



UNC Department of Anesthesiology

Spring 2023

Diversity Newsletter

Each quarter, UNC Anesthesiology's Diversity Newsletter brings our readership news and events that cultivate an inclusive and supportive environment found across our University, community and world.

Juneteenth: An Unheralded Day in Civil War History that Secured the End of Slavery

In U.S. Civil War history, the Appomattox courthouse surrender (April 9, 1865) symbolizes the war's official end, yet it has long overshadowed a date two months later that secured freedom for all slaves across the Confederacy.



Two years earlier, President Abraham Lincoln had signed and liberated all slaves via the Emancipation Proclamation (January 1st, 1863), which stated: *"All persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, whereof the people shall be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."*¹ Despite its enactment, many slave owners in Confederate states defied Lincoln's executive order and would not free their slaves.

- Contributed by UNC Anesthesiology Associate Professor Dr. Mia Kang

General Order No. 3³

*Head Quarters District of Texas
Galveston Texas June 19th 1865.*

General Orders No. 3.

The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor.

The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.

By order of Major General Granger

Though General Order No. 3 decreed formerly enslaved people would have “absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property,”³ the challenges facing these individuals were immense. Congress had established the Freedmen’s Bureau⁷ on March 3, 1865 to provide food, shelter, clothing, medical services, and land to settle displaced Southerners including former slaves on land confiscated or abandoned during the war.

Despite the Bureau’s aims, the prospect of unmonitored freedom from servitude to former enslavers was very unlikely, due both to federal funding and personnel shortages and the politics of race in the Reconstruction post-war era that permitted rampant violence against newly liberated blacks (Gordon-Reed, p. 129).⁴

As formerly enslaved Texans began annually to celebrate the date they learned of their freedom from involuntary servitude, “Juneteenth” was born. During the civil rights protests in the 1960s, Juneteenth began to receive national attention.² In 2016, Opal Lee, the “grandmother of Juneteenth,” walked from Fort



Worth, TX, to Washington, DC at age 89 to bring attention to calls for Juneteenth to be declared a national holiday.⁵ On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the “Juneteenth National Independence Day Act” into law.²

Each July 4th (Independence Day), the United States celebrates freedoms we’ve achieved and preserved as a nation. The U.S. has removed many systemic barriers to advancement for Black Americans. Nonetheless, all too many barriers remain. In his famous speech delivered July 5, 1852, escaped slave and leading abolitionist Frederick Douglass rightly asked: “What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer: “A day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim.”⁸

Juneteenth reminds us it took far more than a sweeping federal act to secure freedom for enslaved Americans. As the U.S. celebrates Juneteenth in 2023 as a national holiday, may all Americans pause to recognize present-day injustices against blacks and other historically suppressed minorities and commit themselves to helping correct racial inequities.

Juneteenth 2023 Events (All Celebrated Saturday, June 17th)

National: [Weekend of Juneteenth Celebration \(Washington, DC\)](#)

State: **2023 North Carolina Juneteenth Festival / 2015 Ayrley Town Blvd. Charlotte, NC**

Community: **Chapel Hill-Carrboro Juneteenth Celebration**



MAY 2023 Observances

May 1: BELTANE A fire festival celebrated by the Pagan and Wiccan religions that celebrate summer and the fertility of the upcoming year.

May 3: WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY Serves as an occasion to inform the public of violations of the right to freedom of expression and as a reminder that many journalists brave death or jail to bring people their daily news.

May 5: CINCO DE MAYO In 1862 Mexican forces defeated French occupational forces in the Battle of Puebla.

May 5th: VISAKHA PUJA • Buddhist Also known as Vesak or Buddha Day, it marks the birth, spiritual awakening and death (nirvana) of the historical Buddha. (This date may vary based on region or sect).

May 8th: LAG B'OMER • Jewish holiday that celebrates the end of a divine-sent plague and/or Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime (died c. 135 CE).

May 8-9: Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for all lost lives during WWII.

May 14th: MOTHER'S DAY Children of all ages show appreciation for their mothers and mother figures.

May 17: INT'L DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA & BIPHOBIA the date chosen to honor the decision to remove homosexuality from the International Classifications of Diseases of the WHO in 1990. On this day, 132 countries coordinate international events that raise awareness of LGBT rights. You can celebrate by reading up on the terminology so you can talk about the issues confidently in the workplace.

May 18th: ASCENSION DAY (Christian) Also known as Holy Thursday, celebrated 40 days after Easter/Pascha, it commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.

May 19: MALCOLM X's BIRTHDAY In the 1960s, Malcolm X (born Malcolm Little) was a prominent civil rights leader and figure in the Nation of Islam. He was assassinated in 1965. His birthday is celebrated on May 19th.

