



Community Coalition for Social Justice
PO Box 160
Morgantown, WV 26507-0160
ccsjwv@gmail.com
www.ccsjwv.org

UPDATE: JUNE 1, 2023

MISSION STATEMENT: The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

JUNE CCSJ MEETING IS TUESDAY, JUNE 20TH AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. All are welcome.

Topic: June Community Coalition for Social Justice Meeting
Time: Jun 20, 2023 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81411704210?pwd=YmQvT3FBNnIENk53MW8wVVBhL0I1UT09>

Meeting ID: 814 1170 4210

Passcode: 723572

One tap mobile

+16468769923,81411704210#, *723572# US (New York)

+16469313860,81411704210#, *723572# US

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 US

Meeting ID: 814 1170 4210

Passcode: 723572

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kw8fd9QUj>

CCSJ AT AREA EVENTS: Mike Attfield represented us at the Morgantown/Kingwood NAACP Branch Community Day at the Marilla Center on Sunday, May 7th. Social justice-related groups and neighborhood associations discussed their work, and, as a group, brainstormed about ways to improve voter turnout for the 2024 elections.

We will also have a booth at the Morgantown Pride Block Party on Saturday June 24th at the Hazel Ruby McQuain Park and amphitheater. See details about this event below. We will look forward to seeing you there.

CCSJ SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FAIR TO BE SEPTEMBER 17TH: We will be back at the Hazel Ruby McQuain Park and amphitheater for our second Social and Environmental Justice Fair on Sunday, September 17th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. This will be the first day of WVU's Diversity Week, and we are coordinating with the organizers of Diversity Week to publicize our event and encourage the WVU community to attend. At "press time," we have commitments from Morgantown Pride, the Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP, and, possibly, the ACLU of West Virginia. We also plan to have music by the steel drum band.

If you are interested in participating this year, please contact Mike Attfield at mdattfield@gmail.com.

CONTACT US: Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at mdattfield@gmail.com. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@gmail.com. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Just look for "Community Coalition for Social Justice" under "Groups" and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group "leader."

LOCAL NEWS



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting should be Thursday, June 15th at 6:30 p.m. You can get contact information for the commission, including information on filing complaint forms at www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission.

You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF

Here are the events for June:

LGBT Pride Month – Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States. LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Pride Day is the last Sunday in June.

June 1: Stand for Children Day – A day to emphasize the importance of standing up for children by supporting systemic change and increased funding for public education.

June 5: World Environment Day – Observance promoting an awareness of the impact of environmental conditions on individual and community well-being and food sources which make life possible for current and future generations.

June 8: World Oceans Day – Call for awareness of the importance of protecting oceans from pollution and rising sea levels to prevent individuals and entire communities from loss of property, housing, livelihood and food supplies.

June 12: Loving Day – Observes the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court decision *Loving v. Virginia* which struck down the miscegenation laws in 16 states barring interracial marriage.

June 14: Race Unity Day – Observance promoting racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity.

June 19: Juneteenth – Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the United States to honor African-American freedom and achievement.

June 20: World Refugee Day – Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.

June 26: United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture - A day to remind people that human torture is not only unacceptable –it is also a crime and a universal violation of a human right.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM): The League of Women Voters is a constituent member of West Virginia Women Vote (WVWV).

Follow the League on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM and contact them by email at lwvmorgantown@gmail.com. You can join the League of Women Voters at tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm.



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER MEETS JUNE 13TH: The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on June 13th to discuss “upcoming events, how to support our friends at Morgantown Pride, and much more.”

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/ or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.

NAACP MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, JUNE 20TH: This meeting of the membership will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at 3241naacp@gmail.com for more information and to learn how to participate.

As part of Mental Health Awareness Month, the branch sponsored a program on “Advocating for Mental Wellness” via Zoom on May 30th that is now available on the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/naacp3241. It featured Felicia Hooper, Mark King, and Fanica Payne as speakers. Yvonne Shaw was the moderator.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group that is publicized through the NAACP listserv.

The branch will have a half-page ad that highlights its some of work during the past year in the Juneteenth issue of *Black by God: The West Virginian*.

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page_internal.



WEST VIRGINIA COALITION FOR TRUTH IN HISTORY: This group is now deciding how to move forward. Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WV.Truth.in.History.



MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN-MENNONITE: The church has a Blessings Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, Morgantown, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food. Feminine hygiene products are also welcome.

Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom, with the link available at www.morgantowncob.org. Masks are no longer required.

Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634_or or at www.morgantowncob.org.



UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN JUNE UPDATE: We are a Welcoming Congregation and support the Community Coalition for Social Justice. See also: UUFMWV.org. or email uufmwv@gmail.com.

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF THE LARGER FELLOWSHIP: The UU-CLR is easily available at the following internet link for various services online: [<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/get-involved/where/clf>]

SOCIAL ACTION/JUSTICE TEAMS: I am with the Unitarian Universalist Church (UUC) of Charleston WV. Our congregation has a long history of involvement in social justice efforts and we always respond to emergent situations.

Over the past few years, however, we have segued into individual members following their own personal interests and have not had unified efforts except for "showing up" at public demonstrations and parades.

We want to form a "social justice team" to help us broaden participation and to unify our efforts. If any of your congregations have an active social justice team, please share the story of your efforts!

Thank you! Debra Beatty, President, UUC, May 29, 2023 [<https://uucharlestonwv.org/>]

PFLAG: The closest chapter now is in Fairmont, with information available at www.pflagfairmont.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont.



DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER: This group will not be meeting in June.

Stay tuned for a planned program with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) on **Tuesday, August 29th** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at OLLI at the Mountaineer Mall on Greenbag Road.

The program will start by viewing the video **“Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America.”** The video is described as “Interweaving lecture, personal anecdotes, interviews, and shocking revelations in the documentary, WHO WE ARE: A Chronicle of Racism in America, criminal defense/civil rights lawyer Jeffery Robinson draws a stark timeline of anti-black racism in the United States from slavery to the modern myth of post-racial America.”

The two-hour documentary presentation will be followed by a lunch break, then an opportunity to interact with a panel of distinguished guests. Mavis Grant and George Lilley will be facilitating this program as co-facilitators of Dismantling Racism Together.

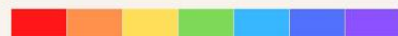
The program will require advance registration and a fee of \$12 at the time of registration. OLLI members will be able to register when summer registration begins on June 20th at OLLIatwvu.org. No information was yet available at “press time” about registration for people who are not OLLI members.

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown.



Morgantown Pride Pride Parade & Block Party

Y'all are welcome here.



JUNE
23 & 24 |  Hazel Ruby
McQuain Park



MORGANTOWN PRIDE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Morgantown Pride will be having the annual parade and Block Party on June 23rd and 24th, respectively. The parade will go down High Street, ending with a show at 123 Pleasant Street and an after party after that at Vice. Our Block Party will occur at Hazel Ruby McQuain Park from 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. on the 24th with an after party at the Apothecary afterwards where all proceeds will go to Project Rainbow, West Virginia's first LGBTQ friendly homeless shelter.

Registration for the parade and block party has closed, but there is a wait list available if there are cancellations. You can

access that form at
docs.google.com/forms/d/1thqyyoZXJZA5NSHsYpz8iVKSHiEz1uuXPN65NINUNZw/viewform?fbclid=IwAR3grdbMRXc2-Mbd81U9xyKRqYzr7RGCz8jcFxBullyFOc9QSCMxkQdjeU&edit_requested=true



“It’s ... #PrideMonth so #PhoenixBakeryWV is making a lil sumpin sumpin to celebrate! It’s a #QueenCake! Based loosely on #KingCakes, our Queen Cake is a #Brioche with a #Cinnamon filling, #Rainbow sprinkles, & your very own #Bear baked inside! Available every Saturday in June (3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th) and are \$16 each. Call in to preorder one today!! (304) 381-4772 #WVBakery #Pride”

For information on this group, go to www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal or www.morgantownwvpride.org. Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en.



MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

MCCAC is looking for a group of volunteers to help with outdoor spruce up at the Center.

Duties include:

- putting mulch down
- trimming bushes
- pulling weeds
- power washing
- breaking down a picnic table

Contact Taylor at MCCAC if you or your group is interested in this volunteer opportunity.

