

July, 2023

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 since May, 2017 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. This newsletter began in Feb., 2021.

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

The logo for MRJT CONVERSATIONS features the letters "MRJT" in a stylized font to the left of the word "CONVERSATIONS" in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. A horizontal rainbow-colored bar is positioned beneath the word "CONVERSATIONS".

MRJT: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Please join us tonight at 7 pm for "Conversations on Race"

**Monday, June 26, 7-8:30 PM
Marblehead Museum or on Zoom**

YESTERDAY:

You are invited to join some of the thought leaders who created the Marblehead Racial Justice Team. They will discuss why and how they came to organize and nourish the MRJT.

TODAY:

We will also talk about the current efforts of the MRJT to positively influence our community by addressing racism in all its forms.

TOMORROW:

Like the Marblehead residents of 1776 who imagined the formation of a democratic future, so will we discuss actions or activities we will commit to do to make our community welcoming and affirming to all.

Registration details [here](#) on Zoom or in person at the Marblehead Museum.

Register



Season 36 of POV Begins With National Broadcast Premiere Of
After Sherman
On Monday, June 26th



Returning to the coastal South Carolina land that his family purchased after emancipation, filmmaker Jon-Sesrie Goff's desire to explore his Gullah/Geechee roots transforms into a poetic investigation of Black inheritance, trauma, and generational wisdom, amidst the violent tensions that define America's collective history.

[After Sherman](#), a co-production with ITVS, Black Public Media, and Hedera Pictures, LLC, makes its national broadcast premiere on **Monday, June 26, 2023 at 10pmET/9C** (check local listings) and will be **available to stream free until July 26, 2023**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

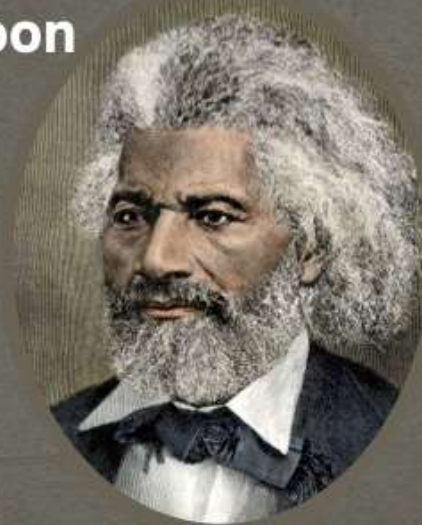


Black Heritage Trail of NH COMMUNITY READING

Sat | July 1, 2023 | Noon

FREDERICK DOUGLASS

*"What to the Slave is
Your Fourth of July?"*



AMHERST	CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST
CANTERBURY	CANTERBURY SHAKER VILLAGE
CLAREMONT	BROAD STREET PARK
DOVER	WALDRON COURT ON CENTRAL AVE
EXETER	EXETER TOWN HALL
HOPKINTON	HOPKINTON TOWN HALL
MANCHESTER	MANCHESTER CITY HALL PLAZA
NASHUA	NASHUA LIBRARY GARDENS
PETERBOROUGH	PETERBOROUGH TOWN LIBRARY
PORTSMOUTH	STRAWBERRY BANKE MUSEUM
ROCHESTER	ROCHESTER PERFORMANCE & ARTS CENTER
ROLLINSFORD	COLONEL PAUL WENTWORTH HOUSE
WARNER	WARNER TOWN HALL

www.blackheritagetrailnh.org

Saturday, July 1 | Noon | Statewide

New Hampshire Communities Read Frederick Douglass

As part of a growing tradition, each July BHTNH collaborates with community leaders across the state to bring people together to read and reflect on Douglass' historic protest speech, "What to the Slave Is Your 4th of July?"

Join a community near you on July 1 to attend or participate as a reader.

Read more and find the list of participating communities [here](http://www.blackheritagetrailnh.org)



Saturday, July 2 | Wallingford Square | Downtown Kittery, ME
Kittery's Black Yankees

Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide:

This tour describes how African residents of a northern port town used their own traditions of resilience and mutual aid to establish one of Maine's earliest African American communities. You will hear stories of Black people living here during colonial slavery times through the modern era, a history often ignored and rarely identified with the heritage of northern New England.

Register [here](#)

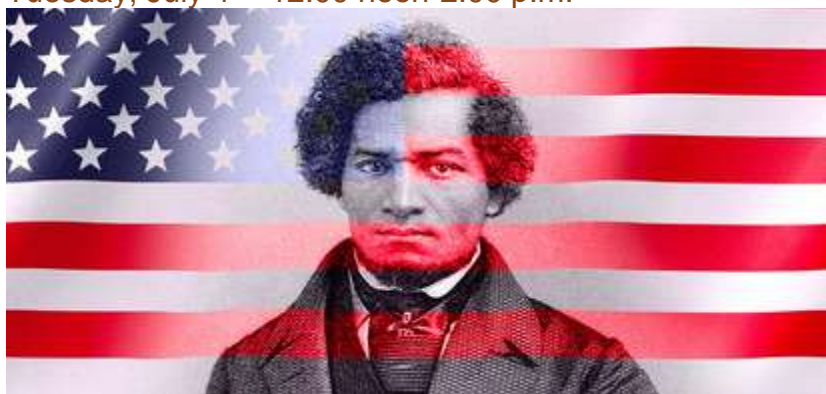


**ROYALL HOUSE &
SLAVE QUARTERS**

In-Person Program

Reading Frederick Douglass Together at the Royall House and Slave Quarters

Tuesday, July 4 -- 12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.