May 20: ASIAN GOLD RIBBON DAY Asians and non-Asians adorning gold ribbons to demonstrate courage and unity to stand up against anti-Asian racism. It is an outward expression signifying pride in Asian heritage and culture.



MAY 2023 Observances

May 22: INTERNATIONAL DAY for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY The international day for biodiversity was established by the United Nations and promotes biological variability of genetics, species, and ecosystems on our planet.

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May 23: DECLARATION OF THE BÁB Bahá'í Commemoration of May 23, 1844, when the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, announced in Shíráz, Persia, that he was the herald of a new messenger of God.

May 26th: BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY a significant day of celebration for Buddhists around the world. Prince Siddhartha Gautama is the founder of one of the most popular religions in the world. The festival Vesak celebrates his birth and marks his Enlightenment for some Buddhists.

May 25-27: SHAVOUT This Jewish observance marks the "Feast of Weeks" and celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, as well as the revelation of the Ten Commandments.

May 28: ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH Bahá'í Observance of the anniversary of the death in exile of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

May 28: PENTECOST (Whitsunday) The seventh Sunday after Easter/Pascha is a Christian observance that commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and women followers of Jesus. Pentecost also marks the birth of the Christian Church.

May 29: MEMORIAL DAY A federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces.

<https://www.rd.com/article/memorial-day-history/>

QUIZ: *What mid-20th century May-born champion of gay rights was an American politician and the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California?*

- A) Harvey Milk
- B) Gavin Newsom
- C) Scott Wiener
- D) Robert Garcia



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JUNE 2023 Observances

June 2: Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 On June 2, 1924, Congress granted citizenship to all Native Americans born in the U.S. through this initiative. Though an important date in Native American history, this group was not permitted to vote in all U.S. states until 1957.

June 5: World Environment Day Held annually since 1973, World Environment Day is now the largest global platform for environmental outreach. Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Environment Day marks its 50th anniversary in 2023. This year, Côte d'Ivoire will facilitate a global discussion on solutions to the plastic pollution crisis as host of World Environment Day in partnership with the Netherlands.

June 11: Race Unity Day Observed worldwide by the Baha'i community. The day was established in 1957 by the Baha'i National Spiritual Assembly in the United States, with the purpose of focusing attention on racial prejudice.

June 11: Puerto Rican Day Parade This parade is one of the largest demonstrations of cultural pride across the United States. The parade's purpose is to create awareness and appreciation of Puerto Rican culture and history. The [2023 National Puerto Rican Day Parade](#) will take place in New York City on Sunday, June 11th.

June 12: Loving Day On this day in 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled (Loving vs. Virginia) ruled that laws banning interracial marriage violate the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This ruling struck down all anti-miscegenation laws banning interracial marriage in 16 states. This date is celebrated annually as a monumental win for love.

June 12: Anne Frank Day Birthday of a young Jewish girl whose diary details her family hiding during World War II assisted by Gentile friends in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam.

June 13: International Albinism Awareness Day Albinism is a rare, non-contagious, genetically inherited disease that remains profoundly misunderstood, both medically and socially. In 2013, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution calling for prevention of attacks, discrimination and marginalization against persons with albinism.

June 19: International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict In 2023, the United States joins nations worldwide to commemorate the 15th anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820, which declared use of all forms of sexual violence, including rape, as tools of war that can constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity or a constitutive act (genocide-related) and pose a threat to international peace and security.



JUNE 2023 Observances

June 19: **Juneteenth**: This day commemorates when the last African Americans learned of the Emancipation Proclamation (over two years after it was originally issued)

June 20: **World Refugee Day** Designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe, this date celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. World Refugee Day is an occasion to build empathy and understanding for their plight and recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives.

June 21: **National Indigenous People's Day** first celebrated in 1996, this day recognizes and celebrates the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Indigenous peoples of Canada.

June 26: **Anniversary - Legalized Same-Sex Marriage in the U.S.** On June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court ruled (Obergefell v. Hodges) that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples. The ruling required all states to recognize and issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples .

June 26 to July 1: **The Hajj**: This day begins the annual pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims must take once in their lives if they are physically and financially capable

June 27: **Helen Keller's Birthday** Known for being both deaf and blind, Keller became a pioneer in advocacy for individuals with disabilities. She is one of the 20th century's leading humanitarians and is uniquely known for advocating for the blind and women's suffrage, and for co-founding the American Civil Liberties Union.

June 27: **Canadian Multiculturalism Day** In 1971, Canada became the first country in the world to adopt multiculturalism as an official policy.

