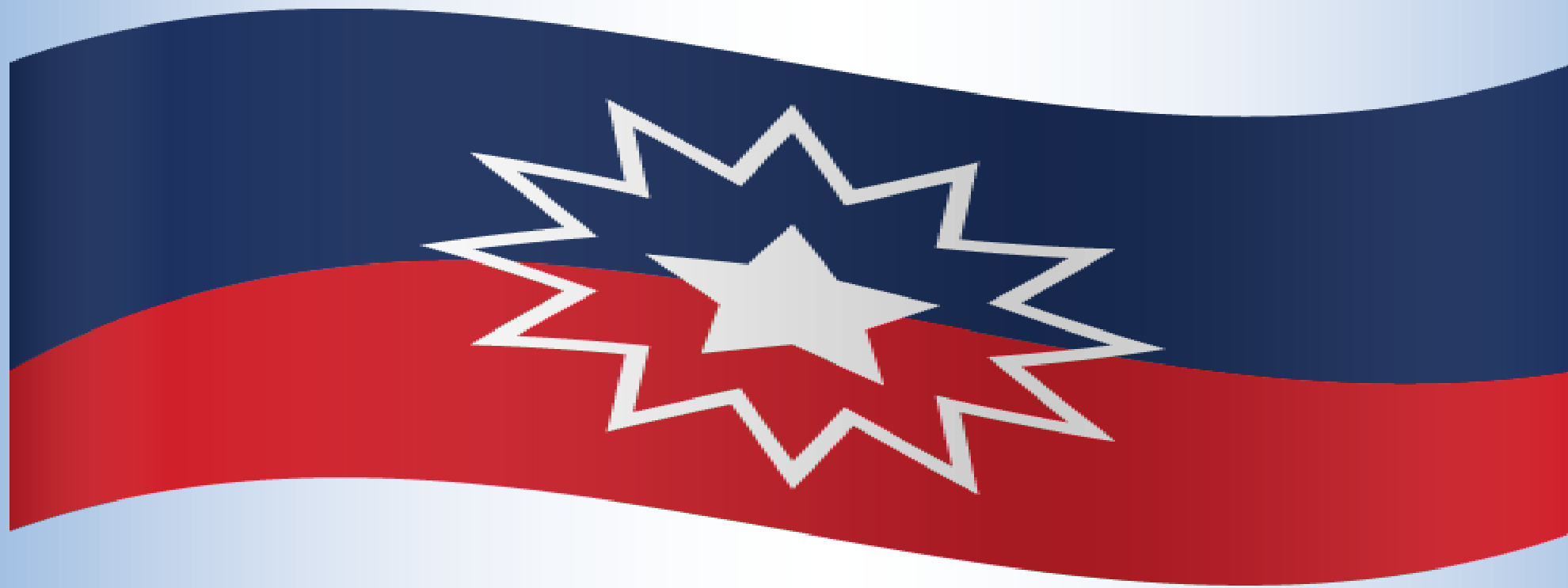


HISTORY OF THE JUNETEENTH FLAG



The Juneteenth Flag was created by former NJOF Massachusetts Juneteenth State Director and *Founder* of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation (NJCF), Ben Haith, in 1997. The flag underwent a revision in the year 2000 resulting in its' present modern day design. In 2007, the phrase the “*June 19, 1865*” was added to the flag to place the historic date that Juneteenth occurred in Galveston, Texas

Haith spearheaded the historic first Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony in Boston,

Colors of the Juneteenth Flag

The colors of the flag were deliberately chosen by Haith and the collaborators to showcase that African Americans were always American even throughout enslavement. The Black community is one with America. The colors chosen furthers the notion that America must ensure that all citizens have access to ‘liberty and justice for all’.

Symbols in Juneteenth Flag

The most noticeable feature of the flag is its star and arc. The star is another callback to the United States flag – representing that Black people are free in all 50th states. The Emancipation Proclamation was first to read and acknowledged in Galveston, Texas. Texas, also known as the Lone Star State played a significant role in the addition of the star. Although Texas was the state that the documentation was read in, it represents freedom across the nation. Alongside the star, the outlined burst and arc represent the new horizon and new opportunities that are to come for Black people.