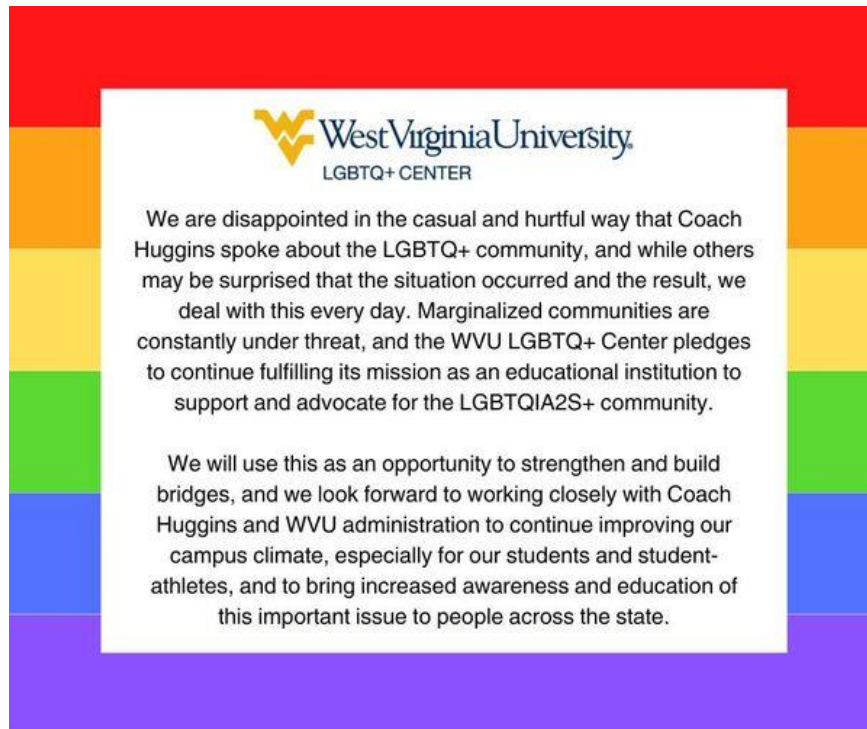
- tshultz@moncocac.org
- (304) 598-0344
- send a message on Facebook

Upcoming MCCAC Community Participation

MCCAC will be participating in the following community events:

- Mason Dixon Craft Show at Mason-Dixon Historical Park
 - Saturday, June 10th from 10am-3pm
- Freedom Day (Resource Fair) at Mylan Park
 - Saturday, July 1st from 11am-3pm

WVU LGBTQ+ CENTER: Below is the statement posted on the Center's Facebook page in response to Coach Huggins's comments on a recent radio program about people connected to Xavier University in Cincinnati.

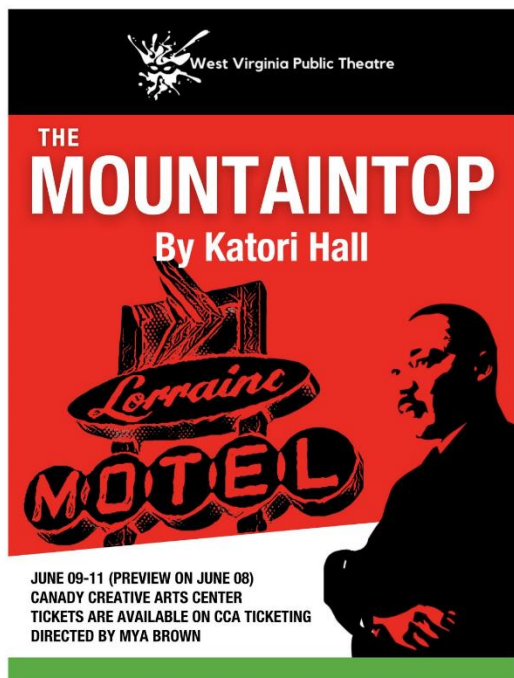


AREA EVENTS



MUSIC AT THE SCOTTS RUN MUSEUM AND TRAIL: "Put the last Monday of every month at 6pm on your calendars to join us at the Scotts Run Museum and Trail in Osage to join in our spontaneous, no experience needed, Osage Gospel and Soul Community Choir led by Al Anderson and Aristotle Jones. We'll just have fun being together, sharing music as part of the Scotts Run Resonance— Passing It Forward project of events and classes funded by the Mid Atlantic Arts Central Appalachia Living Traditions initiative. As with all of the events and classes, it's free." You can hear a

“sample” featuring Danni Reese (15) and Al Anderson (86) at www.facebook.com/ScottsRunMuseum



West Virginia Public Theatre Announces First Show of Season:

The Mountaintop by Katori Hall

A Contemporary Masterpiece Inspired by MLK Jr’s *I’ve Been to The Mountaintop* Sermon

West Virginia Public Theatre is thrilled to announce the first show of its highly anticipated 2023 season that features an emphasis on diversity, inclusivity, as well as exceptional entertainment with the play *The Mountaintop* by Katori Hall. And we’d love to see you there!