June 28: **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Pride Day** Initially called "Gay Pride Day," the last Sunday of the month commemorates the Stonewall Uprising (June 28th, 1969) in Manhattan that was a tipping point in the Gay Liberation Movement. LGBTQ+ Pride Day is one of many international events throughout June celebrating the fight for equality and dignity of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

UNC Department of Anesthesiology DEI Committee Presents ...

UNC Department of Anesthesiology

Grand Rounds

Visiting Professor

DEI: From Acronym to Action

Presented by

Dr. Matthew C. Wixson

Clinical Assistant Professor of
Anesthesiology
Assoc. Chair for Diversity, Equity &
Inclusion
Director of Raising Anesthesiology
Diversity and Anti-Racism Director of
Raising Anesthesiology Diversity and
Anti-Racism (RADAR)



Wednesday, May 03 2023
7:00am - 8:00am
Bondurant Hall, G-100

The Department's DEI Committee is pleased to host Visiting Professor Dr. Matthew C. Wixson as our guest Grand Rounds speaker on **Wednesday, May 3rd**. Dr. Wixson is the University of Michigan Department of Anesthesiology Associate Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Director of RADAR (Raising Anesthesiology Diversity and Anti-Racism). Join us!

*FOOD
FOR THOUGHT ...*



RALEIGH'S INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

SUPPORT LOCAL, EXPERIENCE GLOBAL

Sat. June 3, 2023
11:00AM-9:00PM

Over 60 countries represented! International Food, Desserts, Beer & Wine. Performances ALL Day - Largest Dance Party-TikTok Challenge with Prizes FREE admission. Family/Pet Friendly. BEST 70s-80s Costume Contest Scavenger Hunt, Free Food Passports People's Choice Food Award International Children's Day at COR Museum, Kiss Cam

Prepay Drink Tickets, Info & Performance Schedule

City Plaza Fayetteville St. Raleigh, NC 27601 www.NCVibes.com

QUIZ: What June-born, 19th century abolitionist and activist for women's suffrage from Massachusetts made her first public speech against the institution of slavery when she was 16 years old?

- A) Sojourner Truth
- B) Sarah Parker Remond
- C) Gloria Steinem
- D) Emmeline Pankhurst



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THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

DEI TRAININGS & PROGRAMS



May 24 - 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm - Unconscious Bias Awareness

Explores unintended/implicit bias and introduces foundational concepts that are necessary to additional engagement with DEI-related topics and issues. This workshop will be offered monthly throughout the year, and is strongly recommended to be first training that participants attend.

June 22 – 9:00 am – 3:30 pm - Respecting All

This workshop explores microaggressions and biased behavior prevalent in the SOM and provides participants tools with which to intervene when witnessing acts of disrespect and discrimination.

[UNC Green Zone Training](#)

[Mental Health First Aid](#)

[UndocuCarolina](#)

[Haven: Safe at UNC](#)

[Safe Zone Program \(UNC LGBTQ\)](#)

** For more trainings offered by **UNC's Office of Diversity & Inclusion**, click [here](#). **



For UNC School of Medicine DEI trainings, click [here](#).

DEI CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The **DEI Certificate Program** is an initiative of the UNC SOM Office of Inclusive Excellence in support of the 2019 SOM Strategic Plan to foster an inclusive workplace environment. The curriculum offers workshops and trainings designed to broaden awareness of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion topics among the SOM faculty/staff and deepen engagement with and between individuals in the SOM at all levels – from patients to leadership. The workshops offered as part of the certificate program address a broad array of DEI topics, including those related to race and ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, culture and religion, socioeconomic status, and more. To learn more about this program, click [here](#).

**UNC Department of Anesthesiology
DEI Committee Members**



Lauren Andrews	David Flynn	Duncan McLean
Annika Barnett	Amy Goetzinger	Kim Nichols
Hemanth Baboolal	Christinna Haire	Seema Patidar
Laurie Birdsong	Lynn Harris	Emily Robertson
Sam Blacker	Caryn Hertz	David Sender
Robin Brennan	Mia Kang	Joseph Sisk
Fei Chen	My Liu	Sally Stander
Kelly Cunningham	Andy Lobonc	Adam Suchar
Vishal Dhanda	Elisa Lund	Eva Waller
Alexander Doyal	Skye Margolies	Shanna Weaver

*Interested in joining your colleagues & getting involved?
There are many ways to contribute & make a difference!!*

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[Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: UNC Department of Anesthesiology](#)



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Anesthesiology

QUIZ ANSWERS:

1) PG. 4: A - Harvey Milk

2) PG. 8: B - Sarah Parker Remond