



The Tisch Building
212 West 83rd Street
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www.cmom.org

MEDIA ALERT: Bring History To Live with Interactive Juneteenth Programing and Lillian Young

**MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CMOM CELEBRATES JUNETEENTH WITH OPAL LEE'S LEGACY AND LILLIAN YOUNG'S
ART FOR NYC'S YOUNGEST LEARNERS**

**Children's Museum of Manhattan Brings History to Life with Hands-On Programs
Inspired by Black Liberation and Contemporary Artists like Amy Sherald**

All programs free with admission

New York, NY – The Children's Museum of Manhattan (CMOM) is thrilled to announce its Juneteenth programming on **June 19, 2025**, designed to spark joy and curiosity in children ages 0 – 6 through interactive art, music, and storytelling celebrating Black liberation, resilience, and joy. This year, CMOM partners with artist Lillian Young, whose *Black Elder Archive* features Opal Lee, the “grandmother of Juneteenth,” to bring living history directly to young learners. By connecting children to cultural figures and contemporary artists like Amy Sherald, whose *American Sublime* exhibit is currently at the Whitney Museum of American Art, CMOM fosters early cultural awareness in a playful, accessible way.

The day's programming includes:

Free To Be Me Mural (10:30 am–12:15 pm & 2:00 pm–4:15 pm, Makerspace): Children create a collage inspired by Black artists like Derrick Adams, Kerry James Marshall, and Amy Sherald, celebrating Black joy.

Juneteenth Musical Jamboree (11:15 am–12:15 pm & 2:45 pm–3:45 pm, PlayWorks): Kids decorate paper instruments and learn about Galveston's Juneteenth celebrations through music.



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Artist Workshop: Juneteenth Zines with Lillian Young (10:30 am–3:45 pm, Discovery Classroom): Young leads zine-making sessions inspired by Opal Lee, using art, read-alouds, and video to share her legacy (sign-up on-site, ages 5+).

By introducing young children to figures like Opal Lee through Lillian Young's art we look to make history vibrant and personal. Ensuring that our Juneteenth programs teach empathy and resilience, aligning with CMOM's mission to nurture creative, global citizens.

We are thrilled to be working with Lillian Young who will be able to directly share Opal Lee's story with kids through zines and empower them to see themselves in history.

While older children and adults can visit the Whitney Museum of American Art's exhibition on Amy Sherald's portraits that redefine Black representation, we are excited that our program can echo this cultural moment by engaging our youngest in New York City by highlighting Sherald's, and other contemporary Black artists' contributions in a collaborative mural project. Join us on June 19 to celebrate Juneteenth and inspire the next generation!

<https://cmom.org/visit/public-programs/juneteenth-2025/>

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