



New York State  
Adirondack  
Park Agency

KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor

BARBARA RICE  
Executive Director

## **Certificate of Appreciation Executive Director Martha Swan John Brown Lives!**

With the signing of Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law on June 17, 2021, Juneteenth was designated as a federal holiday to commemorate the emancipation of African American slaves. America's "second Independence Day" honors the history, perseverance, and achievements of the African American community. It is also a forthright reminder of the brutality and hardship suffered by enslaved peoples and an enduring tribute to all those who fought for the obtainment of equality, the right to vote and other cherished civil rights.

As the Adirondack Park Agency marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan, we join all New Yorkers to celebrate the less known but truly remarkable Adirondack history of the diverse people who contributed to the greatness of the Adirondack Park and its communities. History teaches profound lessons.

The Adirondack Park Agency expresses its appreciation to Executive Director and Founder Martha Swan for the opportunity to learn about the meaningful work and educational programs offered through John Brown Lives! We are grateful for your steadfast efforts to promote social justice and human rights through reflection and activism, awareness and exploration, kinship and individual action.

Presented this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023 in Ray Brook, New York.

---

**John Ernst**  
Chair

---

**Barbara Rice**  
Executive Director