

## Events

1: Old School Sip & Skate; Skates Roller Skating Center - 8 p.m.

2: First Friday Festivities; Greenwood, Downtown - 6 p.m.

2-5: Germanfest 2025; GAST Event Center

9-11: MayFest; Downtown Tulsa

MAY 2025

# NEWSLETTER

## GREATER TULSA AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION



11: MOTHER'S DAY

15: Third Thursday Jazz; Tulsa Club Hotel - 6:30 p.m.

16: SoulBody Cyphers presents Clash for the Crown; Circle Cinema - 7 p.m.

17, 18, 24, 25: Theatre North Presents "Chicken & Biscuits;" TPAC - Various Times

17: The Live Breathe Fight Gospel Tour; BOK Center - 8 p.m.

18: Leon Bridges Tour; Tulsa Theater - 8 p.m.

24: 2025 Tulsa Whiskey Fest; WOMPA - 4 p.m.

27: African Presence in Early America Lecture; Rudisill Library - 6 p.m.

Saturdays: Tulsa Farmer's Market; Kendall Whittie Neighborhood - 7 a.m.

### Commemorating 104 years.

On May 31 and June 1, 1921, the neighborhood of Greenwood in Tulsa was burned to the ground in an act of intentional, racist violence. For two days, houses and businesses were burned and looted, hundreds of people were killed, and thousands more lost their homes and livelihoods.

This month, the commission acknowledges the devastation of that event and honors the community that built and continues to build such a legacy.

### Commemoration Events

#### Black Wall Street Legacy Festival

The Legacy Fest, hosted by 1921 Race Massacre descendants, seeks to spread truth and inspire hope while engaging community. Festivities will be held all day on May 31.

#### Go GREEN for Greenwood

From May 31-June 1, companies across Tulsa will light their buildings green in honor of Greenwood. Tulsans are also asked to share their support by wearing green.

#### Official Day of Observance

Tulsa Mayor Monroe Nichols has declared June 1 the Day of Observance for the 1921 Race Massacre through executive order.

# Committee Reports

## CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dickens found that six of the nine districts in Tulsa County have 5,000+ African Americans residing in those districts. He emailed those counselors to learn in what ways they are engaging their African American constituents. Dr. Dickens hopes that this is a touchpoint for commissioners to further engage with city councilors and other organizations to represent African American voices.

## POLICY COMMITTEE

The policy committee is continuing to focus on housing and infrastructure. Committee members will appear at a number of events to support education of housing policy to community members. The committee is also planning to write at least two op-eds this year and aim to pitch to three different publications. These op-eds will also likely appear on committee members' social media accounts for further engagement.

## EDUCATION & SKILL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The committee is shifting focus in light of Tulsa Public School's recent decision to end their partnership with Reading Partners. The committee encouraged all commission members to become more familiar with Oklahoma Senate Bill 245. The committee also reported that chronic absenteeism is being removed from the state report card but reminded commissioners how vital school attendance is to education attainment.

## CULTURE & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee has sent out correspondence for the the Spoken Word Contest to all area middle schools and high schools. They are continuing to work on planning this contest.