



**WELCOME**  
**FORT MYERS CHANGEMAKERS**



**INTRODUCTORY  
MEETING**

**THE BLACK CULTURAL CENTER**

# CHARLES BARNES

CHAIRMAN OF LCBHS

# LEE FORD

VICE CHAIRMAN  
OF LCBHS

- LEE COUNTY  
BLACK HISTORY SOCIETY
- BLACK CULTURAL CENTER
- OPERATIONAL SUPPORT
- NEXT STEPS
- Q & A

# LEE COUNTY BLACK HISTORY SOCIETY & WILLIAMS ACADEMY MUSEUM

- Lee County Black History society was established in 1990 by Janice Cass
- Mission: To preserve and commemorate the cultural and educational contributions by both locally and nationally known black people
- Vision: The Lee County Black History Society, Inc. is a unifying organization which instills in all generations hope and pride in black culture



# LEE COUNTY BLACK HISTORY SOCIETY EVENTS

Black History Month

Emancipation Day Celebration

Holiday in the Park

Movie in the Park

Legends Gala

Juneteenth Community Festival



# RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE

May 1 - June 30, 2022

- Cape Coral Living Magazine
- Cape Coral Daily Breeze
- Bonita & Estero Magazine
- Bonita Springs Florida Weekly
- Gulf and Main Magazine
- Fort Myers Florida Weekly
- The News-Press
- Naples Daily News
- WFTX-TV

Total Reach: 6,698,822



Tharina Oria leads a Juneteenth march along Fifth Avenue South in Naples June 19, 2020.  
PHOTOS: JON AUSTRIA/NAPLES DAILY NEWS USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

## Celebrate Juneteenth

Events are scheduled in Naples and Fort Myers

Dave Coburn  
Naples Daily News  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Southwest Florida will mark the end of slavery with Juneteenth celebrations this weekend.

Juneteenth, (also known as Juneteenth Independence Day, African American Freedom Day, Liberation Day, Emancipation Day, Jubilee Day, or Freedom Day), is on June 19 and is considered the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the U.S.



Granger Juneteenth traces its origins back to Galveston, Texas, where on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers — led by Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger — arrived and delivered the news that the Civil War had ended and slavery was abolished.



Community members listen to speakers during a Juneteenth celebration, Friday, June 19, 2020, at Cambler Park in Naples.

the greatest honor I will have as president," Biden said at the opening ceremony.

FORT MYERS JUNETEENTH EVENTS



# **THE CRITICAL ROLE OF THE LEE COUNTY BLACK HISTORY SOCIETY TODAY & TOMORROW**

- **Provide high quality cultural and educational events, programming, and exhibits that unify the Fort Myers community for people to achieve a greater standard of, purposeful, and fulfilling life**
- **Model resiliency and what it means to be awakened to Black history**
- **In turbulent and uncertain times grounding community members in those lasting values by teaching the historical roots & identity**



# **THE BLACK CULTURAL CENTER**

- **The Black Cultural Center will provide the physical platform and home for the Lee County Black History Society**
- **The Black History Society can manifest all of its present and future programs, projects, and initiatives through the Center in a suitable, appropriate, and dignified environment**
- **The Black History Society will be the programming and managing entity of the Black Cultural Center**





Video

# **THE BLACK CULTURAL CENTER WILL...**

**Stimulate  
programs and  
projects in the  
community,  
county, and  
region**

**Develop strong  
community  
and educational  
partnerships to  
assist with  
programs and  
the Center**

**Create intentional  
and impactful  
plans to inspire  
donors and  
attract grants**

# PROGRAMS

**Speaker series**  
of locally/nationally  
known Black people –  
BlackTEDx

**Black history**  
seminar series

**Conferences &  
tradeshows**  
of Black businesses

**Theatrical &  
dance shows**  
by Black performers

**Art & interactive**  
exhibits  
by Black artists

**STEAM lecture**  
series  
of local/national  
Black experts &  
professors

# OUR PARTNERS

**NAACP**

**Quality of Life Center**

**Churches**

**Greek Fraternities**

**Alliance for the Arts**

**Sydney Berne Davis Art Center**

**The National Museum of African**

**American History & Culture**

**FGCU**

**FSW**

**Hodges University**

**Lee County Government**

**City of Fort Myers**

**Local Leaders**

# WHERE WE ARE NOW

**FACILITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
FUNDING**

**OPERATIONS  
FUNDING**

**THE CITY  
OF FORT MYERS**

**LOCAL  
LEADERS**



# **OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**

**Executive Director**

**Cultural Center Operations Director**

**Programs Director**

- **Special Projects Manager**
- **Community Relations Manager**
- **Program Design and Production Manager**
- **Instructional & Curriculum Design & Deployment**

