

NAACP NEWS



DEVOTIONAL

NAACP
*NAACP Walking on this road
with GOD I have been enriched
with so much knowledge and
education. Unification and
Education go hand in hand.*

*John 13:14 states: "If I then,
your Lord and Teacher, have
washed your feet, you also
ought to\ wash one another's
feet". NJKV*

*Teach as you were taught.
Education can take you far, and
you can become more unified
with knowledge.
Sincerely,
Penny Jett Crump*

NATIONAL NAACP EDUCATION AGENDA

Protect and Expand Black History / Higher Ed Financial Aid

✱ The NAACP opposes any efforts to ban, minimize, and or romanticize Black history under the guise of equality and education. Politicians have continually misguided the American public by referring to the teaching of Critical Race Theory in K-12 Public School, which has never been the case. CRT is a theory first taught in law school over 40 years ago. It looks at race as a social construct which makes racism not just a personal bias but a social structure that is embedded in the American legal systems and American policies. An example of this would be in the 1930s when government officials drew lines around areas deemed financial risks based explicitly on the racial composition of those areas. Words like "CRT" and "DEI" have become synonymous with any and all diversity and inclusion efforts for certain politicians, including what parts of black history should be taught and how those parts should be represented. Black history is an integral part of American history, and understanding the contributions, struggles, and triumphs of Black Americans is essential for fostering a comprehensive and accurate understanding of our nation's past. Legislation that seeks to prohibit or limit Black history undermines educational equity and perpetuates systemic racism. We must ensure that all students have access to a truthful and inclusive curriculum that reflects the diversity of our society, promotes analytical thinking and, embraces empathy and growth.

✱ Closing the achievement gap among African American students requires the expanding of financial aid resources and prioritizing debt free solutions for post secondary educational opportunities (HBCUS, minority serving institutions, colleges, universities, and technical/ trade schools). We support doubling the federal Pell Grant award, while also expanding it to allow more students to access the program, and indexing the maximum award for inflation as the cost of education rises.



UNITY

This is what happens when we (white and black) work together for change.

The Rosenwald Schools were a significant initiative aimed at improving education for African American children in the segregated South during the early 20th century. They were not called the "Rosenbaum" schools, but rather were named after Julius Rosenwald, a philanthropist and president of Sears, Roebuck and Company. Rosenwald partnered with Booker T. Washington, the influential Black educator and founder of Tuskegee Institute, to address the chronic underfunding of Black schools. Together, they launched the Rosenwald Fund in 1917, which helped construct over 5,000 schools, teacher homes, and vocational buildings for African Americans across 15 Southern states by 1932. Communities often had to raise part of the funds themselves, which fostered a strong sense of ownership and pride in these educational institutions.

Booker T. Washington's involvement was central to the early design and mission of the Rosenwald Schools. He believed in vocational and industrial education as a practical means for African Americans to improve their socioeconomic status under the constraints of segregation. The collaboration between Washington and Rosenwald reflected a pragmatic approach to racial uplift, emphasizing self-help, community involvement, and educational excellence. The schools were often modest but well-designed and represented one of the most significant philanthropic efforts in U.S. history toward Black education before the civil rights era. While they didn't solve the problem of educational inequality, Rosenwald Schools played a crucial role in nurturing Black teachers and students during a time when public investment in Black education was woefully inadequate.

Septima Poinsette Clark (1898–1987)

Who is She: The "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement" Clark worked as an educator and activist while serving as a member of both the NAACP and Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). The educator Septima Poinsette Clark entered the world in Charleston, South Carolina before she started her teaching career in 1916.

What did She Do: During her early teaching years she provided education to Black children in Jim Crow period schools which faced insufficient funding and resources. Clark worked against segregation laws by actively supporting equal pay and resources for Black teachers and students while pointing out the injustice that affected both Black and white communities. Her teaching program provided adult literacy and citizenship education to Black and poor white Southerners who needed to pass voter registration tests and advocate for their rights. The Citizenship Schools established throughout the South by Clark accepted students from diverse backgrounds into their programs. The educational approach centered on empowering individuals rather than creating divisions.

Her Legacy: Clark collaborated with white supporters and groups such as the Highlander Folk School in Tennessee that educated Black and white civil rights activists. Major civil rights figures including Rosa Parks who took part in her workshops prior to the Montgomery Bus Boycott benefited from her teaching.





UPCOMING EVENTS

*High School Graduation: June 5th
at 5 pm at the Kaplan Arena.*

6/14/25 Juneteenth Celebration

- *Where: Quinton Community Park*
- *Time: starting at 10 am*
- *Activities: 3 on 3 basketball tournament, Car and Bike Show, Vendors, Music, Games and More.*

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

President Joe Crump

Education in the United States is in a state of crisis — not because of lazy teachers or outdated textbooks, but because too many people in power treat education as a business, not a right. Schools have become battlegrounds for profit, politics, and privatization. Charter schools, private academies, homeschooling vouchers-these are not always about innovation or choice. Too often, they are about making money and dividing communities.

And who suffers most? Poor families. Black and brown children. Immigrants. Students who don't speak English at home. Schools in low-income areas are consistently underfunded, under-resourced, and overcrowded. They are given secondhand supplies, secondhand technology, and secondhand hope — while students in wealthier districts get the best of everything.