The Mountaintop is set for June 8th-11th at the Gladys G. Davis Theatre, Canady Creative Arts Center, Morgantown. This stunning drama is a fictional retelling of the last night of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.’s life. The play is sure to leave audiences moved, inspired, and in awe of the power of the human spirit.

“The play is inspiring, and we believe will leave our audiences in awe of the power of the human spirit... We are beyond thrilled to bring this incredible production to our audience,” said Jerry McGonigle, Artistic Director of West Virginia Public Theatre. “For more than 30 years, West Virginia Public Theatre has provided audiences in Morgantown and surrounding communities with classical and contemporary productions that showcase the talents of local and national

actors, directors and designers,” he added.

One such talent is *The Mountaintop* director Mya Brown, whom West Virginia Public Theatre has been delighted to collaborate with across multiple projects. Brown most recently led our past Radio Theatre For Our Time project, a series we crafted during COVID to keep theatre production alive, and in direct response to the Black Lives Matter movement. Her leadership and vision for *The Mountaintop* is sure to create a lasting impact on our patrons.

West Virginia Public Theatre is committed to providing exceptional theatrical experiences to its community, and its 2023 season promises to deliver on that promise. Don't miss out on this stunning, important show. Tickets are on sale now with adult, senior, child and group rates available. Additionally, we’re offering a special opportunity for 20% off tickets with the promocode “Juneteenth”. To purchase tickets, visit the WVU CCAC box office at wvucca.universitytickets.com or call 304-293-TKTS.

STATE-WIDE EVENTS



WEST VIRGINIA NOW: West Virginia NOW is online at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow and wvnow.org.



FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA: Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv.



Fairness is starting to publicize events for this summer. To schedule an event and see what is already planned, please go to fairnesswv.org/pride/.

At “press time,” the following events were scheduled for Morgantown and Fairmont:

June 3rd: Omnipresence: A Charity Concert— 218 Walnut Street, Morgantown, WV. Doors open at 6:30

p.m.

“The Sexuality and Gender Acceptance (SAGA) Initiative is hosting an all-ages charity concert at the Morgantown Art Party on Saturday, June 3rd. The show features two up-and-coming West Virginia musicians: Emmalea Deal and KARMA. Doors are at 6:30 and tickets are \$15.

“Forty percent of proceeds from the concert fund Gender Affirming Care Packages (GAC Packs). GAC Packs are entirely customizable on The SAGA Initiative website and can include chest binders, trans tape, padded bras, tucking underwear, hair removal products, and perfume or cologne. The SAGA Initiative provides GAC Packs to transgender youth living in West Virginia at no cost with shipping and handling fees covered by the organization.

The other 60 percent of proceeds go toward the Morgantown Art Party — another nonprofit involved in advocating for the LGBTQ+ community — and paying the outstanding artists performing at the event (30 percent for both parties respectively).”

June 10th: PFLAG Fairmont- Fairmont Greenspace, Adams Street and Monroe Street. Fairmont Greenspace, Adams Street and Monroe Street, Noon - 5 p.m.

The Pride celebration is one of several events hosted this week as part of PFLAG Fairmont's diversity week. Visit [here](#) for information on other programming.

VENDORS — Is your business or organization interested in being a vendor?

SPONSORS — Interested in financially supporting this year's Fairmont Pride?

Connect with PFLAG Fairmont on Facebook for more details!

