



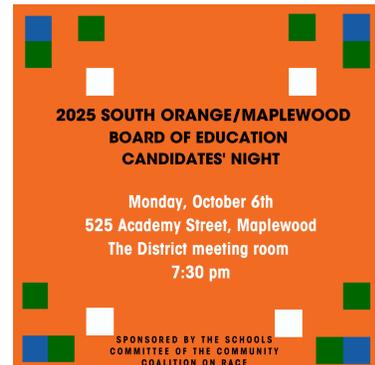
Celebrating Integration—RSVP Today! Thursday, October 16th, 7 pm, Orange Lawn Tennis Club

Our annual gala and fundraiser is on Thursday, October 16th at 7 pm at the Orange Lawn Tennis Club in South Orange. The evening includes dinner and drinks at Orange Lawn Tennis Club, live music and dancing with Essex Funk Collective, and a live auction. We are excited to announce that Audrey Rowe, our former program director, is this year's honoree. The evening will include a special memorial tribute to Carol Barry-Austin, founding member and Schools Committee leader for over two decades. Please join us to honor and learn more about these two gifted women who have done so much to keep SOMA on the path to integration and equity. [Purchase tickets and sponsorships here](#) to attend and [click here for placing a business ad or personal message in the program journal](#).



BOE Candidates' Forum October 6th, 7:30 pm

The Schools Committee of the Coalition will host its annual BOE Candidates' Forum for the candidates running for the 3 open seats. This is an opportunity for voters to learn about the candidates' positions on the integration plan, equity policies, and their commitment to excellence and equity for all students at this critical time of challenge to diversity, equity, and inclusion. [Register here](#).



Integrated Art Circle: Murals

The Mural Art Circle, led by award-winning teaching artist Roberta Melzl, brings together students and adults to create a community mural across four-six sessions beginning September 15th. [Register here today!](#)



Integrated Art Circle: Opera Exploration

The Opera Art Circle, led by acclaimed opera singer Lori Brown Mirabal, begins September 22nd at Prospect Church and explores opera's rich history through the lens of racial diversity. [Register here today!](#)

The Community Coalition on Race
presents



Opera Exploration
with
Lori Brown Mirabal



Register for **FREE**

Two Wealth Gap Equalizer Loan Amounts Increased to \$15,000

We are excited to announce that we are increasing two of our Wealth Gap Equalizer Loans (WGEL) from \$7,500 to \$15,000. This change comes in response to rising housing costs in our towns and is designed to make homebuying more attainable for Black and non-White Hispanic families. [Learn more about the loan and application process here.](#)



The Schools Committee Collaborates on the District's At-a-Glance

This informational one-pager provides realtors, new in-movers, and potential in-movers with a positive and succinct overview of the school district, the Intentional Integration Initiative, and school placement processes. [Have a look here and share!](#)



The Lee & Ian Show Interviews Nancy Gagnier

We are grateful to Lee Navlen and Ian Grodman for doing this interview with Nancy Gagnier: "There is not a more important organization in SOMA than The Community Coalition on Race. For decades, the CCR has been leading the drive to make Maplewood and South Orange a safe, diverse and inclusive community for all. It hasn't always been easy and the challenges even today remain very real. Meet the CCR Executive Director, Nancy Gagnier, a real champion amongst us!" [Check out the podcast here.](#)



Join the Board of Trustees – Make a Difference in Your Community

Are you passionate about racial equity, inclusion, and building a truly integrated community? The South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race is seeking new members to join our Board of Trustees. This is a meaningful opportunity to give back by working with a diverse group of neighbors to advance racial integration and equity in every facet of community life. [Join the Community Coalition on Race's board.](#)



SAVE T DATE! Coming up on November 12th, 7:30 pm

The Schools Committee will host an **Education Forum** featuring speakers who will discuss the intersection of racial inequality and educational policies. The committee will share a history of integration efforts in our district over the last few decades. We will look at progress to date and consider what's at stake in achieving racially integrated and equitable schools and classrooms.

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DONATE



Visit our website

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