Juneteenth Freedom Project

Artist Statement

“The past 25 years of my life have been dedicated to pursuing my passion for the visual arts. I have been able to transform my passion for painting, history, and culture into a successful business. I personally find and feel that art is a universal language. Art communicates and articulates at each individual level of comprehension and understanding. A child or an adult can look at a work of art and find value in it because of their ability to relate to it. Art advocates – it says nothing but says everything. It speaks politically, culturally, economically, and educationally. We learn through art: it is a tremendous, tangible treasure that improves our quality of life.

I like to think of myself as a creative historian. My craft has afforded me the opportunity to record history and all aspects of American culture and heritage. My sole purpose has always been to educate and provide cultural enrichment through my art.”

Ted T. Ellis
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The Juneteenth Freedom Project is truly an historical journey captured on canvas by Ted T. Ellis, a powerful visionary artist. Ten iconic paintings depict the four hundred year journey from slavery through freedom to the election of the first African-American President of the United States. The historical collection commemorates the 1865 reading of General Order #3 which proclaimed the abolishment of slavery on June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas.

As Galveston prepares its sesquicentennial celebration of Juneteenth in 2015, the provocative collection of ten paintings is available for $1.5 million. Hopefully, the buyer will make this epic collection available to the world by donating it to the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture that is scheduled to open in Washington, D.C. in 2015.

Interested parties should contact Mr. Sam Collins, III at 409.256.3822 or via email at mrslc3@hotmail.com.
Juneteenth Freedom Project featured front page story www.galvnews.com 7/30/14
Juneteenth Freedom Project

48 X 60
Juneteenth Freedom Project
Juneteenth Freedom Project
Juneteenth Freedom Project

50 x 40
Juneteenth Freedom Project
Juneteenth Freedom Project

30 x 50
Juneteenth Freedom Project

30 x 56
Juneteenth Freedom Project
T. Ellis Bio

- Ted T. Ellis is a passionate man...passionate about his family, passionate about his heritage, and passionate about his art. Just ask him and he proudly declares, “I paint subjects that are representative of the many facets of American life as I know it. I like to think of myself as a creative historian. I was put here to record history and all aspects of American culture and heritage. My sole purpose has always been to educate through my art.” Ellis was born and educated in New Orleans, a city known for its unique history, style, and artistic exuberance. This backdrop inspired Ellis to capture the essence of the subjects of his childhood in the glory of their rich cultural heritage.

- Extremely dedicated to his craft, the artist draws on a style that was born in his childhood from impressions of his native city. Ellis is self-taught and boldly blends realism and impressionism is his work, evoking nostalgia and inspiration. The art of this man both revers and celebrates the traditional values of his culture. Ted T. Ellis, the man, lives the life he paints. He generously contributes time and artwork to various causes: United Way, ICLS, African American Visual Arts Association, Jack and Jill, Inc., United Negro College Fund, Heritage Christian Academy, and public school districts around the world. Ellis’ improvement in the community as an art advocate and educator has earned him recognition from numerous organizations and city officials. Ellis’ exhibit, “Our History, Heritage and Culture, an American Story,” encompasses the diversity and cultural similarities of all Americans. The debut of this exhibit started at the Rose Parks Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, and will travel across the country. Some of Ellis’ previous exhibits include “American Slavery: The Reason Why We are Here,” “Say My Name,” and “Courage of Conviction, African-Americans who Serve in the Military from Colonial Times until Now,” and “Born in the Spirit.”
T. Ellis Bio cont’d

• For over 25 years Mr. Ellis has continued to pictorially document the history and culture of African Americans that matches the artistic contributions of Jacob Lawrence, Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Dr. Margaret Burroughs and other significant artist that has preceded him.

• Ellis, who currently resides in Houston, Texas has been recognized as an artist of historical importance. Several of his paintings are in the permanent collection of the DuSable Museum, McKenna Museum, The Free People of Color Museum and the Amistad Research Center. His trailblazing efforts will surely get him recognized as one of the most celebrated artists of the 21st century. In the last 20 years, many corporations and private collectors continue to admire and collect his work. A few of the prominent individuals who enjoy his creations are as follows; the late Johnny Cochran, Angela Bassett, Ed Gordon, Blair Underwood, Susan L. Taylor, Bryant Gumbel, Joyce Roche, Spike Lee, and Brad Pitt. Several major corporations have commissioned Ellis; a few of which include: Walt Disney Studios, The Minute Maid Company, Coca-Cola, Phillip Morris, and Avon, Inc. He has also been featured on local and regional television programs, in magazines such as Upscale and Southern Living, Newsweek, and is frequently featured in newspaper articles throughout the country. His popular art images have been found on book covers and collectible prints. Mix a man with conviction and something happens. In the case of Ted T. Ellis, a man of passion and purpose with the gift of knowledge is something special. And that, alone, is priceless.

• [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ted_Ellis_(artist)]

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T. Ellis Resume

- Recognized as historical artist by the Amistad Research Center 2005
- Federal stimulus grant for art outreach program for underprivileged children 2009/2010
- Art Ambassador for the New Orleans African American Museum 2010
- 5 paintings in the permanent collection of the DuSable Museum 2010
- Painting professionally full-time for over 15 years
- 9 museum shows; 3 group, 6 solo shows

Major Corporate Projects and Commissions

-Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
-Walt Disney
-Minute Maid
-Marathon Oil
-ExxonMobil
-State Farm
-Merck Pharmaceutical
-Avon Products Inc.
-JC Penney’s
-Southland Corp.
-Houston Pinnacle Award winner 2009
-Distinguished Leadership award LA/MS Network Coalition 2010
-Best in Show first African-American to win in 57 years to win Fairhope Fine Art Show Fairhope, AL 2007
-Black Heritage artist of the Year 1999
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• **T. Ellis Resume cont’d**

• **Television Programs and Movie Credits**
  - Barney Show
  - Soul Food
  - Daddy’s Little Girl

**Newspapers**
- Detroit Newspaper
- Times Picayune, New Orleans
- Rolling Out newspaper
- Houston Chronicle
- Galveston Daily News
- Baltimore Sun
- Philadelphia newspaper
- Charleston Newspaper

• Galveston Daily News

**Magazines**
- Newsweek
- Upscale
- Southern Living
- National Medical Journal
- I-10- Media
- Class Magazine
- 3-Book Covers Designs
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