

2021 Annual Report



“Unmasking of Negro Election Day”

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Membership And Titles

Board of Directors

Doreen Wade, President
Donald Mitchel, Treasurer
Robyn Harding, Assistant Secretary
Celeste Hamilton, Secretary

Membership

Giovanni Alabiso
Warren Barnett
James Clarke
Gary Gigi Gill
Anyfern Gonzalez
Celeste Hamilton
Robyn Harding
Andre Hollywood
Joy Charles Kay
Patrick King
Brooklyn Brown-Northrup
Neil Sicard
Annette Kim Singletary
Judith Reilly
Anna Whitted

Ex-Officio Member

Shawn Newton, Salem State University
Terrell Greene, Superintendent of Schools

Liaison

Susan Russo, National Parks Service
John Burke Salem Police Department

Negro Election Day Programs

Program 1: Negro Election Day State Holiday
Celebration & Black Preservation
Program 2: Voting, U.S Census & Civil Rights
& Reform, Civil Exam
Registration & Education
Program 3: Gallery, Exhibitions & Tours
Program 4: Events, Workshops & Health Care

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Salem United Inc is a 501(c)3 exempt public
charity

Message From The President



It was with great pleasure to welcome back Salem United's 281st Negro Election Day Black Celebration Festival.

With the relaxing of the covid pandemic status, we had to figure out a new way to temporarily support this momentous history, now returning to its historical name of **Negro Election Day**.

We merged education and entertainment together in a smaller venue. We realized it was necessary to reach our projected goals., while still being able to have a family fun event Its success brought in political leadership, Washington DC ambassador, government officials, the community and more.

This event opened the eyes of the membership to the real value of what Negro Election Day stood for and how it is a legacy worth preserving. We realized this was the beginning of opening the door, disclosing the evolution of the history through education and collaborating with venues to reach the greatest number of the population.

Through the collaboration of Salem United's membership, contributors, donators and supporters, we were successful in our mission to preserve, protect, unite and build. However, we did not have everyone's support. *Often, I was told, the history was not believable. Blacks were unable to handle this type of voting as they could not read, write or speak our language.* We carried on successfully making it a special day. Connecting it to not just black history, but America's history. We shared a story of triumph, pride and unity.

We look forward to everyone's continued support as we begin to prepare for our 282nd Negro Election Day celebration, on the 3rd Saturday, July 2022 in Salem Willows, Salem MA.

Doreen Wade

WHO ARE WE!

MISSION AND GOALS

Salem United, Inc. Fosters A Commitment To **Preserve** Our Cultural History, **Protect** Our Ethnic Traditions, And **Build** Our Community And Social Awareness.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Salem United Inc.'s purpose is unifying Individuals, Organizations and Companies in bettering our communities.

Our most significant goals are to:

- Increase participation in Voter Registration and U.S. Census through education and historical significance of the origin of "Negro Election Day",
- The First Black Voting System.
Provide history for Black America
- Build mentorships and collaboration.
- Do charitable works.
- Provide education.
- Develop sporting events.
- Cultivate social and community events

We Emphasize Self-Identity, Self-Governing And Family Values To Community Members.

SIGNIFICANT GOALS ACCOMPLISHED

From our mission, goals and purpose, Salem United, Inc. worked hard to accomplish these successes even though our State was still experiencing the effects of the covid pandemic.

- Provide history for Black America and all communities around the State of Massachusetts and beyond.
 - Build mentorships and collaboration. Do charitable works. Provide education.
- A. Salem United thought it was best to postpone the large outdoor event, **Black Picnic**, now reverting to its original and historical name - **Negro Election Day** and have a smaller venue based around education.

***Note: Attached is the completed booklet to show the breakdown of the day's events.**

Breakdown Summary – Salem MA

- Friday, July 16, 2021 – Afternoon
 - Reilly Plaza: Flag Raising
 - Introduction of the Black American Heritage Flag of 1967. A flag which will represent Negro Election Day History.
 - Hamilton Hall: Unmasking of Negro Election Day and the Black vote: Exhibit
 - Hall was donated
 - S.U.I. Hosted the exhibit from May 2021 to August 2021.
 - Charles Street Park, Luncheon, Receptions, Speakers

- Friday, July 16, 2021 – Evening
 - Peabody Essex Museum: Musical Concert with Davron Monroe and David Coleman quest.
 - Peabody Essex Museum underwrote the cost of the museum, deserts and champagne
 - Speakers and Awards

B. Salem United will be hosting an Exhibit at Lynn Museum which will through the year 2021/2022. We will be using QR Codes to educate on a weekly basis. We have scheduled news media to come and amplify the history.

CONTRIBUTORS AND DONORS

2021 LIST

- African American Tour Group – Salem Historical tours
- Boston Costume
- Christopher S. Hyland
- City of Salem
- Eastern Bank
- Epoch Preservation
- Essex County Sheriff Office
- Hamilton Hall
- Hawthorne Hotel
- Just Born, Inc.
- League of Women Voters
- Lynn Cultural Council
- Patrick King
- Peabody Essex Museum
- Perfect Example Entertainment Group
- Peabody Cultural Council
- President, Ralph F. Brown, Jr. Chapter
- Salem Access TV
- Salem Atheneum
- Salem Cultural Council
- Salem Maritime National Historical Site (National Parks Service)
- Senator Joan Lovely
- The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Prince Hall

STATEMENT of ACTIVITIES

Revenues

Grants, Gifts & Contributions	\$ 10,648.04
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 10,648.04</u>

Expenses

Total Expense	<u>\$9,468.67</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$9,468.67</u> =====

Change in Net Assets \$ (1,179.37)

Plans For The Future

Salem United has a set of projects for 2022.

1. Hosting the 282nd Negro Election Black Celebration Day.
2. Returning Negro Election Day back to its original name.
3. Getting Bill S2703 enacted into law making Negro Election Day a State Holiday.
4. Having locations to host the exhibit: Unmasking Negro Election Day Exhibit Program.
5. Attend workshops and seminars.
6. Table at events around Massachusetts.

While our mission might seem small and highly localized, what we do serves the thousands who will visit the exhibit as it did this year.

“There is no more powerful force than a people steeped in their history. And there is no higher cause than honoring our struggle and ancestors by remembering.”