To Whom it Concerns,

Plans are underway for the 3rd annual **Juneteenth Celebration at Michigan State University** (MSU). The Juneteenth Planning Committee (JPC) takes great pride in being able to offer this program to the MSU campus and surrounding communities and we are appreciative of everyone who co-sponsored the event last year. If you missed the opportunity to be a co-sponsor, you are invited to join us for the 2023 event. This year’s theme is ***“158 Years Later: Celebrating Progress.”***The celebration will take place on Friday, June 16, 2023, from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM. The program will consist of activities for MSU students, employees, MSU alum and community members and their families.

You might be wondering why Juneteenth is celebrated in the United States and why at MSU. Briefly, on June 19, 1865, enslaved African Americans in Texas were told they were free, two years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which took effect on January 1, 1863. A century and a half later, Juneteenth is now a federal holiday, but it’s not taught in schools or widely known, therefore the JPC believes it’s important to celebrate the full history of our nation so that we all receive the recognition we deserve as builders of a great nation. At MSU, Juneteenth is celebrated with an array of vendors selling products, entertainment, dancing, historical exhibits and presentations on social justice topics. There will be a variety of foods catered by local businesses and door prizes. We hope to have Sparty and a few athletic coaches join us again for picture-taking and signing autographs.

The Juneteenth Planning Committee values its partnerships with colleges, units and businesses. This event is a great opportunity to sustain our community engagement and for your group to demonstrate support by becoming one of our sponsors. A suggested donation of $1,000 is greatly appreciated and all sponsors will be listed on our website and at the event. With guidance from our executive sponsor, the Office for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion (IDI) and support of friends like you, we are helping MSU achieve its goal of creating a welcoming, safe and inclusive community. Co-sponsors are important to the success of this family-friendly event, and they will be acknowledged throughout the celebration.

Thank you for responding to this request.

Best regards,

Amanda Flores

Senior Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

WKAR at Michigan State University

aflores@wkar.org

2023 Co-Chair

Antonio White

President of the Black Graduate student Association at Michigan State University

whitea79@msu.edu

2023 Co-Chair

To become a co-sponsor, please follow the instructions below:

**MSU Campus Partners**

1. Submit Donations to **GA017081** with sub-account "**JUNE**"
2. Submit your Sponsorship Details Here: <https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3kHej6sYXaXS8PI>

**Off-Campus Partners & Individuals**

1. Make Checks Payable to “Michigan State University” and see mailing address below.
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Mailing Address

Institutional Diversity and Inclusion

408 W. Circle Drive, 114 Olds Hall

East Lansing, MI 48824

Question? Email inclusion@msu.edu