



“Meet Me On The Water”

May, 2025

Newsletter

May
National Mental Health
Awareness Month

Summer Kick-Off
Memorial Day Weekend
May 25th 11am-3pm
Rocky Point Beach & Park



Kayak Black is thrilled to announce its official status as a **501(c)(3) non-profit** organization, marking a significant milestone in our journey to make a positive impact. With this new status, we are launching our fundraising efforts aimed at expanding our programs and outreach. We invite you to join us in this exciting new chapter by contributing to our cause—every dollar truly makes a difference. Your support will help us provide more opportunities and resources for those we serve. Please visit our website at [kayakblack.com](https://www.kayakblack.com) or click the link below to support our cause. Every dollar counts. <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/donate-to-make-a-difference-13961>



Kayak Black started the year on a positive note with an invitation from Daniel Russell, Director of Coppin State University’s Aquatics Center on January 28th. This event was designed to welcome students back from their winter break – an added resource of a kayak demonstration by Kayak Black focusing on water safety and basic kayaking skills.

This unique opportunity not only provided students with valuable knowledge about staying safe in and around water, but also introduced them to the joys and benefits of kayaking. By combining education with hands-on experience, Kayak Black successfully fostered a sense of community while encouraging a sense of wellness and positive mental health.



Kayak Black recently participated in the Day of Diversity & Inclusion at The McDonogh School, an event aimed at promoting inclusivity within the swimming community. Sponsored by Diversity & Inclusion in Swimming, this was the fourth year the event has been held, and it marked the first time Kayak Black was invited to contribute to its success.

Organized by Brian Pinkney, a coach at Lochearn Community Club during the summer months, the event seeks to foster a welcoming environment for all individuals interested in swimming. To learn more about their programs and how you can support their movement, visit Diversity & Inclusion in Swimming at diversityswim.org.

The Universal Sailing Club (USC), established in 2001 by Marcus Asante and Michael Campbell, serves as a vital platform for African Americans to engage with the rich cultural heritage of the Chesapeake Bay. Designed as a welcoming space for enthusiasts of all skill levels, the USC provides its members with opportunities to participate in a variety of sailing events, fostering a sense of community and adventure on the water.

Last year, the club extended an invitation to **Kayak Black**, further diversifying the maritime experiences available to its members. This partnership highlights USC's commitment to inclusivity and exploration. For those intrigued by the allure of sailing and eager to join a vibrant community, USC offers a gateway to both the sport and the cultural treasures of the Bay. More information can be found on their website: <https://universalsailingclub.org/>



Upcoming of Events

May 25, 2025 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Summer Kick-Off Memorial Day BBQ & Paddle

Rocky Point Beach & Park – 2200 Rocky Point Rd, Essex, MD 21221

Admission: \$6

Hourly Kayak Rentals: \$15 (Single) / \$20 (Tandem)

Registration Required: <https://kayakblack.com/upcoming-events>

June 14, 2025 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

8th Annual Baltimore Floatilla – Waterfront Partnership

5 Mile Paddling from Canton to Inner Harbor | This Year's Theme the 70's

Register at <https://www.classy.org/event/floatilla/e674537>

June 19, 2025 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration with Kayak Black

Rocky Point Beach & Park – 2200 Rocky Point Rd, Essex, MD 21221

Admission: \$6

Hourly Kayak Rentals: \$15 (Single) / \$20 (Tandem)

Registration Required: <https://kayakblack.com/upcoming-events>