"If there is no struggle, there is no progress"
- Frederick Douglass

JUNE 2021

The ORA Social Justice working group is charged with keeping ORA staff informed of opportunities to engage in activities on Emory's campus and the greater Atlanta area around social justice, diversity, and inclusion. Our monthly newsletter aims to provide you with relevant information, events to stay connected to the Emory and Atlanta community.

JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH
LGBT Pride Month is celebrated in June to recognize all the contributions and influence of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans.

Why June? Pride month is celebrated in June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States.

Many areas in the U.S celebrate the LGBTQ community in June, but others, like Atlanta, celebrate in October. October is significant because, in 1994, October was designated LGBT History Month. In addition, Oct. 11 is National Coming Out Day. In addition, Atlanta Black pride is celebrated during the week of the Labor Day holiday to celebrate the African-American LGBT community. It is the largest black gay pride as it is estimated that around 100,000 people attend this festival, including musical artists and other performances.
Juneteenth (short for “June Nineteenth”) marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops’ arrival came a full two and a half years after signing the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee had surrendered at Appomattox Court House two months earlier in Virginia, but slavery had remained relatively unaffected in Texas—until U.S. General Gordon Granger stood on Texas soil and read General Orders No. 3: “The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free.” (From History.com)

EVENTS AND OTHER UPDATES

- In Atlanta, Juneteenth will be celebrated with a parade and a music festival. Find more information at https://www.juneteenthatl.com

- Atlanta Pride Run is set to be in person on June 20. The race has historically been held to generate awareness for the LGBTQ community and fundraise for much-needed community partners. This year’s beneficiary of the race is Joining Hearts Atlanta, an organization focused on prevention, care, and housing assistance to those impacted by HIV/AIDS in Atlanta.

DID YOU KNOW?
Atlanta is widely noted for being the "Black Gay Mecca" due to its highly visible black LGBT community, progressive reputation, and vibrant black LGBT culture. It also is noted as having one of the largest communities of black same-sex couples in the world.

- 1976, six years into the Atlanta Pride movement, Mayor Maynard Jackson declared June 26 Gay Pride Day.

Juneteenth is the oldest known holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the US.

EVENT RECORDINGS AND PUBLICATIONS

Fake News Recording

Did you miss the Fake News event with Dr. Judith Miller?

You can see the recording of the event [here].

- Emory’s Georgia Civil Rights Cold Cases Project will work with the National Center for Civil, and Human Rights on uncovering Atlanta’s racial history as part of a $17 million grant announced Thursday. Learn more [here].

- After disturbing pictures were found in old Emory yearbooks, Emory created the Task Force on Untold Stories and Disenfranchised Populations. The task released a report you can find [here].

EMORY AND OTHER RESOURCES

Emory Votes Initiative
The Emory Votes Initiative fosters a more engaged campus by providing nonpartisan voter information, supporting voter turnout, and empowering our community with credible resources. Find more information here.

Faculty Staff Assistance Program: Emory University

FSAP promotes emotional, behavioral, and occupational health. Emotional Support amid COVID-19 and Racial Injustice is available for those struggling with emotions or stress through individual appointments via phone consultation.

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Emory University

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion provides a safe environment conducive to intellectual engagement, learning, and working in positive ways. They focus their work on systemic issues by addressing policy and procedural concerns.

Ombuds Office: Emory University

Ombuds Office provides a confidential, safe space to discuss issues and keep them confidential to the fullest extent possible. You may bring concerns about misunderstandings, incivility, or possible wrongdoing. Their role is to promote mutual respect, civility, and ethical conduct and alert university leadership to concerns that might justify policy changes.

Important Emory Policies

- Equal Opportunity and Discriminatory Harassment
- Employment (Recruitment) Equal Opportunity and Discriminatory Harassment
- Mandated Child Abuse Reporting
- Nepotism and Personal Relationships
- Sex and Gender-Based Harassment and Discrimination
- Standards of Conduct
- Violence in the Workplace

Other Resources

- Atlanta Solidarity Fund
- Homeless Black Trans Women Fund
- Racial Justice Action Center
- Solutions Not Punishment Collaborative (SNaP Co.)
- Beacon Hill Black Alliance for Human Rights
- SisterSong
- Feminist Women’s Health Center
- Atlanta Jobs with Justice
• Project South
• Mijente
• Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights (GLAHR)
• Council for American-Islamic Relations Georgia (CAIR-GA)
• Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta