



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

[Visit Our Website](#)

XRootsfest Is Here! (pronounced Cross Roots Fest)

This Saturday, June 2nd, Maplewood Memorial Park, 12 - 6 pm

Enjoy and celebrate the diverse roots of our community! XRootsFest (pronounced CROSS-Roots-Fest) is a multicultural festival with musicians, dancers, story-tellers, merchants, and food vendors rooted in the cultures of the many nationalities and ethnicities of our region.

The festival offers a day of exciting entertainment on stage, a free kids' zone with bouncy houses, and an **Edu-tainment tent** full of cultural explorations--from Dabka dancing, to Vietnamese bamboo stick jumping, to kids' zumba, to local cultural ambassadors from Haiti, Colombia, Ecuador, Malawi, Kenya, and more! To see the full schedule, [click here](#)

Conversations on Race Brings out Diverse Crowd

Thanks to over 100 people who came out to discuss integration with so much energy! People worked on developing both personal action steps and recommendations for the community to improve racial inclusion in SOMA. Thanks to Elizabeth Williams-Riley of the American Conference on Diversity for her powerful leadership.

[Read more here...](#)



Concerning the Traffic Stop Video in South Orange

The Coalition on Race calls for empathy, constructive dialog, and improved community relationships.

[Read the full statement here...](#)

Find out more about the School District's Facilities & Integration Plan

The Coalition's Schools Committee encourages everyone to attend one of the sessions on the district's Long Range Facilities & Integration Plan that is intended to address building safety, classroom capacity, and racial integration issues. [Click here for details on times and locations.](#)



Residential

Are you in a Neighborhood Association or Block Group? Do you plan your neighborhood block party or annual group yard sale? Do you wish you did? This is the summit for you! 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

Coalition Chair Robert A. Marchman Appears on Face of America

Check out Robert A. Marchman, Community Coalition on Race Board Chairman's video interview on *Face of America* in which he shares the personal and societal impacts of race in America. [Watch here...](#)



Robert
A. Marchman

Other Upcoming Events

SOMa Celebrates Pride!

June is LGBT Pride month and SOMa will show its pride and celebrate with a series of events, from an equality march, to the NJ Pride Festival, to a teen 'concert of inclusion,' and much more.

Sat., June 10th, 12 - 6 pm

Maplewood Memorial Park

[Check out the calendar of all the events happening here....](#)

Coalition's SOMa Integrated Playgroup Sat., June 23, 10 am - noon

Ages 6 months thru 5 yrs.
Le Parc Place, Maplewood

Maplewood Book Festival

This year's festival features a panel on The Rise of White Supremacy and the Future of Race Relations moderated by Khalil Gibran Muhammad that includes author Vegas Tenold, and New York University law professor Anthony C. Thompson.

June 8 and 9, 2018

The Woodland, Maplewood

[Click here for the full schedule of events.](#)

For more information and updates visit www.twotowns.org

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