

Sept., 2022

Occasionally we are asked "what is the Anti-Racism Affinity Group of Greater Newburyport?" and "can I join?" We are a small group that has been meeting for years to support, discuss, and learn about systemic racism and intersectional issues generally, as well as mentor others beginning their journeys of anti-racism.

We support and challenge one another in our own education through books, movies, articles, podcasts, workshops, etc., and look at ways to share these ideas and information with the community, with individuals, and with others who wish to begin their own learning pods.

We stand in solidarity with all those working to end racism, inequality, war and imperialism, while also supporting efforts to build power in working class communities of color. Collective and individual liberation for all!

This is our Facebook page, [Anti-Racism Affinity Group of Greater Newburyport](#)

Please feel free to share this email, or give others my email address (mentalchatter@yahoo.com) so they can get on the (blind carbon copy) mailing list.

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY POTENTIAL ADDITIONS BY THE 25th of EACH MONTH.

UPCOMING SANKOFA* GUIDED TOURS



Saturday, September 3, October 1

2:00 PM | BHTNH | 222 Court St | Portsmouth

Prince Whipple and the 1779 Petition

Sankofa Tour Guide: Stanford Cross

This tour will provide visitors with a closer look at Prince Whipple and the men who joined him in signing the Petition of Freedom as well as Prince Whipple's first-hand knowledge of the debates for Independence and his time in the NH militia.

The tour highlights sites of significance to his life after he regained his freedom including the sites of the house where he and his wife Dinah lived and where Dinah established the First Ladies African Charitable School. You will also hear about Prince Whipple trade as an influential event manager.

Read about the tours and register [here](#)



The Lies We Were Taught: The Black Family

Sep 4

Oct 2

Sankofa Tour Guide: Daniel Comly

At the turn of the 19th century, Black abolitionists are changing public attitudes about slavery and challenging racial bias in the courts. In Portsmouth, never enslaved and newly freed Black adults share households with still enslaved children and elders. It is a time of possibilities, hope, and tension. True stories about these families will describe how a community of African refugees were claiming their place as Americans.

[**Register Here**](#)

Exeter, NH



A Walking Tour of Exeter's Racial History **JunSept 11 | 2:00 PM | Tour Meets at | Cost \$20**

Tour Guide: Barbara Rimkunas

Walk in the footsteps of Exeter's earlier generations and explore the racial history of the town—the conflicts, concessions, and changes that have taken place over time. This tour will explore how racial identity has shaped Exeter's history and will serve to open a dialogue that will help shape its future.

[**Register Here**](#)



A Quest to Thrive: Economics of Slavery & Portsmouth's Early Black Community

Oct 9

Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide: Angela Matthews

Institutionalized slavery in Colonial America provided immense wealth and material culture to many European immigrants and their descendants in the Americas, as Portsmouth's house museums bear witness. This tour brings into focus an economic system dependent upon the international slave trade with its constant supply of kidnapped unpaid African workers and their descendants, who, against the odds, created one of this country's oldest Black communities.

[**Register Here**](#)



Thirst for Freedom: From NH's Slave Trade to its Civil Rights Movement

Sep 10 Oct 8 Nov 6

Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide: Nur Shoop

Colonial Portsmouth newspapers testify to the local slave trade, runaways, abolitionists, and anti-abolitionist activities, followed by conflicting opinions of the Civil War. In the 20th century, the legacy of that early history was reflected in news about de facto segregation in housing and public places. This tour includes many of those historic landmarks from the early nineteenth through the twentieth centuries.

[**Register Here**](#)



NEW!! Black Soldiers and the American Revolution

Sep 11

Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide: Angela Matthews

Enslaved Africans fought for freedom from tyranny alongside the Western European Patriots of Portsmouth - the Sons of Liberty, as they call themselves. It was a fight that did not necessarily guarantee an African his own liberty. Called to arms by their enslavers, some Africans used their war bounty to buy their freedom, while others self-emancipated to fight with the British for the promise of independence.

This tour of 18th century Portsmouth is experienced from the perspective of African veterans who served NH in the Revolutionary War, some of whom lived in Portsmouth and surrounding towns. Experience how Portsmouth African men and women provided the kind of support that helped their neighbors and fellow veterans in this tight knit community to survive well into the 19th century.

