

Media Contacts:

Interviews: Oregon Remembrance Project founder Taylor

Stewart, taylornathanielstewart@gmail.com

Other inquiries: Steve Law, 503-422-2492, resedaslaw@comcastt.net

Juneteenth ceremony to honor Oregon lynching victim

Alonzo Tucker, a 28-year-old Black man, was lynched by a mob in Coos Bay, Ore., in 1902, after a white woman accused him of sexual assault. It was Oregon's only documented lynching of an African American. Three hundred people witnessed the mob string up Tucker's dead body from a light pole. A 1974 Coos Bay newspaper article cited three eyewitnesses of the lynching who told the reporter they believed Tucker was lynched over a consensual relationship.

"When we forget Alonzo Tucker, we forget how far Oregon must come to heal its relationship with African Americans," says Taylor Stewart, founder of the Oregon Remembrance Project, who is spearheading a ceremony to remember this event and honor Alonzo Tucker.

"The era of lynching may be behind us," Stewart says, "but we, as a nation, won't ever be able to move past it until we confront this legacy."

Time: 10 a.m., Saturday, June 19

Viewing link: <https://fb.me/e/2O6tqLLgh>

Speakers include:

Taylor Stewart, Oregon Remembrance Project founder

Keiana West, Equal Justice Initiative racial justice fellow

Zachary Stocks, Oregon Black Pioneers executive director

Marcia Hart, Coos History Museum executive director

Steve Grief, Coos History Museum board member

Oregonians are encouraged to tune into the [livestream](#) of the ceremony. Three hundred people were present for the lynching and the goal is to have more than 300 people pay witness to that injustice on June 19. News media are invited to cover the event live at the [Coos History Museum](#), 1210 N. Front St., Coos Bay, or via the [livestream](#).

The Coos Bay event is part of a nationwide campaign led by the Equal Justice Initiative of Montgomery, Alabama, to honor the nearly 6,500 African Americans lynched in America. Bryan Stevenson, executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, believes that unearthing the truth about such heinous crimes, and memorializing the victims, is a prerequisite to reconciliation and racial healing in America.

For more background and quotes, see attached Fact Sheet