

DEI Newsletter

By Domonique Howell and Maisha Elonai

As a part of our efforts to celebrate our community, Liberty publishes regular emails highlighting awareness months, upcoming cultural events, and news about our diverse communities. We hope you enjoy this newsletter of awareness and activism.



Photo courtesy Disability Pride PA

What We Remember

Celebrations in June include [Disability Pride](#), [LGBTQ+ Pride](#), [Black Music Month](#), and [Alzheimer's Awareness Month](#). Click on any topic to learn more.

Days of Commemoration

- [Gun Violence Awareness Day](#), June 2-4
- [Juneteenth](#), June 19
- [World Refugee Day](#), June 20

Call to Action

- To prevent gun violence, share information about how any Philadelphian can [request a free gun lock](#) from Temple University's Safe Bet program.
- Please [review and comment](#) on HUD's updated 504 regulations regarding nondiscrimination in housing on the basis of disability.
- In honor of World Refugee Day, sign up to [volunteer](#) with Nationalities Services Center.





News Spotlight

- [May 10](#): 20th bus of migrants sent to Philadelphia
- [May 22](#): Tensions high in Uvalde 1 year after shooting
- [May 25](#): U.S. Department of Education launches antisemitism awareness campaign
- [June 6](#): West Philly activist pleads guilty to flipping police car during 2020 racial justice protests
- [June 15](#): Ontario International Airport adopts Sunflower program to support those with hidden disabilities
- [Also June 15](#): WHYY News hosts Pride: No Prejudice – a BIPOC pride month celebration

Around Town Inclusivity

- Philadelphia's [Latino Film Festival](#) runs all month at physical and virtual venues. Short films are free, feature length cost \$6.
- Check out the African American Museum in Philadelphia's [Juneteenth block party](#) with DJ Spinderella at 701 Arch Street on Monday, June 19!
- [Kidchella](#), a music festival for children, begins at 4 pm on June 23 at Smith Park, \$12.
- Network at the free [Women Business Expo & Conference](#) at Courtyard by Marriott on June 30, 9 am – 4 pm.



Strange Fruit

By Domonique Howell, shared in honor of Juneteenth

How bout that strange fruit?

It's evident, the hate is prevalent by blue collared hands and knees

At least we're not hanging from trees

How bout that strange fruit?

Instead of a noose

The color that kills us is blue...

With a deep shade of white supremacy

Their white hoods have been removed so now we see their faces

Traces of our blood are imbedded in their legacies

At least we're not hanging from trees

How bout that strange fruit?

As we celebrate who we are

They celebrate who we aren't...

As we plead, we can't breathe

At least we're not hanging from trees

How bout that strange fruit?

We are still shackled

As we try to tackle land of white and free

At least we're not hanging from trees.



Do you have something to share about your identity? Submit your ideas to Maisha at maishaelonai@libertyresources.org for consideration.