



The South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition *on Race*

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October 2017 News & Updates

Celebrating Integration: Our Journey Continues

October is Coalition Month in Maplewood and South Orange! Each year we celebrate by honoring community members for their outstanding achievements in supporting intentional integration in our towns. This October 14th at The Woodland we will honor **Dr. Adunni Anderson, Carol Buchanan, and Jim Buchanan** at our annual dinner (more details below). I encourage you to read their bios [here](#)-they are wonderful members of our towns! We are pleased to announce that **Congressman Payne**, along with **Assemblywoman Mila Jasey**, will be in attendance. And, **Senator Corey Booker** has sent a proclamation of support for our racial integration and inclusion work to be shared that night. Our own South Orange **Village President Sheena Collum** and Maplewood **Mayor Vic DeLuca** have shared their support, as they do each year, in exceptional letters written especially for our celebration: [take a moment to read their thoughts here](#).

Don't Miss Celebrating Integration! Dinner, Dancing, Auction!

There's still time to rsvp (no later than Monday October 11th) for this great evening at which we will honor Dr. Adunni Anderson and Jim & Carol Buchanan. We will be celebrating in style at The Woodland in Maplewood as we recognize these honorees and



Jim & Carol Buchanan



Dr. Adunni Anderson

the work of the Coalition over the last year. There will be great food and live music-put on your dancing shoes for swing dancing! **You won't want to miss the auction: come ready to bid on fabulous vacation homes in Rhode Island; Long Beach Island; a luxury stay in Colombia, South America; dinners; fine jewelry; and [more](#)!**

BOE Candidates' Forum: Why a Whole Candidates' Night Just On Integration in the Schools?

Join the Schools Committee for the 12th annual BOE Candidates' Forum on October 24th at 7:30 pm at Marshall School to hear the candidates' thoughts on integrated elementary schools, anti-bias training for staff, attracting and retaining a diverse staff, and pro-integrative approaches to academic placement and support.

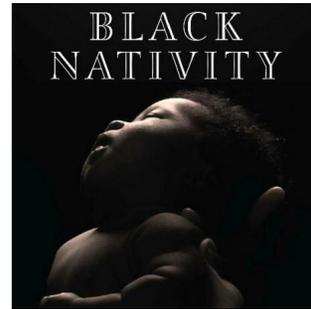
[Read more here...](#)



Interact Theatre Donates to the Coalition

We are so grateful to [Interact Theatre](#)-which is committed to "building strong ties within the community by producing thought-provoking plays and musicals that challenge stereotypes and prejudices"-for donating \$1500 to the Coalition last February after their production of *Rasheeda Speaking*. Now they are ready to partner again-this time on their production of poet and playwright Langston Hughes' **Black Nativity**-the Christmas story in dialogue, narrative, pantomime, gospel song, and folk spirituals.

Save the dates and support two community nonprofits!
December 15-17, The Baird, South Orange.



Nancy Gagnier & Nicholas Clarey

Follow up on Coffee House Discussion: RACISM-It's in Our Backyard, Too

The Coalition, with co-sponsorship by SOMA Action, SOMA Justice and South Orange - Maplewood Clergy Association, invited the community to discuss several examples of racism, including the Charlottesville demonstration, the videotaped 2016 Maplewood Police incident and inequities in the SOM School District. The evening opened with a 5 minute video of the three key areas, and then 47 attendees in small groups shared thoughts and generated possible solutions to expose and eliminate racist behavior locally. Check twotowns.org later this month for highlights of the table discussions.



Report to the Community: *An Inside Look at What the Coalition Does*

Join us on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 7:30 pm in Maplewood Memorial Library - Memorial Hall to learn what programs and activities the Community Coalition on Race provides on behalf of the SOMA Community. You are encouraged to ask questions, to make suggestions and to sign-up for committees or a single project. It would assist our planning if you would drop us an email at info@twotowns.org to let us know that you're coming.

**REPORT TO
THE COMMUNITY**

Apply Today for Coalition's SOMa Home Maintenance Loan

Summer is the season for home repairs! For residents who can't afford much-needed curb-facing 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...](#)



Other Upcoming Events

South Orange NEXT

Fri., Oct. 6 - Sun. Oct. 8
SOPAC, Sloan St., South Mountain Yoga

Coalition's SOMa Integrated Playgroup

Sat., October 21 10:00 am - noon
Le Parc Place, Maplewood

Preschool Open House

Mon., November 13 7:00 pm - 8:30
Montrose School, South Orange

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