



SOUTH ORANGE | MAPLEWOOD
**COMMUNITY
COALITION
ON RACE**

Juneteenth is Sunday, June 18th, at Durand-Hedden!

We are excited to work in collaboration with Durand-Hedden once again on this important holiday. Come out to learn about the history of enslaved people in New Jersey, about the Juneteenth holiday, and to share in some historical reenactments, music, and children's activities on the beautiful grounds of Durand-Hedden House & Gardens in Maplewood. [More information and advance registration here...](#)



Help Us Meet Our Spring Fundraising Goal Today

Support the Community Coalition on Race

We're almost there and you can make the difference! Help us meet our fundraising goal this spring with a donation today. Your gift today is an investment in racial integration and equity. Here's how you can contribute right now:

- Donate [here on our website](#)
- Reading this on your phone? Text [ccrgive](#) to 202-858-1233

Thank you!



Coalition Loan Program Generates Excitement among Realtors & Lenders!

Register here today for the upcoming virtual session on Thursday, June 13th, 7 – 8 pm

The Residential Committee introduced realtors and lenders to the Wealth Gap Equalizer Loan, a new, unique financing solution designed specifically to help qualified Black and non-white Hispanic applicants overcome common barriers to homeownership in SOMA. **Based on the terrific feedback at the May event, we are hosting a virtual information session about the Coalition's Wealth Gap Equalizer (WGEL) Loan Program on Thursday June 13th from 7-8 PM.**



Promoting Integration at the Local Level: Nancy Gagnier to Speak on Panel

The Coalition Executive Director will be speaking on racial integration in NJ at the **2023 New Jersey Planning and Redevelopment Conference** hosted by New Jersey Future and



APA New Jersey on June 21st! "Most places will tend toward segregation (or re-segregation) without actions to ensure communities remain open to everyone. Hear local leaders who have proactively taken on this issue discuss examples of what towns can do and have done to foster stable racial integration." For more information and to register for the session, [click here](#).

Freedom to Learn National Day of Action

We joined SOMA community racial justice and equity groups in this National Day of Action to protect the truth and the freedom to learn.

The **May 3rd** events included banned book readings at both town libraries, a Teach-in at CHS, and a rally at Spiotta Park. Many thanks to Stephanie Lawson Muhammad for her leadership and the planners and speakers for advocating against banning books and censorship. For more information, read Lisa E. Davis's opinion piece [here](#).



**FREEDOM TO LEARN
NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION**
MAY 3RD, 2023
SOUTH ORANGE - MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

**FIGHTING AGAINST THE
EXTREMIST ANTI-TRUTH
AGENDA TRYING TO BAN
BOOKS, CENSOR HISTORY,
AND LEGISLATE AGAINST
TEACHING THE TRUTH
ABOUT STRUCTURAL
RACISM.**

Register @
Eventbrite

**BANNED BOOK
READINGS** 4:00 - 5:00 PM
South Orange Library (teen/adult readings)
Maplewood Library - Hilton Branch (elementary readings)

TEACH-IN 5:30 - 6:30 PM
Black Box Theatre at Columbus High School
Listen about the experiences of fighting the right's anti-diversity
attacks on education and our progressive values.

RALLY 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Spiotta Park, South Orange Ave.
Raise your voice and show your support as we rally together
to demand educational justice and the freedom to learn.

SOMA ACTION, ERASING ESSEX'S, MAPLEWOOD LIBRARY, SPIOTTA PARK, SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE, COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL, BLACK BOX THEATRE

Conversations on Race: Rethinking the Racial Wealth Gap

This year's Conversation on Race focused our attention on the racial wealth gap with expert information and personal experience. Attendees heard about the stark disparities in home ownership, income levels, wealth assets, and more from panelists Laura Sullivan, Catherine Connelly, and Darrell W Gunter, and moderator Rhea Mokund-Beck, who challenged the audience with questions about the systems that perpetuate the wealth gap, the ongoing barriers to solutions, and how to bring about change. To see the presentations and learn more, [click here...](#)



Conversations on Race
Rethinking the Racial Wealth Gap

Icons: House, Hand holding money, Briefcase, Graduation cap, Speech bubble.

Talking to Children about Race with Dr. Diane Hughes

Dr. Diane Hughes, professor of Applied Psychology in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Development, and Education, along with PhD student Blair Cox led parents and caregivers in learning how to talk about race and raise race-conscious children. Participants practiced age-appropriate responses to a variety of the difficult questions regularly raised by young children about racial identity. To see the presentation and the [Strategies for Talking to Children about Race mini guide](#), [click here](#).



TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT RACE

Community Coalition for Racial Justice

Image of three diverse children smiling.

June is Pride Month—Celebrate & Support the LBGTQ+ Community

MAPSO is full of events throughout the month—everything from the pride flag raising, to book readings, to theater performances, a youth picnic, and more. [Check out the full listing of events here..](#) Plus, North Jersey Pride will host its annual festival in Maplewood Memorial Park on Sunday, June 4th, from 12 – 6 pm. The North Jersey Pride Festival is a family-friendly celebration of love, respect and unity and admission is free. Visit the [NJ Pride website](#) for more details.



OUT IN MAPSO 2023
PRIDE
www.outinmapso.org

June is National Homeownership Month

In his proclamation, President Biden stated “I remain committed to expanding access to homeownership opportunities for first-time home buyers and minority homebuyers while ensuring that Black and Brown families receive a fair appraisal for their homes.” Find out more about what the Coalition on Race is doing to promote the benefits of living in SOMA and how our loan program (**WGEL**) supports first-time Black and Brown homebuyers [here](#).



The Maplewood Community Board on Police Needs You

We are asking our supporters to consider applying for a seat on the Community Board on Police to represent our mission. The Board is comprised of nine voting members, including one Maplewood resident appointee from the Community Coalition on Race. If you are interested in being nominated by the Community Coalition on Race to fill this important seat, please reach out to us at SOMA@communitycoalitiononrace.org. To learn more about the board, [visit here](#).



Integrated Art Circles Continue—Register Today!

Reserve your spot for the June and July Circles today! Future monthly Art Circles include mosaics, theater, murals, shekere percussion, and more. [For details on each circle and to register, click here.](#)

Mosaic Project with artist Sandra Charlap begins June 6th

This circle will translate our vision of DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) into a fantastic array of color and sparkle using glass tile to create a mosaic that will be displayed in our community permanently. You will learn how to use a wide range of materials, adhesives, and grouts for installation.

Learn to Juggle with artist Sandra Leith begins July 6th

Here's your chance to release that inner child and learn the most basic circus trick of all-- juggling. We will focus on juggling patterns, and touch on the history of juggling and how it happens in different countries. Our class will end with a group showcase, demonstrating team and individual juggling skills.

Integrated Art Circles 2023



Deconstructing Racism Workshop Series

This 8 session workshop series ended in May with a focus on developing ways to disrupt racism.

Participants have praised the sessions as being “carefully researched, prepared, and thoughtfully presented” as well as “enlightening, troubling, and inspiring, helping us understand this reality and how we can change it.” To learn more about what the workshops covered [click here](#).



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DONATE



Visit our website

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