FAIRNESS WV'S STATEMENT ON COACH BOB HUGGINS: POSTED ON ITS WEBSITE ON MAY 9TH

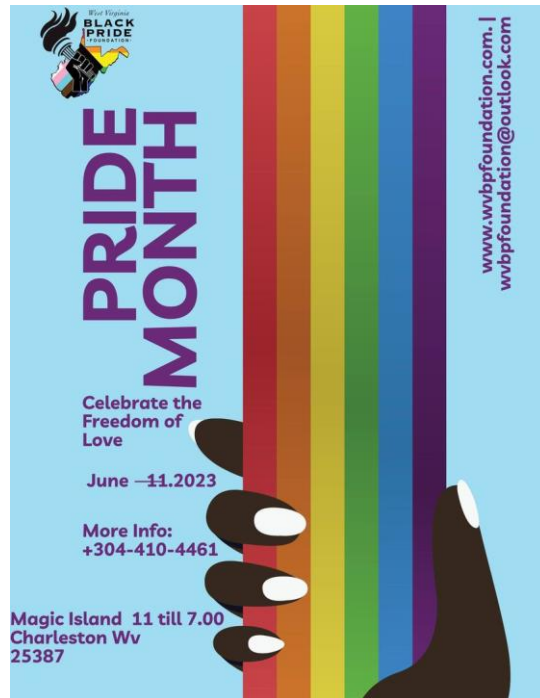
Coach Bob Huggins embarrassed his team, his university and Mountaineers everywhere yesterday by casually using a homophobic slur and disparaging transgender people in a radio interview. It's well known that this slur has been a tool to torment and harass our community. There is no excuse for using that kind of language in the year 2023.

Coach Huggins' words are particularly painful because he is loved by thousands of West Virginians, including many LGBTQ people. Thousands of young Mountaineers look up to Coach Huggins, and this week they saw their role model using slurs and demeaning another team for their faith. His apology was a good first step, but now he needs to show us that his words are not empty.

One of the most important things Coach Huggins can do right now is to listen to the people he has hurt. Our team will gladly offer our time to help the WVU athletics department learn more about the impact of his comments and to understand the harm that these slurs cause. Ultimately, though, it's up to Coach Huggins and university officials to make amends and prove to our community they understand the seriousness of this harmful rhetoric.

You can draw a direct line through history from this dehumanizing language to the growing wave of anti-LGBTQ legislation that is sweeping across our country. Lawmakers in Coach Huggins' own state have introduced bills to ban rainbows from the classroom and to ban drag queens from performing in public, just to name a few. Our community has increasingly been under attack, and we desperately need leaders who understand that hate has no place in West Virginia — including on our basketball courts.

MORE PRIDE MONTH EVENTS





Rainbow Pride of West Virginia has a long list of events for Pride Month. Follow them and get details on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV.



ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES: Follow this group at www.acluww.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACLUWV. The ACLU will be marching with Rainbow Pride of West Virginia in Charleston on Saturday, June 3rd, lining up at 11: 30 a.m.



THE NORMAN JORDAN AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTS & HERITAGE ACADEMY IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for its **JULY 10-15, 2023 SUMMER YOUTH ACADEMY**, which will be held on the campus of West Virginia State University in Institute, West Virginia (Charleston, WV area).

“Students will reside in university Residential Housing and have meals on campus. The academy offers students 12 to 18 years of age a one-week experience in an artistic discipline of their choice. Interested persons may choose from Vocal Music, Instrumental Music (strings, horns, & drums), Dance, Theater, Visual Arts, and Creative Writing (including Hip Hop and basic song writing).

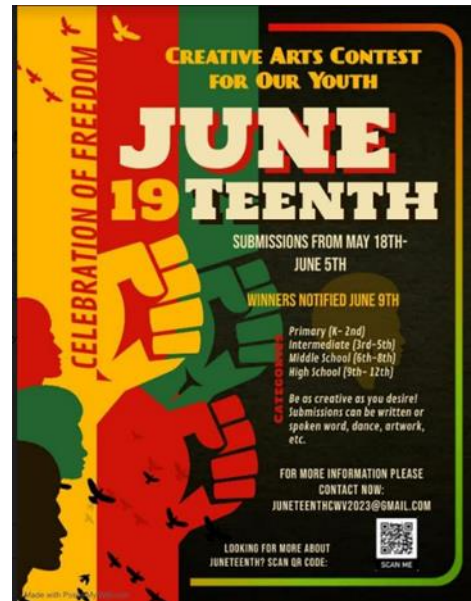
“Approximately 35 students will be accepted to attend. Students will interact with a community of their peers and will experience artistic and cultural challenges geared toward their interests and ages taught by professional artists and teachers with many years of experience. Artistic instruction is enhanced with performances by Guest Artists, relevant field trips, demonstrations, and enrichment workshops that engage students in various activities related to the arts and African American history and culture,