We are excited to host our first-ever Reading Frederick Douglass Together program on the museum grounds in Medford on Tuesday, July 4th.

The Royall House and Slave Quarters has received a generous grant for this program from [Mass Humanities](#) with funding made possible by the [Mass Cultural Council](#).

We invite community members to gather on the lawn in front of the historic Slave Quarters building to read/listen to Douglass's "What, To The Slave, is the Fourth of July?" to honor the long history of Black activism, critique, and abolition.

We will begin the program with a libation ceremony to honor the people who were enslaved on the plantation. Scholar/activist **David Harris** and members of the **Mystic Valley Area NAACP** will launch the reading, then invite community members to read sections of the speech.

A poetry reading by **Terry E. Carter**, Medford's Poet Laureate Emeritus, will close out the program.

After the event, we invite community members to an open house inside the Royall House and the Slave Quarters. Light refreshments will be provided.

How to Participate: This in-person program is free and open to all.

In the Media

Ben Franklin's World is a terrific long-running podcast about early American history that's hosted by historian **Liz Covart**.

The latest episode on "[Slavery & Freedom in Massachusetts](#)" features **Kyera Singleton**, our executive director, who "has spent years researching the lives of the enslaved people who lived and worked on the Royall Plantation and the significant contributions they made to ending slavery in Massachusetts. Kyera joins us to investigate the story of slavery and freedom within the first state in the United States to legally abolish slavery."

After listening to this engaging hour-long podcast, please consider viewing our museum's [virtual tour video](#), which is available free for the next two weeks. The password is *medford*.



"[Saying Their Names, Remembering Their Lives](#)," an article in the latest issue of the **Harvard Gazette**, describes a recent tour of our museum by undergrads in an introductory humanities course, one of several student visits orchestrated by historian professor **Tiya Miles**.

"Harvard Law School pledged \$500,000 this year in support of the Royall House and Slave Quarters's mission. Also announced was a University-wide commitment to working closer with the museum on research and learning experiences.

"Students are often struck by the intimacy of slavery," said Miles, who advocated for formalizing Harvard's partnership with the museum. "When executive director **Kyera Singleton** points out the pallet where enslaved people slept, they realize that right across the hall or perhaps even in the same room those who owned the individuals would have been sleeping in their beds."



and

and

Open for Tours into October

Our regular tour season will continue each Saturday and Sunday through October 15th.



The Highlander Center is partnering with [Media Justice](#), [Vision Change Win](#), and [Right to the City](#) to host an 8-session series of monthly conversations about the current political environment.

[Register here](#) to join the second session, "Class Dimensions of Fascism", June 22 at 4 pm Pacific/5 pm Mountain/6 pm Central/7 pm Eastern. Nancy MacLean, Daniel HoSang, and Shane Burley will explore the relationship(s) between fascism and capitalism, and the role of the state; identify some of the key supporters and funders of rising fascism in the U.S.; and help participants better understand the class character of the mass base for fascism in the U.S.

This series, Fascism 101, is a curriculum designed to:

- Raise the level of understanding about the threat of rising fascism in the U.S. today, and about how authoritarian and fascist political actors shape the current political moment
- Explore the many faces of fascism and many fronts of anti-fascist resistance
- Lay the foundation for deeper thinking about what it will take to build broad and effective anti-fascist resistance.

If you missed the first session, you can watch the recording [here](#).

The online series is in English, with Spanish & American Sign Language interpretation available. [Register today to join us](#).



**White People Challenging Racism:
Moving from Talk to Action - Part 1 *Online*
5 Wednesdays | Jul. 12 | 7 - 9 pm**

While this five-session workshop welcomes participants of all identities, its focus is on racism as a system that White people created, maintain and condone - and White people have a responsibility to dismantle. The workshop will take participants beyond the headlines to impart an antiracist world view that will infuse every aspect of participants' lives, when hearts are open to it. In this group setting you will: Examine the role of White people in dismantling racism, in becoming antiracist, and in building an equitable society. Explore the impact of White privilege and how being unaware of that advantage helps perpetuate racism. Write about your own racial awareness journey. Enhance your understanding and capacity for action through discussion of short readings, videos, and other materials. Share everyday racism-related situations where you may not have effectively responded and, using role plays, work out effective ways to challenge racism. Develop a specific plan for challenging racism in the workplace, an organization, or in the community, while being encouraged to find other people in your life who can provide support and serve as an accountability partner in implementing your plan.

Co-Facilitators: Karen Blumenfeld, Michelle Chalmers

[Register](#)



Gotta be grateful for

Tapings of Juneteenth, + Newburyport Pride's flag raising ceremonies. Both were excellent events.



Juneteenth -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQVA3JxJOTw>



Pride -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66eSOJzOS5E>



If this piece or this blog resonates with you, please consider a one-time “[tip](#)” or become a monthly “[patron](#)”...this space runs on love and reader support. Or consider [bringing](#) me to your organization or group.

Yeah, it's ok to be white but...and it's a big BUT

June 6, 2023 by Shay

<https://blackgirlinmaine.com/racial-and-cultural/yeah-its-ok-to-be-white-butand-its-a-big-but/>