



Rendering of the Dallas "Absolute Equality" Mural by artist, JD Moore

## The role Dallas played in the legacy of Juneteenth!

The South Dallas Cultural Center sits at the southern tip of Fair Park in South Dallas, Tx. This area of the DFW Metroplex has a significant yet almost hidden history in the legacy of the Juneteenth Holiday.

The South Dallas Cultural Center will host the 2023 "Absolute Equality" mural, 87 years after the Texas Centennial. The celebration that birthed the Hall Of Negro Life, which officially opened on June 19th 1936, revitalized the tradition in recognizing the freedom of former slaves in the US.

The now demolished Hall Of Negro Life and the Fair Park area serve as inspiration for the Absolute Equality Juneteenth Mural.

Read from left to right, the artwork begins with silhouettes depicting present day celebrations of the holiday. Immediately to the right is the entrance into the African American Museum which opened it's Fair Park location in 1993. The same location where the Hall Of Negro Life once stood. Progressing further to the right stands the silhouettes of three women protesting the desegregation of the Texas State Fair, symbolizing Dallas civil rights icon, Juanita Craft and her efforts to successfully bring absolute equality to Fair Park in the 1950's and 60's.

The Hall Of State on opening night of the 1936 Texas Centennial can be seen next to the male figure that adorned over the entrance to the Hall of Negro Life, originally as a relief sculpture of a man breaking the chains of chattel slavery. The medallion relief sculpture of the Hall Of State still remains and can feed the imagination as to what the HNL medallion could have looked like.

Repurposed to reveal who is responsible for this celebration, our figure is unveiling the Black Union Soldiers. The key element in the victory of the Union, and the ushers of the General Orders No.3 in Galveston, Tx. 1865.