

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

OFFICE LOCATION

Salem United, Inc
62 Frederick Street, Unit 33
Salem, MA 0126

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www.salemunitedinc.org

Salem United Inc is a 501(c)3 exempt public charity

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Salem United Member

Board of Directors

Doreen Wade, President
Neil Sicard – Vice President
Shaki A. Rovner– Secretary
Donald Mitchell - Treasurer

Membership

Warren Barnett
Robert Bellinger
Derrick Dandy
Ajah Joseph
Celeste Hamilton
Nicole McClain
Stuart H. Primus
Anna Whitted

LIAISONS

Salem Maritime National Historic Site (U.S. National Parks Service)
Juneteenth of Lynn
City of Salem MA

Negro Election Day Programs

Program 1: Negro Election Day State Holiday Celebration & Black Preservation
Program 2: Voting, U.S Census & Civil Rights & Reform, Civil Exam, Registration & Education
Program 3: Gallery, Exhibitions & Tours
Program 4: Events, Workshops & Health Care

Message From The Desk Of The President



It has been an honor to begin to advance my work from a grassroots organization to a new nonprofit status. I have a lot to learn but I will be working hard to get into workshops and seminars to learn how this nonprofit should work.

It is disappointing that the 280th Festival could not take place due to the covid pandemic, but it allowed me to work on building the history and unmasking its true accounts.

It was difficult re-establishing Salem United; however, it served as a learning experience for myself and my membership. We found our growth and our change, caused the city of Salem

comfortability and it was a disappointment trying to work with them.

There seems to be a resentment and a discontentment with the unmasking of the true history and its value; changing from an ordinary picnic gathering of the black community to a significant story of the tale of enslaved African contributions.

We will begin the process of disclosing more truths on the evolution and its chronicles, and begin to change the narrative of its value.

We just hope, support with return from the City of Salem for Salem United and the community.

We look forward to the return celebration on the 3rd Saturday, July of each year.

Doreen Wade

Who Is Salem United?

Mission & Goals

Salem United fosters a commitment to Preserve and Protect the historical significance and annual tradition of Black Picnic Day formerly, Negro Election Day with an emphasis on self-identity and family values by putting forth our history in an effort to Build lasting unity amongst our communities, elderly, and youth.

Purpose Statement

Salem United is a non-profit organization and shall operate exclusively for educational and charitable purposes within the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code. Salem United's purpose is to Preserve and Protect Black Picnic Day formerly, Negro Election Day while unifying individuals, organizations, and companies in bettering our communities.

In our efforts to preserve this sacred day we set out to accomplish the following:

- Increase participation in Voter Registration
- Unite businesses and community members in exploring and embracing the historical significance our community fosters as the origin of "The First Black Voting System"
- Provide a current and positive image of Black America.

What Salem United Completed

- Bringing positive images to our community on the history of the annual festival
- Became a non-profit
- Trademarked "Salem United"
- Research and built an exhibit
- Building Black Picnic for 2021

Incomplete:

Cancelled Black Picnic celebration due to the Covid Pandemic.

Contributors & Donors 2020

- African American Tour Group – Salem Historical tours
- City of Salem
- Northshore Juneteenth Association
- Salem Access TV
- Salem Maritime National Historical Site (National Parks Service)
- Senator Joan Lovely
- The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Prince Hall

Financial History 2020

Revenues

Grants, Gifts & Contributions	\$479.20
Total Revenues	<u>\$479.20</u>

Expenses

Total Expense	<u>\$58.42</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$58.42</u>
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Change in Net Assets	\$420.78
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What Will Salem United Do Next Year?

In hopes that the pandemic ends, Salem United sets its plans for 2021.

- Bringing positive images to our community which we couldn't do in 2020. If the pandemic is still around, planning a virtual event.
- Continue research on the extended history of Black Picnic which is actually Negro Election Day
- Establishing an exhibit with material gathered.
- Work to establish Black Picnic's original history as a State Holiday
- Revise work on Bill S2703 enacted into law in its original historical name, Negro Election Day.
- Having locations to host the exhibit: Unmasking Negro Election Day Exhibit Program.
- Re-establish Advisory Board started with Mayor Kim Driscoll, on hold because of Covid Pandemic.
- Build collaborations within the community