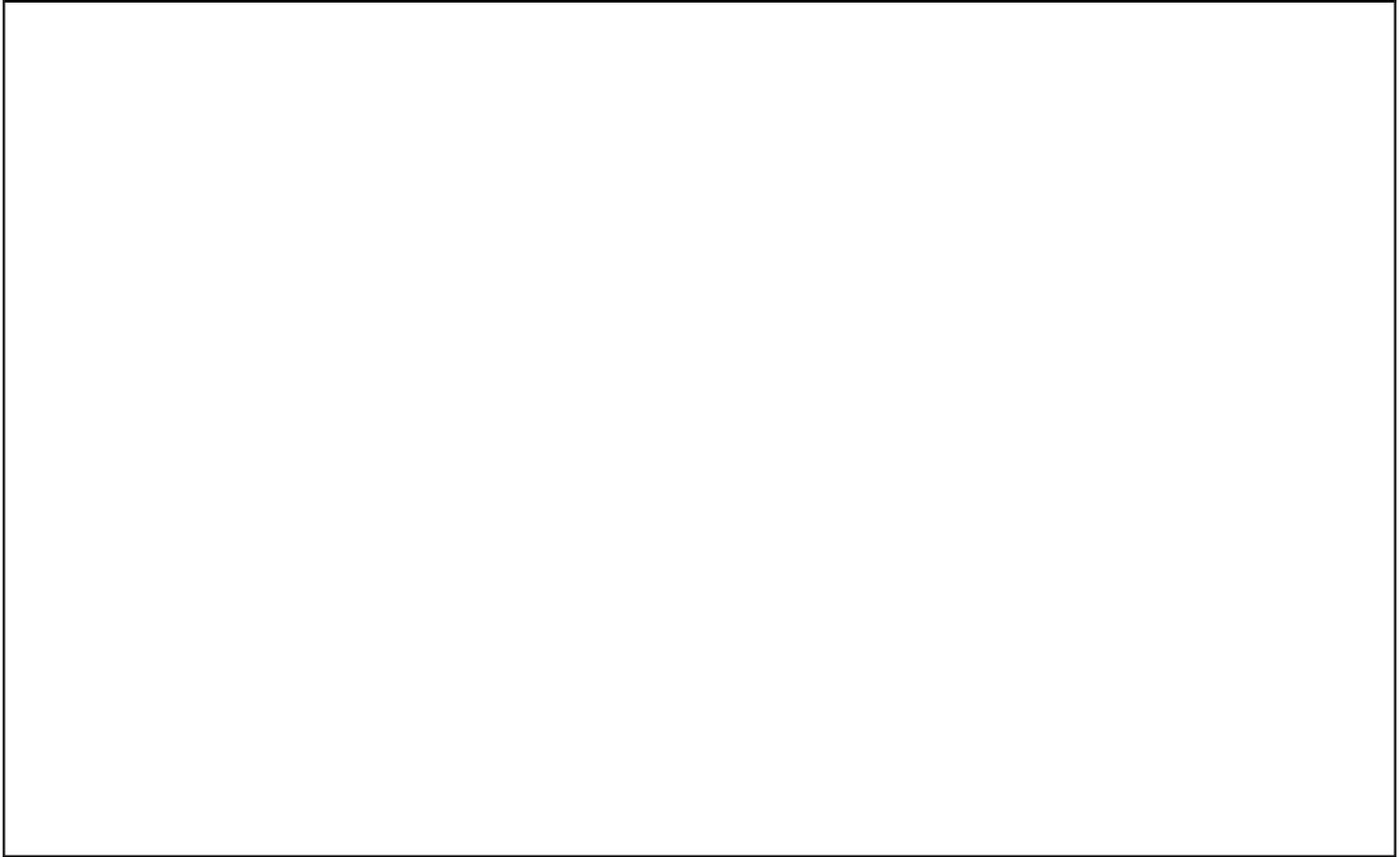


Wave Your Freedom Flag!

In 1997, activist and founder of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation (NJCF) Ben Haith created the Juneteenth flag with the help of illustrator Lisa Jeanne Graf and other contributors. This flag symbolizes the liberation of Black people and the end of slavery in the United States. It is flown in many cities and states as a sign of celebration for African Americans.

Create your flag

Find a copy of the Juneteenth flag and discuss what the colors and shapes on it mean. Then create your own freedom flag!



What does freedom mean to you?

Black Freedom Facts and Sites of Nashville

1864

On October 24, 1864, all enslaved people are freed in the state of Tennessee.

Booming in Black Bottom

From the 1880s until the 1950s, “Black Bottom” was known as the most notable Black neighborhood in Nashville, with businesses, churches, and homes of working- and middle-class families.

Greenwood Park (1905–1953)

Owned by Preston Taylor, Greenwood Park was the first Black recreational park in Nashville. Greenwood Cemetery now occupies the site.

Sulphur Dell

Sulphur Dell was Nashville’s first home for baseball. The Nashville Elite Giants, a semi-pro Negro League team, played there.

McKissack and McKissack Architects

The McKissack brothers were Black architects who moved to Nashville in 1905 and built several college buildings, including Carnegie Library at Fisk University in 1908.

Fort Negley

In 1862, this massive fortification system was constructed by both free Black citizens and those who had escaped enslavement.

The “Negro Building” at the World’s Fair

At what was called the “Negro Building” at the time, two 90-foot towers stood near Lake Watauga in Centennial Park exhibiting contributions from African Americans representing 85 cities during the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897. These displays highlighted education, science, technology, and art.

From Meigs to Pearl

After protests and petitions to provide a school for African American youth, Meigs became the first Black high school in Nashville on September 20, 1886. After the building reached capacity, the newly constructed Pearl High School held classes for the 1897–98 academic year, followed by its first graduating class of 1898.

For more information, visit FristArtMuseum.org/FreedomFlag.

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