



The South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition *on Race*

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December 2017 News & Updates

Annual Appeal Message

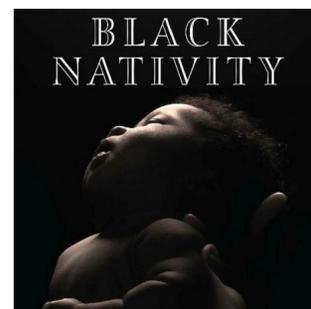
Before we can become the integrated and inclusive community we aspire to be, we have to acknowledge racism-both individual and systemic-and work on sustained cultural change through education and advocacy. This is the path that the Coalition on Race has been on for 20 years and it's why we're still needed. We raise awareness about the obstacles preventing us from becoming truly inclusive and we invite and support community-generated solutions to achieve tangible changes. On issues like implicit bias; white privilege; profiling; police reform; the achievement gap in the schools; anti-bias training; integrated schools and classrooms; and demographic shifts, we raise consciousness, offer solutions, and provide support for change.

Right now, SOMa is facing some crucial integration and equity challenges. [Read more here...](#)

Your contribution today supports our vision that people of different races, ethnic groups and backgrounds interact, form friendships, and participate fully in the community's economic, political, civic, educational and cultural life.

Get Your Tickets Today! Interact Theatre's Production of Langston Hughes' Black Nativity

Support two community nonprofits! December 15-17, The Baird, South Orange. [Interact Theatre](#)-which is committed to "building strong ties within the community by producing thought-provoking plays and musicals that challenge stereotypes and prejudices"-will be donating proceeds from their upcoming production of Black Nativity to the Coalition. Written by poet and playwright Langston Hughes, **Black Nativity** is the Christmas story in dialogue, narrative, pantomime, gospel song and folk spirituals.



Coalition Annual Holiday Party

**Monday, December 11th, 7 pm, Cornbread Restaurant,
Spring Field Avenue, Maplewood**

Join us to share a meal and relax for a few hours after a long year of working toward racial integration & inclusion. We will welcome new trustees to our board for 2018 and thank our retiring trustees. Reservations in advance are required. **RSVP by Friday, December 8th.** Cost is \$30 per person for full dinner buffet and drinks. (Note: this is not a fundraiser).



17th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance & Volunteer Fair

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Dr. King's assassination. Join us for this annual celebration of Dr. King's life and legacy, Monday, January 15th, 2 pm, Columbia High School. The celebration includes music and affirmations. Larry Hamm of the People's Organization for Progress is the speaker. The Volunteer Fair follows immediately in the cafeteria. All are welcome. [Read more...](#)



Preschool Open House Draws Diverse Group of 70 Parents

The Schools Committee sponsored this popular event for the 16th year. Families learned about the many options for preschool in the region. For information on the preschools, [read more...](#)



Giving Teens A Voice

The Coalition is partnering with Maplewood Memorial Library and South Orange Public Library December 6th and January 17th to give SOMA middle school students and other teens an opportunity to have facilitated discussions about their experiences with race in our community. [Read here for details...](#)



We're Hiring! Apply for our Office Administrator position

We're looking for a new office administrator-8-10 hours per week. Bookkeeping skills and knowledge of Quickbooks preferred. [Read more to apply...](#)



Other Upcoming Events

Coalition's SOMa Integrated Playgroup

**Sat., December 16 10:00 am - noon
Le Parc Place, Maplewood**

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