

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

Making the Dream a Reality



Thank You Donors!

Thank you to all of our donors and volunteers for your continued support of the Philando Castile Community Peace Garden! We also want to specially recognize our monthly donors for their ongoing financial commitment. With spring approaching, your donations as well as volunteerism are vital in clearing and preparing the Peace Garden for the following months, and it could not be possible without you! Thank you! ♥



The Future of Minnesota's Free School Lunch Program

When a student couldn't pay for their own lunch, Philando would often pay for it out it out of his own pocket. In honor of Philando and his generous actions, his mother Valerie Castile has championed the elimination of school lunch account debt and making sure every child has a meal during their school day. In 2023, Governor Tim Walz signed the Free School Meals into law. Now that budget is back on the table for renewal.

In a February article from WCCO News, advocates speak out on the success of the program and what it means to the students and families that are served. The main issue is how to fund the program going forward and to what extent.

To read the full article, visit: www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/



Photo Credit: LBJ Library photo by Yoichi Okamoto

60 Years of Voting Rights

The month of March marks some of the most pivotal moments in Civil Rights history including the Voting Rights Act of 1965, prohibiting racial discrimination in voting.

“Many of the issues of civil rights are very complex and most difficult. But about this there can and should be no argument: Every American citizen must have an equal right to vote. There is no reason which can excuse the denial of that right. There is no duty which weighs more heavily on us than the duty we have to ensure that right.”

President Lyndon B. Johnson, Voting Rights Address to Congress, March 15, 1965.

Because of this Act, not only were African Americans allowed to vote, the path was paved for other ethnic minorities and other marginalized citizens to maintain the same rights. We recognize the brave men and women that marched for these rights and reflect on this time to ensure we continue to uphold and honor them.



Event - Black American Computer Literacy Class

If you've ever felt a little intimidated trying to navigate email, the internet, or even just want to learn some basic computer skills, the Rondo Community Library conducts weekly classes for Black Americans to learn computer literacy. This opportunity is taught by other Black American staff or community members and its mission aligns with Philando’s passion for education within the community.

To find out more information or register for a class, visit:
https://sppl.bibliocommons.com

The Meaning Behind the Sculptures

Have you walked through the Philando Castile Community Peace Garden and noticed the large metal sculptures? These sculptures are actually West African Adinkra symbols. Each symbol represents its own guiding principle, and for the Peace Garden honor and signify Philando and his values. The symbol featured here is Readiness and Steadfastness.



Donate Today!

To find out how you can volunteer or donate, visit:
https://philandocastile-peacegarden.org

Join the Philando Castile Community Peace Garden on Social Media

The Philando Castile Community Peace Garden would love your support on social media. Follow, like and share our posts or tag us in photos of your Peace Garden visits. If you create original Philando Castile or Peace Garden art, tag us to be featured!

Click here to get started:
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