

THE HUM

The newsletter of Durham County Library
Humanities Programming

SPEAK led by: ON IT! DASAN AHANU

3 Chances TO JOIN!

MAY 11 • 4:00-5:30 PM
@DURHAM CHILDREN'S INITIATIVE

MAY 16 • 4:00-5:30 PM
@DCO MAIN LIBRARY MAKER'S SPACE

JUNE 4 • 12:00-1:30 PM
@DCO EAST REGIONAL LIBRARY

All sessions will be safe
spaces of expression

FREE Events • Supplies Provided
Ages 8-11/Grades 5-8

Speak your mind-
Develop your writing-
Develop your spoken word-
Build your skills!
Learn from one of the best!

Dasan Ahanu is the co-founder and managing director of Black Poetry Theatre and a founding member and coach of Durham's Bull City Slam Team, leading them to repeat championships!

Ahanu is also an active educator in Durham facilitating workshops for youth while working to aid in developing this unique community. We look forward to seeing you at one of the sessions to learn more from this notable artist, author, and educator! learn more @ dasanahanu.com



Exceptional Measures

Celebrating Juneteenth

at Carolina Theatre

June 15, 2022 • 6:30-7:30 pm

Enjoy & experience the *exceptional measures* found in the artists' poem stanzas, song lyrics, music, & dance as we recognize the connection each has to the history behind celebrating Juneteenth.

Observed in various parts of the U.S. since 1865, Juneteenth is a holiday that celebrates the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. Join us to remember & honor the *exceptional measures* taken over time & continually to this day by the culture & people to not only survive, but thrive.

Look forward to back-to-back performances from musical artist **Rissi Palmer**, spoken word artist **Dasan Ahanu**, and the historical performers of the **African American Dance Ensemble**.

Join us as we experience art forms with deep ties to the culture and history of Juneteenth from true masters of the arts!

Meet the artist on the next page (pg 3)!!

This event is **FREE TO ALL** but registration is required at durhamcountylibrary.org

Humanities programming supported by



DURHAM COUNTY Library



DURHAM LIBRARY FOUNDATION

A HISTORIAN'S VIEW OF THE JOURNEY TO JUNETEENTH

"ON JUNETEENTH"

By **Annette Gordon-Reed**

The **Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice** invites you to learn more about the history and celebration of Juneteenth with this extraordinary choice for the June Book Club Discussion.

Pulitzer Prize winning historian, Gordon-Reed, weaves together American history, family chronicles and a searing read in "On Juneteenth". Borrow a



copy from your library and join us virtually on June 29, 6:30-7:30 pm.

"On Juneteenth" has been listed on

- NY Times 10 Best Books of 2021
 - NY Times Critics Top Books of 2021
 - New York Times Bestseller
 - Best Books of the Year: Washington Post, NPR, Oprah Daily, Boston Globe, and more!
- You don't want to miss this!*

Meet the

Exceptional Artists

Rissi Palmer



A 2022 Grammy nominee, Rissi Palmer made her mark in country music but is equally at home in R&B music and

bridging musical boundaries. She has performed at The White House, NY's Lincoln Center and the Grand ole Opry. She has had numerous national appearances and toured extensively sharing the stage with Taylor Swift, The Eagles and many more.

As a passionate voice for country artists of color and those who have been marginalized in mainstream country music, Rissi launched her own radio show *Color Me Country with Rissi Palmer* on Apple Music Country. With far too many accomplishments to fit here, check out **Palmer's full bio at rissipalmermusic.com**.

Information taken from artist bio at rissipalmermusic.com

Dasan Ahanu

Ahanu, is a public speaker, organizer, curator, educator, poet, spoken word artist, songwriter, emcee, and loyal Hip Hop head.

He is co-founder and managing director of Black Poetry Theatre and a founding member/coach of Durham's Bull City Slam Team. As resident artist with the Hayti Heritage Center he has developed poetry and spoken word programs for youth and adults.

In 2007 he signed with NC independent record label Amp Truth Records and teamed with up producer Picasso to form The Jim Crow Jackson Experiment. Dasan has released three full-length books of poetry, made national appearances, and so much more. **Read all about it in his full length bio at dasanahanu.com**

Information taken from artist about section at dasanahanu.com



African American Dance Ensemble

Born from a developing core of local dancers whose levels of proficiency

were approaching professional, The Ensemble's first full concert as an independent professional company was in February 1984. In 1985 the Ensemble stood on its own and took its place among the other established companies when it premiered two new works, both of which were commissioned by the American Dance Festival.

With a mission to preserve and share the finest traditions of African and African American dance and music, the Ensemble continues to be a cultural resource for Durham. **Learn more aade-inc.org**

Information taken from the Ensemble's History at aade-inc.org

