



LancasterHistory

For Immediate Release

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Pennsylvania Capitol to Host Commemoration and Press Conference on 13th Amendment Anniversary

DATE: December 6, 2023

TIME: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

LOCATION: Capitol Main Rotunda, Pennsylvania State Capitol Building

HARRISBURG, PA — The Pennsylvania State Capitol is set to host a commemoration event and press conference on December 6, 2023, marking the anniversary of the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution. Elected officials, dignitaries, and community leaders will convene at the Capitol Main Rotunda for this historic occasion. Join us as we mark this momentous day, celebrating the legacy of the 13th Amendment and recommitting ourselves to the pursuit of freedom, justice, and equality.

Distinguished Attendees:

- Elected Members of the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives
- Secretary Cyndy Dunn, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)
- Secretary of the Department of General Services (DGS)

- Dauphin County Commissioners
- Harrisburg City Council President Danielle Bowers
- Harrisburg Mayor Wanda Williams
- Representatives of the Dauphin County Library System
- Ms. Janice Black, The Foundation for Enhancing Communities – Fiscal Sponsors
- Exemplar and Sponsor, Peggy Grove

Event Highlights:

Hosting this event in the Capitol Main Rotunda, located on the grounds of Harrisburg's Old Eighth Ward, not only pays tribute to the enduring legacy of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in the United States, but will also offer an opportunity for attendees will pay homage to the individuals, families, and communities of the Old Eighth Ward who were displaced to build the Capitol Complex. This decision underscores a poignant and thought-provoking aspect of American history.

The press conference will allow participants to emphasize the ongoing journey toward equality, civil rights, and social justice.

Key Speakers:

- Senator Art Haywood
- Senator Milton Street,
- Representatives Patty Kim,
- Representative Dave Madsen and
- Rep. Izzy Smith Wade El
- Dr. Thomas R. Ryan, President of LancasterHistory regarding plans for the Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith Center for History and Democracy in 2025.

The speakers will acknowledge Pennsylvania's historical contributions to the abolition of slavery, from the Gradual Abolition Act to the ratification of the 13th Amendment.

Media Coverage:

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend and cover this significant event. Exclusive interviews with key speakers will be available upon request.

Contact Information:

For media inquiries and additional information, please contact:

Ellen Brown

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About the Pennsylvania State Capitol

The Pennsylvania State Capitol stands as a symbol of democracy and progress, embodying the state's rich history and its aspirations for a better future.

#13thAmendmentAnniversary #Equality #SocialJustice #PennsylvaniaCapitol

About LancasterHistory

LancasterHistory is a community-based, not-for-profit organization established to educate the public on the history of Lancaster County and its place in the history of Pennsylvania and the United States, to advance the missions of regional historical organizations, and to promote the acquisition, preservation, and interpretation of resources representing the history of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania within the broader context of state and national history, including the homes of 15th US President James Buchanan and Congressman Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith.

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