[Register Here](#)



Portsmouth Green Book Tour

Sep 24

Oct 29

Sankofa Tour Guide: Nur Shoop

This Sankofa Tour describes some of the local people and places that would help African American travelers find safety and avoid the humiliation often experienced in the North where less formal systems of discrimination could, without warning, prohibit black people from entering the same spaces as whites. There were many variations of "Negro" travel and vacation

guidebooks. All are evidence of the resilience that black communities had to survive the 20th century's age of segregation. The book was used as a tool by African Americans who went places to enjoy themselves without concerns of experiencing racism. Civil rights activists used the travelers' guides as part of their work, finding black guest houses and church people's parlors as meeting spots. When the Civil Rights Act gets rid of this de jour legal segregation is when small independent businesses begin to disappear. The Green Books are a valuable resource, but what is not written on those pages is where the real stories and histories are. This is our story.

[Register Here](#)



Meet Jack Stains, a "Black Jack" in Old Portsmouth: A Living History Tour

Sep 18

Oct 16

Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide: Kevin Wade Mitchel as Jack Staines

Seafaring was one of the most significant occupations among both enslaved and free Black men between 1740 and 1865. Black seamen sailed on whalers, warships, and privateers. Some were enslaved and forced to work at sea, but by 1800 most seamen were free to seek adventure and economic opportunity aboard ship. On this tour, you will meet Jack Staines, husband to Ona Judge Staines, the President, and Martha Washington's escaped slave, and experience Portsmouth through the life of one of its Black seamen.

[Register Here](#)



Maine School Board

Virtual Panel

A Webinar for Activists and Accomplices Working for Education Justice

Join three recently elected school board candidates as they talk about promoting social justice in their respective districts across Maine.



Claudia Sayre, Sarah Lentz, and Chris McLaughlin

SEP 14TH 6 - 7:30 PM (EST)

**REGISTER AT
BIT.LY/MAINESCHOOLBOARD**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpcuqhgzwwGdHuKj6AZNhvK8SO1B6UdOTZ>

BHTNH 2022 Sankofa Guided-Tour Schedule



Lives Bound Together: The Washingtons & Ona Marie Judge in NH

Sep 17

Oct 15

Nov 5

Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide: Sonya Martino

During the Spring of 1796, George Washington's final months in office, Ona Judge, an enslaved woman owned by the First Family, escaped the Executive Mansion in Philadelphia with the aid of that city's free Black community and made her way to Portsmouth. On this tour, you will hear the true story of Ona's quest for freedom and the President's relentless efforts to get her back. See the waterfront where she lands and visit the properties of some of America's most famous families; the Langdons, Whipple's, and Lears, whose stories were also bound to her.

[Register Here](#)



Sunday, September 25 | 12-6 PM | Vida Cantina Parking Lot | Portsmouth
2022 New England BIPOC Fest

Join us for a celebration of food, art, culture, and community. By bringing people together under one sky, the **NE BIPOC Fest** organizers hope this event will initiate and perpetuate conversation about the important threads of equity and social justice that hold the fabric of our community together. NE BIPOC Fest connects us through food while highlighting the many cultures that make up the Seacoast.

Find more information [here](#)

STANDING UP TO RACISM

Facilitated by Anne Romney

September 27th–October 18th

Tuesdays, 6:30pm–8:30pm

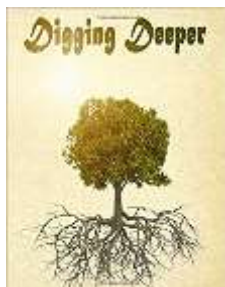


What does it mean to be an ally? How can we help dismantle systemic racism? Join us for this 4-week, virtual workshop that looks at racism in all forms with an emphasis on actions people can take to make a difference.

Participants must commit to all four sessions and 2-3 hours of homework per week. Register at newmarketlibrary.org

Tuesday, September 27 | 6:30 PM | Virtual Event

Register [here](#)



"Beyond White Fragility: Digging Deeper"

Taking off from Robin diAngelo's concept of "Nice Racism" and how progressive white people unconsciously perpetuate racial harm, the course's focus will be on where we go from here. With brief readings, personal awareness writing exercises, and in-person discussion, topics will be deep and far-ranging. Black writer Emma Dabiri's "What White People Can Do Next: From Allyship to Coalition" is a rich source for ideas for next steps, and useful in this context. While some familiarity with anti-racist and social change literature is helpful, all are welcome.

BIOS: Marian Leighton Levy is a co-founder of Rounder Records and has been involved in radical politics since she began college and graduate school in history in the late 1960s. She has co-facilitated or taught several other Lyceum courses.

Marianne Vesey is a semi-retired professional in the mental health field. In addition to working for increased affordable housing, she is a co-founder with Marian and others of a local anti-racism affinity

group, which she also represents as a member of Newburyport's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Alliance.

