

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock County Administrator

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** May 23, 2017 Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer (530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

## **Biennial Juneteenth Celebration: Celebrating Our Future by Unshackling Our Past**

(Woodland, CA) – Join the Juneteenth Celebration on Sunday, June 4th from 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. with the Yolo County Library, The Culture C.O.-O.P., the Friends of the Davis Public Library, and the City of Davis. 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. The event is FREE, with a fun, family-friendly, and education-packed line up of live entertainment, activities, and delicious food. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to share at the potluck, which will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. The first 100 people to arrive will be entered into a raffle for a special prize!

The main stage and potluck will be held at the Davis Veterans Memorial Center at 203 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street and children's events will be held at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library at 315 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Events at the Library include a Juneteenth-themed scavenger hunt, family storytelling, and crafts. Events at the Veterans Memorial Center will include music, spoken word performances by local artists, a potluck meal, and a variety of vendors and information booths. Performers include Al Zaid and his Motown sound, violinist Kippy Marks, Darlene K. Tellis, as well as a 'Social Justice is Always in Fashion' Show. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Davis Public Library, the Culture C.O.-O.P., City of Davis – Human Relations Commission, the Wyman Family, Travis Credit Union, Hanlees Toyota, and Davis Food CO-OP.

"Celebrating Our Future by Unshackling Our Past," 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 Library Regional Manager, Scott Love.

If you are interested in volunteering to help at the celebration, would like to perform, or be a vendor, please contact Sandy Holman at (530) 902-4534, by email to <u>sandy@cultureco-op.com</u>, or visit <u>www.davisjuneteenth.org</u>. Tax-deductible donations can be made on the website or by sending a check to the Friends of the Davis Public Library, P.O. Box 91, Davis, CA 95617. The event is a grassroots community effort – everyone has an opportunity to give back and celebrate! For more information about the Juneteenth celebration contact the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library at (530) 757-5593. For

more information about Yolo County Library visit: <u>www.yolocountylibrary.org</u> or connect with the Yolo County Library on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org</u>.