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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 13, 2024

Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Celebrates Juneteenth All Month

On the slate of events is a Salute to Black Music, a screening and panel convo of the new film Rustin, and a Juneteenth Storytelling Festival at Bruce Street School.

STONECREST, GA - This year, Juneteenth is more than just one day. The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance, stewards of Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area 20 minutes east of Atlanta, is celebrating Juneteenth all month long with a slate of exciting signature events. On the docket is a Salute to Black Music Month at the New Black Wall Street Market in Stonecrest, a screening and discussion about the new film *Rustin* in Historic Downtown Lithonia, and a Juneteenth Storytelling Festival at Lithonia's Bruce Street School, DeKalb County's first public school for Black children.

"The thought that I and our staff, and many others, are off on Juneteenth, and that it's now observed as a national holiday is an amazing feeling, it really is," said Revonda Cosby, Executive Director of the Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance. "To be able to host these events and share stories and things that we all have in common, particularly in this month, is one of the best times of the year in the National Heritage Area. I hope as many as possible can come out and join us." This year marks the most events that the Heritage Area has ever hosted or sponsored for Juneteenth. Below is a detailed schedule:

June 1, 2-5pm—Salute to Black Music Month: Held at the New Black Wall Street Market at 8109 Mall Pkwy, Stonecrest, GA 30038, this event will feature a soulful musical homage to Black Music Month. Expect a lineup of live local musical guests along with a pop-up historical exhibit about the fascinating Lithonia Country Club and Black music during the Jim Crow South.

June 15, 5:30-9pm— *Rustin* screening at Occasions on Main in Lithonia: The 2023 film *Rustin* portrays the incredible true story of Bayard Rustin, close friend of Dr. King and one of the Civil Rights Era's most integral figures who was ostracized by his own movement and eventually even Dr. King for his homosexuality. The film stars Colman Domingo as the titular character and was produced by Barack and Michelle Obama's production company Higher Ground. Held at Occasions on Main at 6957 Main St, Lithonia, GA 30058, this screening will feature a thirty minute happy hour from 5:30-6pm with a panel discussion after the screening from 8-9pm featuring local activists and our Assistant Executive Director and Historian Brigitte Jones.

June 18, 11am-2pm—Juneteenth Storytelling Festival at Bruce Street: Returning for its second year, the Arabia Alliance's Juneteenth Storytelling Festival will again be held by the Bruce Street School ruins and the East DeKalb at Bruce Street Senior Center at 2449 Bruce Street, Lithonia, GA 30058. The theme of this second Annual Storytelling Fest will be "The Streets Where We Lived," giving visitors the opportunity to share stories and oral histories about vibrant African Americans communities in the segregated South. Tickets will include fresh produce and lunch.

About the Arabia Alliance

The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance is dedicated to protecting, connecting and sharing the unique history, rich culture and engaging landscapes of the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (AMNHA) for the benefit and enjoyment of all. The staff and volunteer board of the Arabia Alliance work with partners across the AMNHA to ensure that everyone can benefit from the cultural and natural resources of the National Heritage Area. For more information, visit www.arabiaalliance.org.

SALUTE
to
Black Music Month

Featuring local
musical guests

ARABIA MOUNTAIN
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
EST. 1983

NEW BLACK WALL STREET
MARKET
EST. 2021
STONECREST, GEORGIA, USA

Saturday, June 1 2-5 pm

**8109 MALL PKWY,
STONECREST, GA 30038**

A flyer for the Salute to Black Music Month.

MOVIE NIGHT IN THE NHA: **RUSTIN**

June 15 · 5:30-9PM

Happy hour, screening & panel discussion featuring local activists & Arabia Alliance A.E.D and Historian Brigette Jones.

Celebrate the intersection
of Juneteenth and Pride
Month!

Seating is limited.
Reserve a seat today!



Occasions on Main
6957 Main St, Lithonia, GA 30058



A flyer for the Rustin screening on 6/15.

Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area

ON THE STREETS WHERE WE LIVE

*Sharing Stories of Our Vibrant
African American Communities*



June 18, 2024 · 11am-2pm

Enjoy history come alive through stories. The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance brings the **2nd annual** Juneteenth Storytelling Celebration to Lithonia's Historic Bruce Street.

Join Arabia Alliance staff and our Elders for a day filled with story-sharing, oral histories, free books, produce, lunch and cool treats!

2449 Bruce St, Lithonia, GA 30058



A flyer for the 2024 Juneteenth Storytelling Festival.



From the inaugural 2023 Juneteenth Storytelling Festival, Arabia Alliance Executive Director Revonda Cosby converses with Bruce Street School alum Alene Harper. (Aleksandr “Sasha” Johnson)



The Bruce Street School with students when it was operational.



Participants at the 2023 Storytelling Festival.