

BEDFORD

JUNETEENTH

POSTER CONTEST

CONTEXT:

Juneteenth is also known as Freedom Day. While most Americans celebrate their freedom on the Fourth of July, it wasn't until 89 years after the Declaration of Independence, on June 19th, 1865, that all Black Americans were declared free from chattel slavery.

To obtain this freedom, African Americans actively fought and pleaded their own cause. Free Blacks in the North started anti-slavery newspapers, held annual conventions to lobby for freedom and created allyships with white abolitionists and Quakers. Others found liberation through ingenious escapes. Light-skinned Ellen Craft disguised herself as a white man during her escape, and Henry "Box" Brown mailed himself to the North in a box!

CHALLENGE:

Create a poster depicting the inventive ways African Americans advocated for and ensured their own freedom. It can be a map through the Underground Railroad, or the cover of a book that gives the testimony of a formerly enslaved person's escape. It can be a design for a twenty dollar bill featuring Harriet Tubman or the illustrated lyrics to a song celebrating freedom.

OPEN TO:

Elementary, Middle and High School Students

Poster size: 11x17

Deadline: June 12th

REQUIREMENTS:

Put your name and age on the back of your poster.

Posters must be dropped off June 5th or June 12th between 10am and 3pm at Katonah Space www.katonahspace.org, located behind the Methodist church at 44 Edgemont Rd.

All posters will be placed in protective sleeves and displayed in shop windows throughout Bedford Hills, Bedford Village and Katonah through the end of June. Posters will be returned to participants after display.

If you need supplies, they can be picked up at Katonah Space on May 8th between 10am and 3pm

To coordinate assistance with poster drop off or pick up of supplies, please contact: idea@bedfordny.gov

#BedfordJuneteenth