Let's not forget — our forefathers fought to read with torn books, hand-me-down pencils, and little to no access to equal education. Many of them were punished for trying to learn at all. Now here we are, generations later, and still debating who deserves a good education.

We don't teach different languages for new Americans- we expect them to adapt overnight. We don't teach the real, full history of this country- just the sanitized, safe version. Our children grow up thinking slavery was just a "bad chapter" instead of a defining foundation. We ignore Native history, Latino struggles, Asian contributions, and even the complexity of white working-class life. We teach what's comfortable-not what's true.

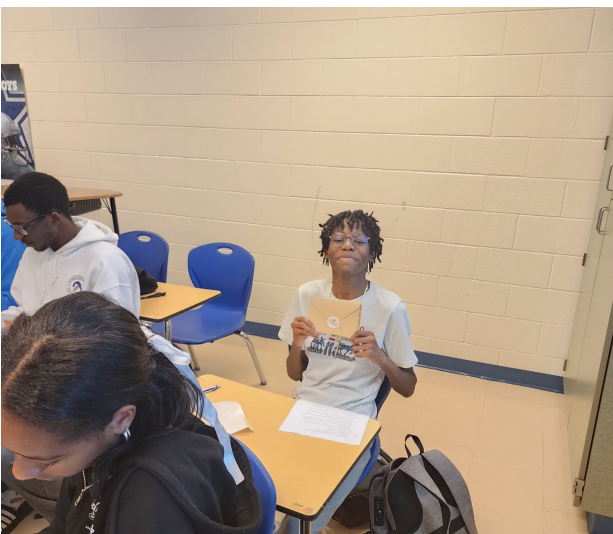
And when we do this, we plant seeds of racism, ignorance, and division. You can't expect people to treat each other with respect if the history books never taught them that we're all in this together. You can't expect unity if the classroom itself teaches inequality.

That's why organizations like the NAACP are so crucial- and so misunderstood. It's not just "for Black people." The NAACP stands for justice, equity, and civil rights for ALL people- Black, white, brown, immigrant, native-born, rich, poor. They've fought for workers' rights, for immigrant families, for school desegregation, for police accountability- and yes, they've helped white people too. They've defended poor white farmers. They've stood up for Jewish Americans during anti-Semitic attacks. They've joined hands with Asian Americans and Latinos for fair housing, education, and employment.

Because the NAACP isn't about race. It's about justice.

If we really want to fix education in America, we have to stop letting money, politics, and race divide us. We have to teach the whole truth, not just the part that fits the test. We have to invest in every child, not just the ones in the "right" zip code. We have to lift up organizations that fight for equality — not label them based on old assumptions.

The truth is uncomfortable, but it's necessary: We don't have an education problem. We have a **truth problem**. And until we fix that, we'll keep repeating the same lessons — the wrong ones.



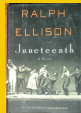
Juneteenth

By Ralph Ellison



Set in 1950s DC, the novel opens with Adam Sundraider (a vocally open racist senator from New England) being shot during a speech. As he lays dying in the hospital he calls out for one person, Reverend Alonzo Hickman, a elderly black pastor from the South. Sundraider asks Hickman, "Tell me what happened while there's still time.", thus begins the story of Bliss (Sundraider's original name) and Hickman- as they go back and forth in each chapter telling their version- both seeking some sort of redemption.

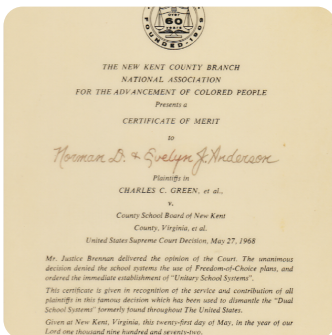
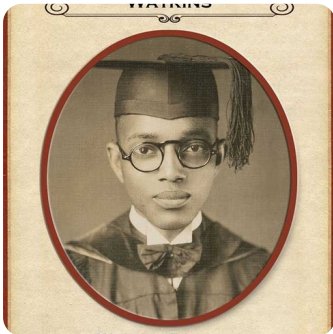
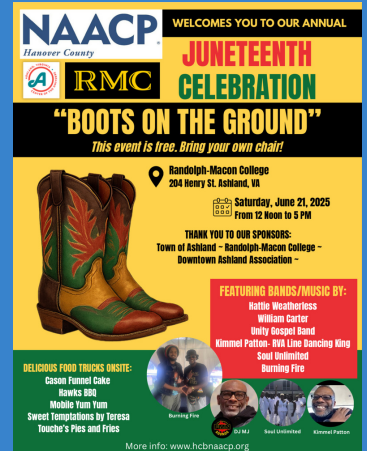
This novel is a retelling of the parable of the prodigal son, the child that willfully leaves, finally returns home, and is welcomed with love. This novel grapples with the complex nature of race in America and the lasting legacy of slavery that can be seen today. Ellison's use of the vernacular language with the rhythmic patterns of gospel music and sermons, reflects the duality of being Black and being American. Just like his award winning novel *Invisible Man*, Juneteenth is another example of literary excellence.



AREA JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS



- Friday 6/20: Parade and 7x7 football
- Saturday 6/21: Vendor Fair, Kids Zone, Live Entertainment, Fireworks



LOOK FOR A SPECIAL EDITION COMING OUT SOON THAT FOCUSES ON EDUCATION NEW KENT