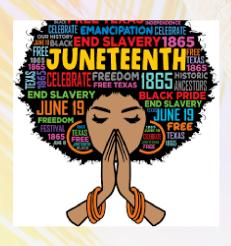
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY & INCLUSION NEWSLETTER

DIVERSITY TODAY

IT'S MORE THAN JUST BLACK AND WHITE

Summer Edition

This summer, the message is clear: each of these events—from Juneteenth and Pride Month to Independence Day and Women's Equality Day—represents diversity, equity, and inclusion. They remind us of our shared history, the progress we've made, and the path that lies ahead. As we enjoy the summer, let's not forget to honor the resilience, the fight, and the relentless pursuit of equality that these months embody.



Juneteenth

ON JUNE 19, 1865, UNION GEN. GORDON GRANGER ARRIVED IN GALVESTON AND ANNOUNCED THE END OF SLAVERY, EFFECTIVELY EMANCIPATING THE REMAINING ENSLAVED INDIVIDUALS IN TEXAS. THIS MOMENTOUS EVENT BECAME KNOWN AS JUNETEENTH, A COMBINATION OF "JUNE" AND "NINETEENTH."

JUNETEENTH IS A DAY TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SACRIFICES OF OUR ANCESTORS AND CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF BLACK AMERICANS TO OUR NATION. THIS HOLIDAY IS CELEBRATED WITH ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PARADES, PICNICS, MUSICAL PERFORMANCES, HISTORICAL REENACTMENTS, AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS, WHICH FOSTER A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, UNITY, AND PRIDE.

JUNETEENTH PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO EDUCATE AND RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF SLAVERY, THE STRUGGLES ENDURED BY AFRICAN AMERICANS, AND THE ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST SYSTEMIC RACISM. IT EMPOWERS INDIVIDUALS TO ENGAGE IN CONVERSATIONS, ADVOCATE FOR EQUALITY, AND WORK TOWARDS CREATING A MORE JUST SOCIETY.

REFLECT, REJOICE, AND REMEMBER



LGBTQIA+PRIDE MONTH

In June, we celebrate and recognize LGBTQ Pride Month to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising. This commemorative month aims to acknowledge the impact of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals on history, both locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Stonewall Riots were the result of a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in Greenwich Village on June 28th, 1969. The events of that day, fueled by anger due to police harassment and social discrimination, sparked six days of protests and energized the gay rights movement. The first gay pride parade in America was held on the one-year anniversary of the riots.





Let's come together to celebrate, educate, support, and, most importantly, be allies to one another.

World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is an annual event that takes place on June 20th. It is a day to honor refugees and raise awareness of their situation. This day celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their homes due to persecution or conflict, and seeks to build empathy and understanding for their plight.







Women's Equality Day

As we approach the peak of summer in August, we celebrate an important event in history - Women's Equality Day. Observed on August 26th, this day marks the certification of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote in the United States.

Women's Equality Day is a time to honor the courageous women who challenged societal norms and fought for their right to participate in politics, paving the way for future generations of women.

It's important to acknowledge that the struggle for women's equality did not end in 1920. From gender wage disparities to representation in leadership positions, from societal expectations to combating harassment, gender equality remains a global issue. Therefore, as we commemorate Women's Equality Day, let's not only recognize the progress we've made, but also the obstacles that still need to be overcome. Let's encourage discussions about gender equality in our homes, schools, and workplaces, recognizing that promoting equality is a collective responsibility for all of us.





As we continue to explore new ideas, let's remember to take a moment to embrace our differences and use them as strengths to create a more inclusive and welcoming workforce in Onondaga County, where every individual is valued and respected. We all matter.

-Monica Williams
Chief Diversity Officer