

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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## Juneteenth 2015 Celebrating 150 Years: A Time to Reflect, Heal and Act

(Woodland, CA) – On Sunday, June 14, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., join the Yolo County Library, The Culture C.O.-O.P., Friends of the Davis Public Library and the City of Davis for the beloved Juneteenth Celebration at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library and the Davis Veterans Memorial Center. This free, family-friendly event includes a fun, education-packed line up of live entertainment, activities and delicious food! Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to share at the potluck, which begins at 1:00 p.m. The first 100 people to arrive will be entered into a raffle for a special prize!

This year is the landmark 150th Anniversary of the Juneteenth celebration. Juneteenth derives its history from the enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation by the Union army in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, and is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. "A Time to Reflect, Heal and Act," was selected as this year's theme to inspire members of our community to think critically about the world we live in, to encourage one another to take a moment to marinate in our profound history and relate it to current events, and to ultimately come together to heal wounds both ancient and fresh, moving forward in solidarity. "It is a call-to-action ceremony to remind members of our diverse community that we must celebrate each other and work together in order to create positive social change," said Yolo County Librarian Patty Wong.

Festivities will be held at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library, located at 315 E. 14th Street and next door at the Davis Veterans Memorial Center at 203 E. 14th Street. Events at the library include: a special Hip-Hop history and dance program with Teacher Tina from Catch-A-Beat at 2:30 p.m.; a Juneteenth-themed scavenger hunt; a storytelling booth; and a special Juneteenth-themed story time for children held before and after the dance program. Events at the Veterans Memorial Center include: live music with a special tribute to the late Blues musician, B.B. King by Augusta Lee Collins and Calvin Handy and the Jazz Patrol; a "social justice is always in fashion"-themed fashion show; spoken word performances by local artists; the potluck; and a variety of vendors and information booths.

The event is a grassroots community effort; everyone has an opportunity to give back and celebrate! For those interested in volunteering, performing or being a vendor, please contact Sandy Holman at (530) 902-4534 or sandy@cultureco-op.com. Tax-deductible donations can be made to the Friends of the **Public Davis** Library, P.O. Box 91, Davis. CA 95617 or online http://www.davislibraryfriends.org/juneteenth-2015.html. For more information about the Juneteenth celebration contact the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library at (530) 757-5593 x3. For more information about Yolo County Library visit: www.yolocountylibrary.org or connect with the Yolo County Library on Facebook at www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org.