



## The South Orange/Maplewood **Community Coalition *on Race***

[Visit Our Website](#)

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### **Neighborhoods: Building Blocks for the SOMA Community**

Why the Coalition on Race wants you to come to the Neighborhood Summit on July 10th...[read more](#) here about the effectiveness of neighborhood organizing! At the [Neighborhood Summit](#), The Residential Committee of the Coalition will connect residents with municipal services, provide a framework on organizing neighbors (block or neighborhood associations), and have breakout sessions to discuss neighborhood matters and integration matters.

- **July 10th, 7:30 pm**
- **The Woodland, 60 Woodland Rd., Maplewood**

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### **Schools Committee Issues Statement on the Importance of Making School Integration a Priority**

The school district has stated that it plans to make elementary school integration part of the facilities upgrades. In this letter to the BOE, the Schools Committee asks the school board to be mindful of shared equity in the upcoming changes and residents to support school integration as a benefit for all children. Read the letter [here](#).



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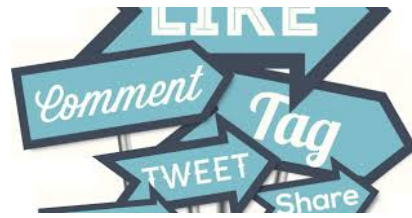
### **XRootsfest**

The festival offered a day of exciting entertainment on stage, a free kids' zone with bouncy houses, and an edutainment tent full of cultural explorations--from Dabka dancing, to bamboo jumping, to kids' zumba, to local cultural ambassadors from Haiti, Colombia, Ecuador, Malawi, Kenya, and more! For pictures and videos, [click here](#).



## Tips for Talking About Race on Social Media

Take a look at the ideas that were generated for constructive dialog about race in online social spaces by SOMA residents at the Coalition's April Coffee House Discussion. [Click here to view.](#)



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## SOMa Residents: Apply Today for Our Home Maintenance Loan Program

Summer is the season for home repairs! For residents who can't afford much-needed exterior work on their homes, the Community Coalition on Race is pleased to share that the Home Maintenance Loan Program is available and open for applicants. [Get the details here](#)



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## Support Our Spring Appeal with a Donation Today!

Your financial support allows us to work toward inclusiveness and racial integration in all aspects of community life: Conversations on Race, Talking to Children about Race, extended Demographic Research, XRootsFest, Teen Conversations on Race, Black History Month discussions, advocating for integrated elementary schools, collaborating on a Police Community Relations Board, and so much more. [Click here to make a secure online donation!](#)



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## Volunteer with Us!

Work with a diverse group of your neighbors, be active in community life, and use your talents in support of racial integration. There is a variety of volunteer opportunities-from single projects to committees that meet throughout the year to move the mission forward. [Click here for more information.](#)



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## Other Upcoming Events

**Coalition's SOMa Integrated Playgroup** Sat., June 23 , 10 am - noon  
Ages 6 months thru 5 yrs.  
Le Parc Place, Maplewood

**Realtor Coffee & Conversation** Thursday, August 16th, 10 am  
Meet with school district leaders to learn about upcoming plans. Details TBA soon!

For more information and updates visit [www.twotowns.org](http://www.twotowns.org)

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