

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

Support the Community Coalition on Race

Our community work is uniquely focused on the sustainability of racial integration and equity in our towns. Anti-racism trainings and the Deconstructing Racism Series enable people to go deeper in their understanding of racism and challenged them to do the hard work of being an anti-racist. 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." Have a look below at all we have coming up this spring that supports integration and inclusion in SOMA and beyond.

We couldn't do all this without the support of community donors. Here's how you can contribute right now:

- Donate [here on our website](#).
- Reading this on your phone? Text [ccrgive](#) to 202-858-1233
- Send a check to Community Coalition on Race, 516 Prospect St., Maplewood NJ 07040

Thank you!



Conversations on Race: Rethinking the Racial Wealth Gap

The Woodland on Tuesday, May 16, 7:30 pm
[Register here today!](#)

We are excited to announce the panel and moderator that will lead this year's conversation! This group has deep knowledge and experience with the topic of the racial wealth gap and can speak to specific issues that we face here in New Jersey. Panelists include:

- **Laura Sullivan**, Director, Economic Justice Program at NJISJ
- **Catherine Connelly**, Director of Research Engagement, United for ALICE, United Way NJ
- **Darrell W Gunter**, adjunct professor in the W. Paul Stillman School of Business & host of the radio program "Leadership with Darrell W Gunter" at Seton Hall University

Our moderator is **Rhea Mokund-Beck**, Director of People and Culture, ACLU New Jersey. [Learn more about the event and register here.](#)



For Realtors & Lenders: Learn about Our Loan Program

Tuesday, May 2nd, 10:30 am, Ethical Culture Society
refreshments served...[Reserve your spot today!](#)

The Residential Committee is excited to introduce 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. Join us for a brief presentation where we will have our two incredible awardees discussing their experience and how their lives were changed once they closed on their homes in SOMA



Freedom to Learn National Day of Action Here in SOMA May 3rd

Join SOMA community racial justice and equity groups in this National Day of Action to protect the truth and the freedom to learn. The events include banned book readings at both town libraries, a Teach-in at CHS, and a rally at Spiotta Park. [Details on events, times, and locations are here.](#)

FREEDOM TO LEARN NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION
MAY 03, 2023
SOUTH ORANGE • MAPLEWOOD NEW JERSEY

FIGHTING AGAINST THE EXTREMIST ANTI-TRUTH AGENDA TRYING TO BAN BOOKS, CENSOR HISTORY, AND ISOLATE 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 • Columbia High School
Learn about the importance of fighting the right's Anti-White 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 • COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL • ERASING ESSEX'S • SOUTHERN SOPI • MAPLEWOOD LIBRARY

Talking to Children about Race with Dr. Diane Hughes Wednesday, May 24, 7 pm, location TBD

Dr. Diane Hughes, professor of Applied Psychology in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Development, and Education, will once again lead parents and caregivers in learning how to talk about race and discuss best practices in raising race conscious children. Learn about creating a home environment that supports open communication about race and difference, being intentional about talking about race, providing your kids with the tools they need to understand difference, and more.



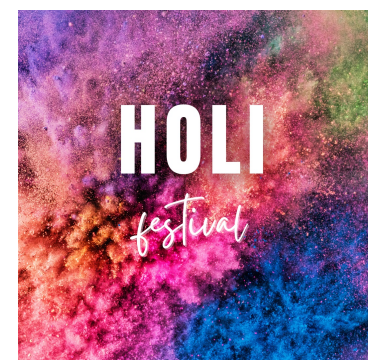
Audrey Rowe & Nancy Gagnier Received the Carol Buchanan Award

As part of the Maplewood Library's 2023 Ideas Festival, the 2023 Carol Buchanan Award for Outstanding Contribution to Civic and Intellectual Life was given to Audrey Rowe and Nancy Gagnier, for their work with the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race. [Read more here about the event and their interview with Dr. Katherine McCaffrey.](#)



May is American Asian and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Month!

The theme for the observance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May 2023 is Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity. There are celebrations and events throughout New Jersey this month. In our towns, SOMA Cross Cultural Works will once again host Holi Festival—the Indian festival of colors on May 6th, 2 pm, Maplewood Memorial Park. [Get more details and tickets here.](#)



Integrated Art Circles Continue—Register Today!

Integrated Art Circles 2023

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

Theatrical Improvisation Artist with artist Clark Jackson begins May 6th

Are you ready to try Improv? Through this experience, you will work with an award-winning actor and educator to play theatre games, learn acting basics, make new friends, build group trust and work on scenes for performance.

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.



Deconstructing Racism Workshop Series

Learning about structural racism is critical to building an equitable, inclusive, integrated community. The final sessions of the series are May 7th and May 21st.



973-761-6116 | soma@communitycoalitiononrace.org
www.communitycoalitiononrace.org

DONATE



Visit our website

South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race | P.O. Box 1309, Maplewood, NJ 07040

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