



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

[Visit Our Website](#)

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### Message

Racial integration has to be a full-on project for a community to achieve success in being inclusive and equitable. The Coalition takes a broad engagement approach that includes learning and discussion, relationship development, and advocacy. We work across the community on equity issues, provide trainings and workshops, and collaborate with groups throughout the state. [Read more here to see what our donors have made possible so far this year and to donate online...](#)

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### Conversations on Race: *Defining Integration for the 21st Century*

Elizabeth Williams-Riley, CEO & President of the American Conference on Diversity, will lead us in a timely discussion about what integration means to us today as individuals and as a community. How can living in a fully integrated community transform the way we interact with each other? Participants will identify what the barriers to integration are, what resources are needed, and what we should commit to working on as individuals, in our networks, and in our institutions. [More details here...](#)

- **Wednesday, May 9th**
- **7:30 PM to 9:30 PM**
- **The Woodland, 60 Woodland Road, Maplewood**



Elizabeth Williams-Riley

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### Coffee House Discussion Takes on Social Media

We heard from over forty people who shared their experiences of racism on social media and their ideas for constructive dialog about race in our online social spaces. [Read more here...](#)



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## Neighborhood Summit

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. [Read more here](#)



- **May 16th, 7:30 pm**
- **The Woodland, 60 Woodland Rd., Maplewood**

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## Coalition Program Director Appears on Face of America

Talking about race is not easy, but Audrey Rowe reminds us why we must do so on an ongoing basis in order to bring about change. Check out her video interview on *Face of America*. [Watch here...](#)



Host Pierre Gervois & Audrey Rowe

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## XRootsFest: June 2nd, Maplewood Memorial Park

Mark your calendars for the 5th Annual **XRootsFest** celebrating the diversity of cultures and talents in our region! Musicians, dancers, story-tellers, outdoor fun for kids, edu-tainment, merchants and food vendors rooted in the cultures of four continents will weave together a fabulous afternoon for you, your friends and family. [See more here...](#)



Communal Dancing at 2017 Festival

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## SOMSD Diversity Job Fair

The Schools Committee supported and promoted the school district's Diversity Hiring Fair. This year's fair was well attended and had the added component of information tables for each of the district's schools and some special programs. [Read more here...](#)



## Civic Engagement Institute

The Coalition's 2018 Civic Engagement Institute supported SOMA Residents in honing their skills to become more effective change makers in our community and beyond. [Read more here](#)



Panelists Minor, Paris & Julien

## Fair Housing Discrimination

If you or someone you know has experienced housing discrimination in the state of NJ, [click here for resources](#) through the NJ Citizen Action organization.



## Other Upcoming Events

### Luna Stage:

THE MAN IN ROOM 306, Luna Stage's critically acclaimed signature piece, on the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination

**April 12 through May 13th**

[Click here for tickets](#)

### Coalition's SOMa Integrated Playgroup

**Sat., May 26th, 10 am - noon**

Ages 6 months thru 5 yrs.

Le Parc Place, Maplewood

### North Jersey PrideFest

**Sat., June 10, 12 pm - 6 pm**

Maplewood Memorial Park

[Click here for info](#)

### Maplewood Book Festival

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

### Hope for Harmony

**July 4th Art Project**

**BCB Maplewood Grand Opening**

Choose your image, make a pixel and  
complete it in red, white and blue  
contact B J Kaufman at [Bjohn1@gmail.com](mailto:Bjohn1@gmail.com)

**Sat., May 19, 2 pm -6 pm**  
**160 Maplewood Ave., Maplewood**  
**RSVP by May 12**

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

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