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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BCRI Announces Special Features for Juneteenth Celebration**

BIRMINGHAM, AL (May 20, 2021) – The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute is thrilled to announce that our annual Juneteenth Celebration will return to The Birmingham Civil Rights District on June 19th at 10:00 a.m.! Our commemoration will be a day-long festival of heritage and culture celebrating the emancipation of enslaved people in America.

The community is invited to visit our galleries free of charge from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with timed reservations to encourage physical distancing that can be reserved on our website. Attendees of our jubilee can also take part in an immersive digital experience at our AfroTech Village powered by Ed Farm, featuring StayDRMN. There will be fun for the entire family with a farmer's market, free food trucks, Children's Crusade Village, Black Wealth Matters Village and a visit from the Freedom Ride for Voting Rights Tour in its signature "Blackest Bus in America."

The Juneteenth main stage, located at the corner of 16th Street North and 6th Avenue, will be hosted by V94.9's Lady Woo and feature Grammy nominated artist Anthony David, Ursula Smith Dance Company and African Dance Troop, G.I. Magus, Super Dave and The Gogo Band, African drumming & dance, special guest speakers, and a sundown screening of *The 24th* presented by Sidewalk Film Center + Cinema.

Our members can kick off their Juneteenth with a private brunch experience and genealogy workshop at BCRI. We'll offer food provided by Eat to Live, entertainment from DJ Rod Dedrick and a unique conversation with our founding president, Ms. Odessa Woolfolk. The Birmingham African American Genealogy Group and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will facilitate a special workshop with our members where they will discuss genealogy basics and best practices. Reservations are required and can be made online.

JCDH will join us in our Black Health Village - providing resources and information about opioid overdose, life-saving naloxone treatment, HIV and STD prevention. We're pleased to have the Sickle Cell Foundation, Life South, Aletheia House, Black Yogis, No More Martyrs and Alabama Regional Medical Services on site providing Covid vaccinations, mental health resources and much more.

There are several great organizations coming together to present Birmingham's largest Juneteenth celebration in years. For volunteer information, to RSVP for our exclusive members only events and reserve your free gallery tickets, visit [bcri.org/juneteenthcelebration](http://bcri.org/juneteenthcelebration) today. We'll see you on June 19<sup>th</sup> in Kelly Ingram Park!

**About BCRI:** The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute is a cultural and educational research center that promotes a comprehensive understanding for the significance of The Civil Rights Movement in Birmingham. For more than 28 years, we have enlightened each generation about civil and human rights. A part of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument and an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, we stand strong as the cornerstone of the civil rights story, a living memorial with an ongoing mission.