

Col. George Gordon Granger's General Order #3 *Samuel Pierce*

13th Amendment to the US Constitution *Samuel Pierce*

*Come Sunday, from Ellington's
Black, Brown and Beige (1943)* *Danielle Ruffen
Paul White, accompanist*

Introduction of the speaker *Edmund Barry Gaither*

Keynote address *Senator William (Bill) Owens
Retired Massachusetts State
Senator, Activist*

*Introduction of the Boston
Juneteenth Committee* *Jumaada A-K H. Smith, J.D.
Chairperson, Boston Juneteenth
Committee*

Benediction *Imam Abdullah Faaruuq,
Mosque for the Praising of Allah*

*Lift Every Voice (audience standing)
J.W. Johnson, J. R. Johnson* *Danielle Ruffen
Paul White, accompanist*

Retirement of the Colors *54th Regiment Massachusetts
Volunteer Infantry*

About Lift Every Voice and Sing

As a school principal in 1900, James W. Johnson (1871-1938) wrote this poem for his students to perform on President Abraham Lincoln's birthday during a visit by Booker T. Washington. Later, J. Rosamond Johnson added music. By the 1920s, the song had become known as the "Negro National Anthem." It inspired a heroic sculpture by Augusta Savage that was shown at the New York World's Fair in 1939. At mid-century, it was the "Black National Anthem." Over the years, it has continued being sung at black formal, civic and ceremonial events. Since the 1960s, it is generally referred to as "Lift Every Voice and Sing."