**Fundraising & Grant Writing Director**

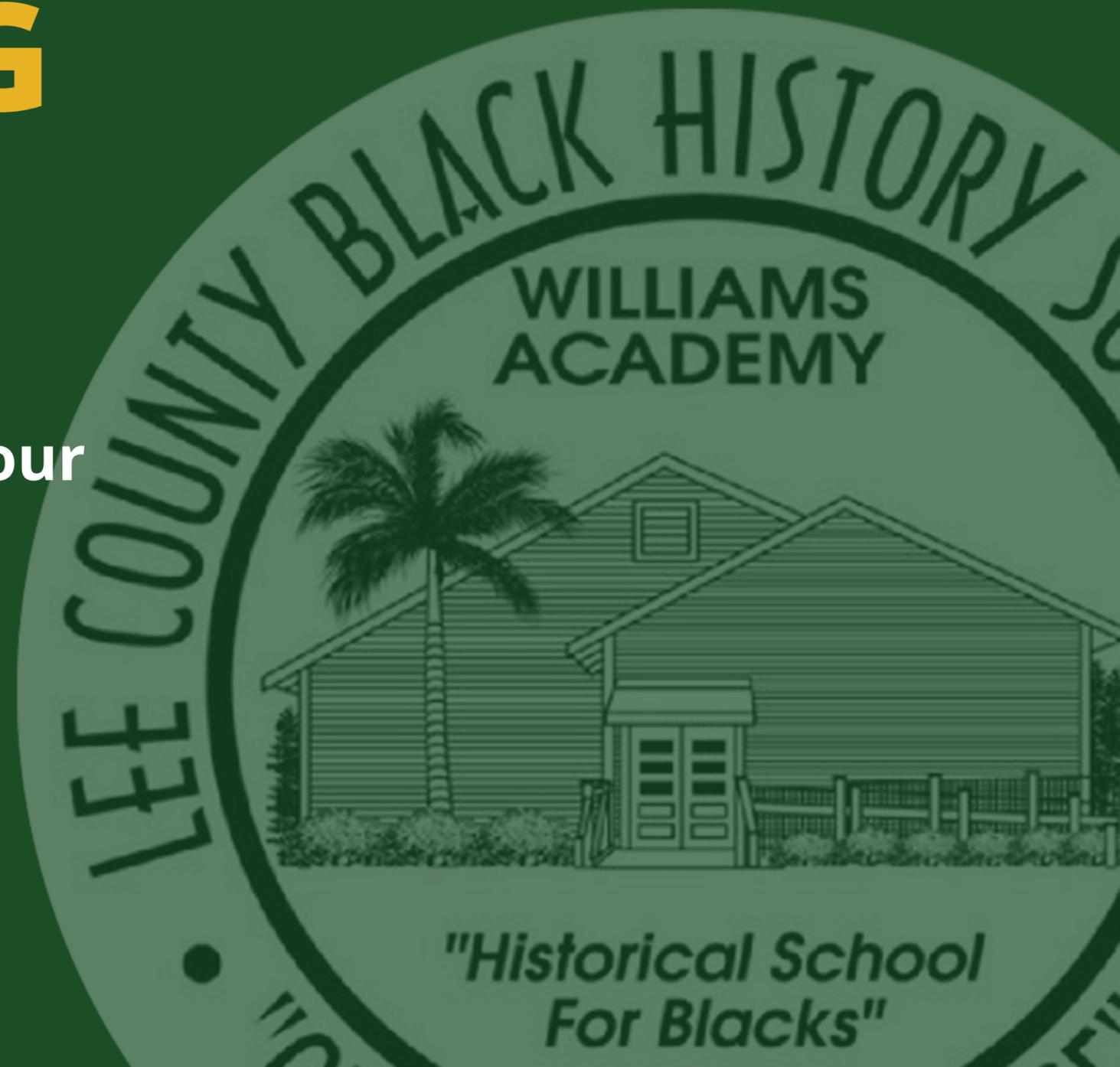
- **Major Gift Officer**
- **Grant Writer**



**WHERE YOU  
COME IN**

# BE A PART OF THE **STEERING** **COMMITTEE**

- **Commit** to introduce Charles & Lee to your networks for fundraising purposes
- **Be a Champion** for this significant community project – understanding it & speaking favorably about it
- **Consider** financial support



**Q & A**