“A registration fee of \$300.00 is required for a student’s attendance for the entire week. The fee covers the cost of residing in university residential housing for one week, three meals plus snacks per day, and the cost of field trips and other activities. Payment of this fee or a deposit is required to register. Partial Scholarships and in some instances, full scholarships are available for those who qualify (please inquire). The deadline for registration is June 17, 2023. The fee will increase to \$350.00 for late registrations.

“For more information or to request an Application, please contact Ms. Jacqueline Dooley at (304) 657-1801, or Dr. Brucella Jordan at (216)290-8564 or email with the subject “academy registration” to brucella45@live.com. For more information about the academy visit the academy website at <https://normanjordanaaaha.com/>.

“The 2023 Norman Jordan African American Arts & Heritage Academy is fully accessible and complies with West Virginia State University’s Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action mission statement. All students are welcome regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or disability.”

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION IN CHARLESTON



There are applications available to be in the parade or participate in other ways. For more information, contact Corey.Lowery@cityofcharleston.org.



WEST VIRGINIA TRANSGENDER COALITION: “The West Virginia Transgender Coalition is a grassroots organization that works to ensure the wellbeing, safety and lived equity of all trans, nonbinary, and gender expansive community members within the state of West Virginia.”

For more information, please go to www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR JUNE

www.diversityresources.com/june-diversity-calendar-2023/

June is packed with things to celebrate! In addition to being Pride Month, June also holds Juneteenth, a new federal holiday. Check out more monumental DEI days that you can celebrate through the month, including heritage months, birthdays, and critical anniversaries in history.

LGBT Pride Month: Pride Month has become more recognized in the past few years. It is currently celebrated during the month of June to remember the 1969 Stonewall Riots. To celebrate, hold an LGBTQ inclusion training at work, encourage rainbow clothing, explore our article on 10 Landmark Films About LGBTQ+ Stories to arrange a viewing, and decorate the office with rainbow decorations.

The LGBTQ+ community faces some of the sharpest barriers at the workplace. To succeed in business today, your teams need LGBT training in the workplace, on awareness, communication, respect, and more.

Caribbean American Heritage Month: Caribbean American Heritage Month recognizes all those of Caribbean descent as well as the contributions they made to American society throughout history. You can celebrate this month by making a traditional Caribbean meal or checking a book out of the library about Caribbean history.

June 2: Indian Citizenship Act of 1924: The Indian Citizenship Act was passed on June 2, 1924. Congress granted citizenship to all Native Americans born in the U.S. Unfortunately, this did not grant the right to vote. This right was granted in 1957. Recognize the Indian Citizenship Act today by learning which Native American tribe is in your area.

June 11: Puerto Rican Day Parade: The Puerto Rican Day Parade is a huge celebration of cultural pride for Puerto Ricans in the United States. It seeks to recognize the influence and achievements of individuals from Puerto Rico. Each year, an International Grand Marshall is selected to lead the parade due to their positive contribution to the community.

June 12: Loving Day: On this day in 1967, the Supreme Court legalized interracial marriage. Loving Day is now a global day of visibility, education, and community. It's often celebrated with backyard BBQs. Invite your neighbors over and celebrate community.

June 19: Juneteenth: Juneteenth is now a federal holiday in the U.S. It commemorates the actual end of slavery in the country. While President Lincoln had declared the end of slavery with the Emancipation Proclamation over two years before, there were still African Americans who had yet to learn of their freedom in Galveston, TX. It wasn't until June 19, 1865, that federal troops rode into the city and ensured all slaves were freed.

June 26 to July 1: The Hajj: Key Muslim religious holidays include the Hajj is a pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims must make at least once during their lives if they are physically and financially able. As it is one of the five pillars of Islam, it is a highly spiritual event. Once people arrive, they are in Mecca for a week and perform a series of rituals where each person walks counter-clockwise seven times around the Kaaba, which is a cube-shaped building. They also perform a series of other rituals.