

# “Meet Me On The Water” Newsletter

## Kayak Black’s 2nd Annual Juneteenth Paddle with a Purpose Brings Community Together at Rocky Point



Despite a rainy forecast, spirits were high and the skies held long enough for Kayak Black’s 2nd Annual Juneteenth Paddle with a Purpose, held on June 19th at Rocky Point Beach and Park. The event drew first-time paddlers from as far as California and welcomed back familiar faces from last year’s gathering, all eager to celebrate community, freedom, and wellness on the water.

Throughout the day, participants enjoyed several hours of paddling, laughter, good food, and fellowship. For many, it was a first introduction to kayaking—and an empowering one. The event offered not just recreation, but a meaningful reminder of the resilience and joy within the Black community, especially as it connects with nature and outdoor spaces.

Among the paddlers were fellow sailors Karen and Princess, who used their time on the water to recruit for the upcoming BIPOC Night on Baltimore’s Harbor, scheduled for July 14th, and share information about USC, (Universal Sailing Club). Their excitement and outreach helped amplify the message that the water belongs to everyone—and that these moments of connection can ripple into lasting change.

As always, Kayak Black continues to use kayaking as a vehicle for recreation, healing, wellness, and visibility. The Juneteenth Paddle with a Purpose was another step forward in that mission—and a joyful one at that.

## Kayak Black's Summer Kick-Off Memorial Day Weekend on the Water

Kayak Black launched the summer season in style with a vibrant Memorial Day Weekend celebration filled with family, friends, food, and fun. The event brought together first-time paddlers and seasoned kayakers for a picture-perfect day on the water.

For many, it was their first time experiencing the joy of kayaking, guided by the welcoming and supportive Kayak Black community. Others took the opportunity to relax, reconnect, and enjoy the sounds of music drifting across the breeze.

With grills sizzling and laughter echoing along the shoreline, guests shared delicious food, great conversations, and unforgettable moments. From paddling adventures to picnics by the water, the day marked the perfect kickoff to a summer full of wellness, togetherness, and exploration. Kayak Black's Memorial Day Weekend event wasn't just about kayaking—it was about creating space for joy, connection, and the simple beauty of being outdoors.



## Kayak Black Hosts Coppin Academy and R-Trainers Aquatics & More for a Day of Exploration on the Water

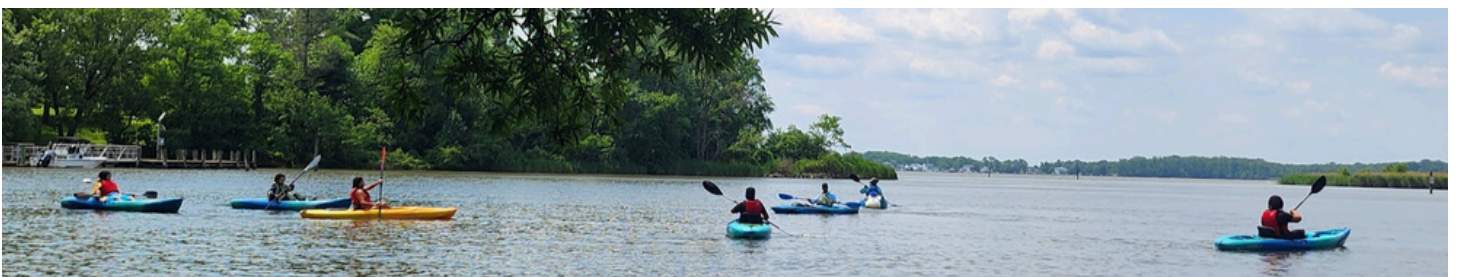


Kayak Black recently welcomed students and families from Coppin Academy High School and R Trainers Aquatics & More for a memorable day on the water. For many, it was their first time kayaking on open water — and a powerful next step after being introduced to the sport earlier this year.

Back in February, Kayak Black visited the Coppin State University Aquatic Center to introduce students to kayaking in a pool setting. That early exposure helped prepare them for this hands-on outdoor experience, where calm waters and clear skies created the perfect atmosphere for learning and adventure.

The day began with on-land instruction and a few in-water tips to help everyone feel confident and safe. Once on the water, students quickly found their rhythm — paddling, laughing, and charting their own course across the bay. Families cheered from the shore and some even joined in, making it a day of shared discovery and joy.

This event is another example of Kayak Black's commitment to expanding access to paddling, fostering confidence in young people, and reconnecting communities with the healing power of water.



# "Meet Me On The Water" Upcoming Events

## Cherry Hill Arts & Music Waterfront Festival, July 4<sup>th</sup> Middle Branch Park

Kayak Black is offering hands-on instruction and paddling sessions from **1:00pm - 5:00pm**. Whether you're brand new to kayaking or simply looking to reconnect, this is your chance to paddle with a purpose.

A suggested donation of just **\$20** supports our mission directly – helping fund equipment, outreach, and access for communities that need it most.

So come grab a paddle, take a deep breath of fresh air, and discover the joy, freedom, and healing of kayaking with Kayak Black. Head to their station to sign up and show your support.



## BIPOC Sailing Night - July 14<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm - Sunset

Join Black, Indigenous & People of Color on the water and discover the joy of sailing. You must register for this event scan the QR Code on the flyer.

**REGISTER FOR BIPOC SAILING NIGHT!**

Join Black, Indigenous & People of Color discovering the joy of sailing

**DOWNTOWN SAILING CENTER**

**\$35**

**5:30PM - Sunset**  
**July 14, 2025**  
**Downtown Sailing Center**  
**1425 Key Highway, Baltimore**