

Local Love Brigade Incidents and Addresses: Week of 6-11-17

Incident / Report Date	Incident Description	Source	Address
6/14/2017	<p>On May 31st, 2017, the New England Youth Theatre sign at 100 Flat Street was defaced by a swastika, hate speech, and a crude and vulgar picture. Our staff was able to remove the markings, but not completely forget the collective shock. We are reaching out to you for several reasons. First, we want to emphasize that no NEYT staff (and to our knowledge no one connected to NEYT) had anything to do with this act.</p> <p>Second, the entire staff and board of NEYT condemn the content of this and all other hate speech. We immediately reported the incident to the Brattleboro Police and we will be filing a report about the incident with the Southern Poverty Law Center. As many of you are undoubtedly aware, the Southern Poverty Law Center is a leader in the fight against hate speech and acts, and maintains an active hate act reporting system. In our minds, although the incident may appear to be minor, we believe it is important to work with all resources that have the ability to stop any similar acts in the future, whether at NEYT or elsewhere in our community. Our country is currently struggling with a cultural shift where some individuals believe that they can, with impunity, push the boundaries of appropriateness, even to the point of illegality, intimidation and hate speech. This recent of defacing our sign is a painful reminder that Vermont and Brattleboro are not immune from that unfortunate trend. We at NEYT believe that merely reporting and registering our objection to crimes like this is not enough. The arts play a strong and integral part of our education, and theater is one of the strongest vehicles for raising social awareness. Over the next few months, our staff will be exploring ways we can use our best resource – the integrity and power of our talented young actors – to attempt to further the dialogue in our community on the danger of remaining silent while hateful groups and individuals try to make intimidation and discrimination an acceptable norm. While we do not know what the result of these discussions will be, rest assured that all of us at NEYT remain committed to eliminating hatred and intimidation.</p>	LLB Member	New England Youth Theater Community, 100 Flat St, Brattleboro, VT 05301

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<p>6/9/2017</p>	<p>"So this evening I get a call from the principal from my daughters school The Milton Middle School to discuss a matter that took place earlier today after 2pm My daughter had a student today that told her "I hate all you black people you niggers at this school" My daughter then got very upset and tried addressing her issue of being called a " nigger" to an adult teacher who clearly didn't want to hear anything she had to say and then the school officer follows my daughter around claiming he has to do his job My daughter said to him you should be trying to find that girl who called me a nigger Clearly something has to give and being educated on dealing with matters such as this one need to be addressed My child since 5th grade had been harass nothing was done yet she was spoken to she was bullied again nothing got done but they spoke to her and then there was spitting to where the child who spit didn't getting a consequent for that but my daughter got spoken to Milton middle school is low class and uneducated on these matters and to deal with Form a meeting for parents and students discuss the topic of rascim to get a better understanding address all these issues have the victims the kids talk about how it made them feel And get more diversity into the school I'm an angry mom and I will see to it this gets addressed and how we as black people or any other color other then white will get heard!!!!"</p>	<p>Black Lives Matter Vermont</p>	<p>Babygirl c/o Shop 4 Change, 325 Main Street, Winooski, VT 05404</p>
<p>6/4/2017</p>	<p>Sister Rahma Warsame, Somali American and single mother, was brutally beaten by a white man as she came to the defense of another sister. Rahma is currently recovering at Riverside Hospital, Columbus, Ohio (where she is employed). Her injuries include four missing teeth, a badly swollen face, busted lips and a swollen nose.</p>	<p>https://www.launchood.com/project/stand with sister rahma#</p>	<p>Sister Rahma Warsame c/o CAIR-Columbus Suite B2, 4242 Tuller Rd. Dublin, OH 43017</p>