

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Greetings!

This is EMPECCABLE MAGAZINE's one-year anniversary and we thank you for all of your love and support. We couldn't have done it without you, our readers!

We would love for you to join us for a fabulous one-year celebration on March 16th at Atlanta's City Hall. We have an awesome line up of talent and entertainment for your audio and visual pleasure.

STAND WITH BENNETT!

February is a time for immense love and a time for celebration of the Black community and we love and stand by all of our Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

This month, in particular we are joining in with thousands of other supporters of Bennett College to ensure that this prestigious institution can continue to educate our women to be the bright leaders of tomorrow. In addition to immediate financial support, a portion of the proceeds from the March 16 Celebration of EMpeccable Event will be donated also. As we continue to support, we encourage you to do the same in order to help preserve the history, purpose, and future of this premier college.

Visit their website for further information and to make a donation: www.bennett.edu

As we all know, Negro History Week the precursor to Black History Month was created in 1926 by historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Contrary to popular belief, the month of February was chosen in honor of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, both were born in the month of February. In the midst of all the current political turmoil, we can take this month to reflect upon our unique and colorful heritage and our

monumental contributions to society. This does not mean that we should narrow our reflections and pride to 28 days of the year. Of course not! We all know that we must be proud of our heritage and acknowledge our accomplishments 365 days of the year.

Here are a few reminders of Acts that had a huge impact on Black History in this country:

The 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction"

- Abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, in all of the United States, except as a punishment for a crime.
- It was passed by the Senate on April 8, 1864 and passed by the House on January 31, 1865.
- It was ratified by both houses on December 6, 1865.

Emancipation Proclamation

- Issued by President Lincoln - January 1, 1863- It was not a law passed by Congress.
- This proclamation did not end slavery in America--this was achieved by the passage of the 13TH Amendment to the Constitution on Dec. 18, 1865. The Emancipation Proclamation proclaimed the freedom of slaves in ten states. It did not apply to slaves in border states fighting on the Union side; nor did it affect slaves in southern areas already under Union control.

Juneteenth Independence Day
Dating back to 1865, it was on

June 19th that the Union soldiers in Galveston, Texas announced that the war had ended and that the slaves were now free. This announcement came two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation!

The District of Columbia Emancipation Act

On April 16, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia. Passage of this law came 8 1/2 months before President Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation. Approximately 2,989 slaves were freed by this Act.

Although its combination of emancipation, compensation to owners, and colonization did not serve as a model for the future, the District of Columbia Emancipation Act was an early signal of slavery's death.

In the District itself, African Americans greeted emancipation with great jubilation. For many years afterward, they celebrated Emancipation Day on April 16 with parades and festivals.

Empeccable magazine is always here for you. **Read It, Love It, Support It, It Honors You.** It is **Your Voice, Your Look, Your Power.**

And above all - **BE EMPECCABLE!**

Much Love,



Dr. Alicia Cain
Publisher/CEO