Location: Paula Estey Gallery for Art & Activism
3 Harris St., Newburyport, around the corner from the Public Library

Time/Date: (4 Mondays Oct/Nov, 5:30-7PM likely)

Proof of vaccination, distancing, and masking will be observed.

<https://newburyportadulthood.org/product/beyond-white-fragility-digging-deeper/>

Indigenous Peoples' Day Observance

Honoring Native People and Their Land



10-08-22, 10am Newburyport, MA
Merrimack River, Waterfront Park

In recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day, a group of local Indigenous and non-Native citizens will hold the second annual community event to honor Indigenous Peoples. Please join us Saturday, October 8, 10am for a public commemoration at the downtown Newburyport Waterfront Park on the banks of the Merrimack River.

We welcome intertribal Indigenous partners and others to join us in planning and participating in this event, including community organizers, speakers, cultural presenters, musicians, dancers, drummers, performers, artisans, vendors, volunteers, donors, sponsors and others.

For more information, please visit: www.FRSUU.org
Contact Mara Flynn: mara.flynn@frsuu.org
or Kristine Malpica: kristine@imaginestudios.org

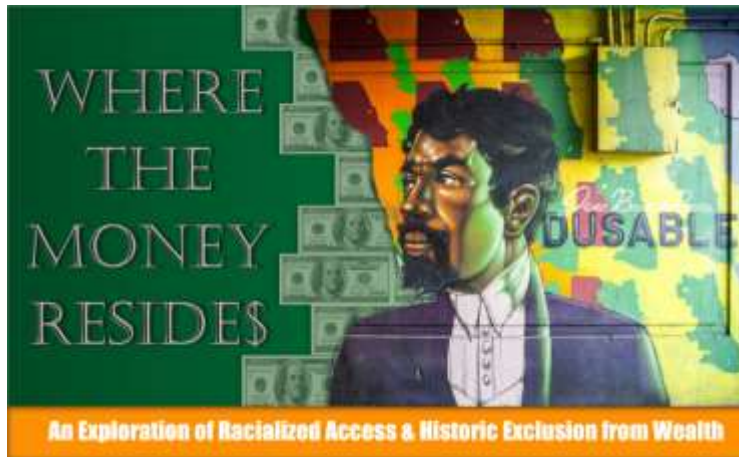




White People Challenging Racism:

White People Challenging Racism (WPCR) is a 10-hour workshop set over the course of 5 weeks designed to deepen participants' understanding of systemic racism and to give them the skills and support necessary to confront racism in their own spheres of influence. The course culminates in each participant designing an action plan and sharing it with their peers to ensure accountability. **You can read more about the workshops here.** Registration is currently open for upcoming workshops—one that is in-person and one that is virtual. **Sign up here for these classes.**

BLACK NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE 2022



Friday, October 21 - 22 | Southern New Hampshire University | Manchester
Black New England Conference 2022

Black New England Conference 2022 examines the legal framework and institutional practices that block access to wealth for non-whites. The conference will explore the history and legacy of policies – public and private -- that determined where Black families, Indigenous populations, and People of Color could live, work, and go to school. Evidence shows these policies – not personal attributes – create the wealth gap that persists today

Read about the conference [here](#)

[Register here today!](#)

#BNEC2022, #SNHU

Book Discussion: Not A Nation of Immigrants by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

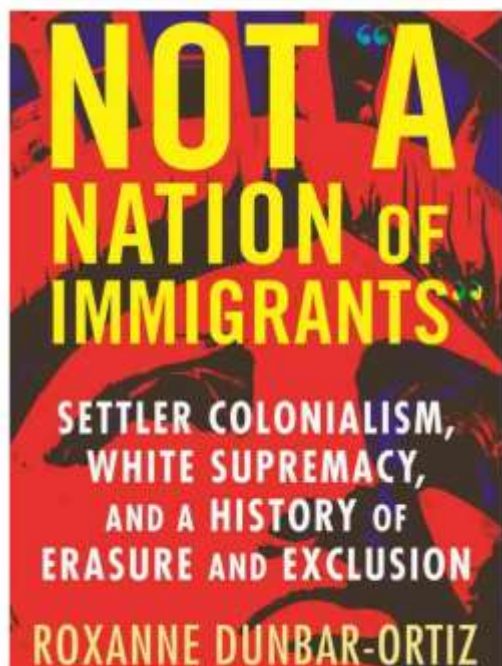
Sat October 22 & November 19 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm EDT

Following Indigenous Peoples Day, join Massachusetts Peace Action in a reading group on the book *Not A Nation of Immigrants: Settler Colonialism, White Supremacy, and A History of Erasure and Exclusion*. By Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz- Beacon Press, Boston. We will be reading and discussing the book in two parts over Zoom.

