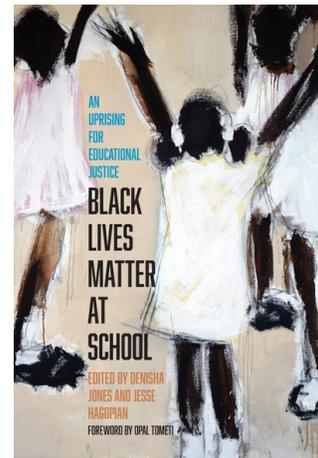


SOUTH ORANGE | MAPLEWOOD
**COMMUNITY
COALITION
ON RACE**

[Visit our Website](#)

Conversations on Race: Racial Justice in Education

We were delighted that Jesse Hagopian led our conversation on racial justice and education at **Conversations on Race**. He is a teacher, author, activist, and public speaker whose focus is educational justice. Jesse shared some stark statistics and information that demonstrates what we're up against when it comes to creating equity and racial justice in education. [Watch the video here.](#)



Roadmap to School Integration: Lessons learned from "Nice White Parents"

Speaking before SOMA parents and community members interested in achieving racially integrated and equitable schools, podcast producer Julie Snyder shared many important insights from both her experience in producing 'Nice White Parents' and as a parent in the South Orange-Maplewood school district. The presentation was enlightening and the breakout groups generated powerful key points for further discussion. [View the video here...](#)



Anti-Asian Racism: Experiences in SOMA Coffee House Discussion

Wednesday May 26th from 7pm - 9pm

Join local leaders in the AAPI community and the Community Coalition on Race for a presentation exploring the narratives of racism towards the AAPI community and a candid, facilitated discussion on what we as a community can do better. [Register in advance](#) for this virtual event here:



If you are interested in posting a 'Stop Asian Hate' lawn sign, [click here for more information.](#)

Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom

Juneteenth, the African American holiday marking the end of slavery in the US will be celebrated by the entire community on **Saturday, June 19th at Durand-Hedden House in Maplewood.** The event will include outside activities on these historic grounds, as well as a tour of the "Slavery in New Jersey: A Troubled History" exhibit. The event is free, but advance registration is required for a time slot. Admissions will be limited and social distance protocols observed for this history-come-to-life event, so plan to register early. For more information about the exhibit now and registration information later this month, [click here](#).



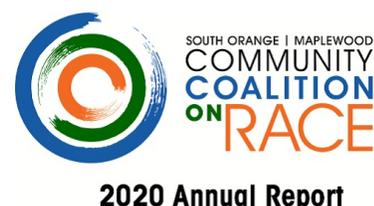
The Community Coalition on Race Celebrates 25 Years of Building Inclusive Communities



Did you know that the Coalition has been using the concept of **Integration through the Arts** throughout its history? From books, music, and theater, to painting, poetry, and spoken word, we have used the arts in intimate and grand settings to bridge racial and cultural boundaries and to build relationships. We have benefited from grants from a variety of foundations every year since 1999. In 2005, **Two Towns in Harmony** brought together hundreds of musicians to develop an original piece of music representing the two-town community in collaboration with a guest composer that culminated in a large-scale community performance. This year's ITA program engages the Coalition Youth Collective in a film-making project working with professional local writers, editors, and a filmmaker. Look for the releases later this year. Read more about our unique [ITA programs here](#).

Our 2020 Annual Report

We began 2020 with some amazing in-person programs and, like so many public organizations, learned how to reach people and conduct our advocacy work virtually. [Have a look at the year in review here...](#)



COVID19 Vaccine and the Black Community Webinar Video

Please share this [informative video on the COVID19 Vaccine](#) with those needing accurate information. If you know someone who needs support in scheduling a vaccine, please [click here](#) or call **973-913-4958**.



Upcoming Community Events

May is Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month

Starting as ten days in May in 1978 and growing to a month-long celebration in 1992, May is the time to recognize the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States. South Orange Village and Maplewood Township together are celebrating AAPI Heritage Month 2021 with a wealth of events and activities. Visit listings on the websites below:

<http://www.maplewoodartsandculture.org/aapi>
<https://www.southorange.org/818/AAPI-Month>



Coming up in June...

Juneteenth: Officially observed on June 19th to celebrate the

ending of slavery in the United States, SOMA is offering a week's worth of events in honor of this commemoration.

Pride Month: NJ Pride events will take place in SOMA almost daily. The annual festival is Saturday, June 12th, in Memorial Park.

Please visit township arts & culture calendars for schedules:

<http://www.maplewoodartsandculture.org/>

<https://www.southorange.org/256/Arts-Cultural-Affairs>



973-761-6116 | info@twotowns.org
www.communitycoalitiononrace.org

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