

An invitation to bring healing and community change in response to tragedy

Making the Dream a Reality



Black History Month

This February we celebrate the rich cultural heritage, triumphs and adversities that are an indelible part of the journey that has paved African American history. As a society, we must recognize the many African Americans that fought toward freedom and justice. We challenge you this month to recognize and honor those that have impacted your history and story.

To learn more about African Americans that have specifically impacted and have woven the fabric of the Minnesota tapestry, go to www.mnopedia.org/african-americans-minnesota

Events: Celebrate Black History Month in the Twin Cities

Many family friendly events will be hosted within the twin cities. Check out what to do during February in Minneapolis at: www.minneapolis.org/calendar/holidays/black-history-month/

AND
St. Paul at: www.visitsaintpaul.com/blog/celebrating-black-history-in-saint-paul/

MINNESOTA HISTORY CENTER

Event: Black Citizenship in The Age of Jim Crow

During February's Black History month, the Minnesota History Center will be presenting the exploration of the African American fight for citizenship and equality with the Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow exhibit.

50 years following the Civil War, reconstruction began, and the journey of Black advancement continued to face opposition. The exhibit highlights black resilience and resistance throughout the decades.

For tickets, go to the Minnesota Historical Society or mnhs.org

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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

A BlueJay Initiative

New Bluejay App In Development To Help Bridge The Gap Between Police And The Public

A new app that will help connect police officers to the public during traffic stops is in its final stage of development. The new Bluejay app will have the ability of profile sharing between an officer and the person stopped in an effort to inform, educate and humanize.

The goal of the interactive app is to guide a safe and de-escalated interaction for all parties. The app will also contain useful facts and tools to inform users of their basic rights and useful FAQs to know prior to encountering law enforcement.

Because the app's inspiration derived from the many senseless and fatal interactions between young African Americans and law enforcement, specifically including Philando Castile, Valerie Castile was interviewed to give her reaction to the app development: kfor.com/news/local/new-app-wants-to-bridge-gap-between-people-and-police/.

To learn more about the app, and to get notifications on the app's live status, sign up at: www.bluejayllc.net/.

The Meaning Behind the Sculptures

Have you walked through the Philando Castile Peace Garden and noticed the large metal sculptures? These sculptures are actually West African Adinkra symbols. Each symbol represents its own guiding principle, and most commonly signify a tribute to Philando. Here are two examples, and more will be featured in future newsletters.





Each symbol, carefully selected and constructed holds a powerful message of healing and unity, the mission of the garden.

Join the Philando Castile Community Peace Garden on Social Media

Find the Philando Castile Peace Garden on Facebook - Philando Castile Peace Garden and on Instagram - @philandocastilepeacegarden.
Learn more about the Peace Garden and get information on upcoming events.

Click here to get started:
Facebook
Instagram

Already following? Visit the Peace Garden and tag us in your photos!

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