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March 2020 Newsletter



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

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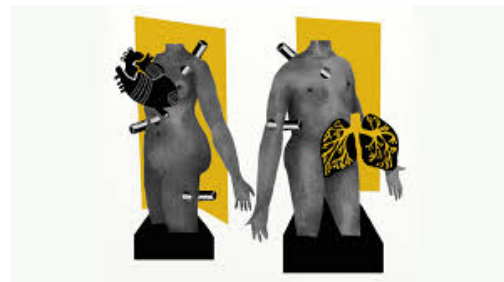
### ***The Scottsboro Boys Musical Stirs Intense Conversations***

In collaboration with Progressive Theater and with a grant from the Essex County Local Arts Program, the Community Coalition on Race sponsored four performances of *The Scottsboro Boys*--a provocative musical about the nine Black teenagers falsely accused of raping two white women aboard a train near Scottsboro, Alabama, in 1931. [Read more here about the performance and audience talk-backs.](#)



### **Community Discusses the Myth of Physical Racial Differences at Coalition Coffee**

This month's discussion focused on The New York Times 1619 Project essay entitled *Myths about physical racial differences were used to justify slavery - and are still believed by doctors today*, written by Linda Villarosa. [Click here to learn more and to find Barbara Velazquez's informative presentation](#)



### **Black Jewish Solidarity Panel Leads Community Discussion**

Organized by SOMA Justice and Temple Sharey-Tefilo Israel, the Black-Jewish Solidarity Art Tour, Panel, & Community Discussion engaged nearly 80 people in

learning about African American and African diasporic artists, the challenges of and hope for Black - Jewish solidarity, and in developing action steps for SOMA. [Read more here...](#)



## Coalition on Race Presents Unconscious Bias Training at Maplewood Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Nancy Gagnier, Executive Director, and Audrey Rowe, Program Director, gave a presentation on what implicit bias is and on how business owners and leaders can learn to challenge their own biases, and interact knowledgeably and respectfully among a variety of racial and cultural groups amid their peers and clients. [Click here to see the presentation.](#)



## Meet Coalition Trustee David Harris

As part of a new monthly series, Kelly Quirk, Chair of the Board, will interview trustees about their experiences in the community, as part of the Coalition, and why they chose South Orange and Maplewood. This month Kelly interviews David Harris, Trustee of the Coalition, and South Orange resident, who has lived in the community for over 30 years. [Read about David Harris here.](#)



## Maplewood Community Board on Police Presentation

The Community Board on police is a committee designated to review police activity within the Township of Maplewood and to make recommendations to the Township Committee on improving the relationship between the Maplewood Community and the Maplewood Police Department. The board gave its first presentation in February to describe the scope of its work and findings to date. [Click here for the presentation.](#)



## SOMA Against Hate Collective

The SOMA Against Hate Collective formed in December in response to a white supremacist group that targeted our towns with hate messages. [Please read the statement issued by the Collective here and find out how you can get a lawn sign.](#)



## Calling All Realtors!

If you or someone you know is a realtor, the Schools and Residential Committees of the Community Coalition on Race are inviting you to a realtor continental breakfast conversation with South Orange/Maplewood School District Superintendent, Dr. Ronald Taylor. He will cover important information - including school demographics and trends, and a facilities plan presentation followed by a Q&A.



**WHEN: March 13, 2020 at 8:45am - 10:45am**

**WHERE: Ethical Culture Society, 516 Prospect, Maplewood**

[Please RSVP here by March 9th](#)

## Finding What We're FOR, Fighting For What We Love

The 1619 Project Discussion for March 2020, with the University of Orange and the 400 Years of Inequality Organizing Committee.

March 16th, 6 - 8 pm. [Details here.](#)



## Save the Date!

### Conversations on Race with Jelani Cobb

On **April 28th at Seton Hall University**, author and professor Jelani Cobb will lead us in our discussion of white supremacy and white nationalism .



## Upcoming Events

**Integrated Play Group  
Community Coalition on Race**

**Sat., March 28  
10 am - 12 noon  
South Mountain Country Day School  
461 Vose Ave.  
South Orange NJ 07079  
[For more information, click here](#)**

**BHM Theater Events**

***TILL***

**American Theater Group presents the New Jersey premiere of *Till*, the stirring and powerful new musical about Emmett Till, and how his death in 1955 helped ignite the civil rights movement. *Till* will run February 27th - March 8th at South Orange's historic St. Andrew's Church. The General ticket price is \$39/ticket. A special 25% discount of \$29/ticket is extended to Coalition Supporters for preview performances on February 27th and 28th only. [More information here.](#)**

**Pass Over**

Luna Stage at 555 Valley Road, West Orange, NJ 07052 presents *Pass Over* ver exposes the unquestionable human spirit of young black men who dream about a promised land they've yet to find. Performances are Feb.6 - March 8 on the MAINSTAGE of . [For tickets click here](#) and for [more information click here](#).

**Maplewood Library 2020 Ideas Festival**

March 11 - April 4th.  
Maplewood Memorial Library  
51 Baker Street. Maplewood, NJ 07040  
[For more information, click here.](#)

**JLOSH 8th Annual Kids for Kids**

Saturday, March 7th, 10am-12pm,  
Bauer Center at Taylor Park; Millburn, NJ.  
Ages: 6-12 and parents. [Register here.](#)

**JLOSH Littlest Volunteer Contest**

Calling all 1st through 5th graders with a great volunteer idea! Contest deadline is March 15th. [Details and application here.](#)

**Durand-Hedden's Women's Suffrage program**

Sunday, March 15. 1:00pm - 4:00pm  
Durand-Heddan House  
523 Ridgewood Rd., Maplewood  
[More information here.](#)

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