

# Juneteenth @ Joliet Area Historical Museum

## PRESS RELEASE

Custom Community Creations, LLC  
“*Solving problems with Caricature Art*”  
For Immediate Release June 4, 2022

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<https://juneteenthwalkoflife.com/>

## NEW BLUES BROTHERS CHURCH BACKDROP SETS THE STAGE

*“On A Mission from GOD to Build Bridges Between Diverse People”*

Past racial problems constructed barriers to diversely align and productively move forward. Oprah Winfrey said it best, “Forgiveness is giving up the hope that the past could have been any different.” This sentiment informed Juneteenth in Joliet’s original design. It draws on caricature art (pun intended) to lighten the mood and look at personal perceptions before proceeding to act.

The objective increases connectivity between diverse people in an atmosphere amid nostalgia. The Joliet Area Historical Museum extends *free entry* to experience ambient gospel music, watch a documentary and see Caricature Artists at work “drawing-out” the best in people.

Understanding is bridged with a panel of professionals who add insights across the spectrum of entrepreneurship, education faith and the law. Creativity is further unleashed with the introduction of a Black History themed “Jeopardy meets BINGO” game. The activity engages family neighbors and co-workers (over the course of 2022-2023) in the search for answers to factual questions.

Conversations emphasize the importance of personal empowerment to make progress in the state of race relations. The ‘*Ask*’ is to assume responsibility ‘*To Do*’ what you can, with what you have, where you are - to navigate the explosive minefield of *covert* racial bias buried in your mind.

The take-away encourages people to think before responding. This stance represents a substantive solution to facilitate the uncomfortable process of racial healing.

### ABOUT THE ORGANIZER

Toni Greathouse is the Founder of Custom Community Creations, LLC awarded Best Small Business of 2015 (Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce.) She’s a Concept Artist/Writer, History Enthusiast and ‘Telly’ nominated producer of “Soul of a People.” The documentary showcases snippets of the Black experience circa 1450-1900. It was filmed in 1999, at the DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago History Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago.

- Greathouse is a self annointed Entrepreneurial Evangelist and Community ARTivist who solves problems with caricature art. She credits God for business longevity (1996-2022).

Toni's work/life mission is spelled out in the letters of her first name. The words they form motivate her to: **Take On Neighborhood Interaction by Trying Ot Novel Ideas.**