About the book: Whether in political debates or discussions about immigration around the kitchen table, many Americans, regardless of party affiliation, will say proudly that we are a nation of immigrants. In this bold new book, historian Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz asserts this ideology is harmful and dishonest because it serves to mask and diminish the US' history of settler colonialism, genocide, white supremacy, slavery, and structural inequality, all of which we still grapple with today. She explains that the idea that we are living in a land of opportunity founded and built by immigrants was a convenient response by the ruling class and its brain trust to the 1960s demands for decolonialization, justice, reparations, and social equality. Moreover, Dunbar-Ortiz charges that this feel good but inaccurate story promotes a benign narrative of progress, obscuring that the country was founded in violence as a settler state, and imperialist since its inception. This discussion will happen over Zoom in two parts.

Location: Online

[LEARN MORE](#)





ROYALL HOUSE & SLAVE QUARTERS

In the eighteenth century, the Royall House and Slave Quarters was home to the largest slaveholding family in Massachusetts and the enslaved Africans who made their lavish way of life possible. Today, the Royall House and Slave Quarters is a museum whose architecture, household items, archaeological artifacts, and programs bear witness to intertwined stories of wealth and bondage, set against the backdrop of America's quest for independence.

Our guided tours of our historic properties begin at the top of the hour at **1:00, 2:00, and 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays during our tour season**, extending from June 11, 2022 until October 16, 2022. We look forward to welcoming you!

15 George Street
Medford, Massachusetts 02155

<https://royallhouse.org/>

What a nice plan for some of our Community Preservation funds in Newburyport! –

Newburyport Black History Initiative

This project will develop high-quality historic interpretive signs to highlight and incorporate Newburyport's Black history more fully into the public landscape so that visitors as well as residents and workers can encounter the information and stories in their day-to-day lives.

<https://newburyportma.viewpointcloud.com/records/48171>

'Wampanoag Pilgrim Disney'?: Wampanoag Tribe severs ties with Plimoth Patuxet

Museums

Rachael Devaney

Cape Cod Times, 8/19/22

https://www.capecodtimes.com/story/news/2022/08/19/wampanoag-tribe-scales-back-tribal-involvement-plimoth-patuxet/10326677002/?fbclid=IwAR113uwnCJev4yUH8oYmWTsXWz_ovvL9vFnoapcXMct0KoP1WwFPhgIP8j0#l70m3b1c0jqdf128zbn9

Read about this treacherous mess –



‘COP-FREE AFSCME’ STILL FIGHTING TO BOOT COPS FROM THEIR UNION

Rank-and-file union members have fought since 2020 to kick cops out of AFSCME, which represents about 200,000 police and correctional officers.

https://therealnews.com/cop-free-afscme-still-fighting-to-boot-cops-from-their-union?utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=222631315&hsenc=p2ANqtz-95xmeKI0DVVmzfT-m-gLKipXykyVgJUEzhj4mMI_o7j-AysEizi34oKWZgSge7TWFHlrW5RxexO3mbkZ2IKrhrJylGBQ



From Antiracism Daily –

Reflect before reaching out.

https://20465691.hs-sites.com/reflect-before-reaching-out?ecid=ACsprvtEB1p3ojTXBMU6f3gx-S6edR5OspA3Lw-vMcEbTUH1XeByXbZxwp68oruvCbo0I26Gnpfd&utm_medium=email&hsmi=223184529&hsenc=p2ANqtz--Qy3YaubnCQorZRJZtS6pT95cF-ZwsVGSOlqGtwpvlelwBx0hSQGTXvoOgbFCT5Kpn0cKhuSY8dpP96rXLGmVWk729g&utm_content=223184529&utm_source=hs_email

Learn the history of the FBI.

https://20465691.hs-sites.com/learn-the-history-of-the-fbi?ecid=ACsprvsZyMA16V7K6KtUBBJWGSwJrCNgr087JD4iXP87vi4MpKvdJAUyRy6Ny1Qg028e4ZJ0ABnT&utm_medium=email&hsmi=223339831&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9rTfpB9u3uZm_LB6LwTA35FFPh0A0xM0CfVjnw6da4JFMssxhgN9swvHeBO4tq2O6F_BFL5cIKqI3Wzw-WcAGDXypTg&utm_content=223339831&utm_source=hs_email