

NEWSLETTER

Fairfield Equity Coalition's Weekly Newsletter



Fairfield Equity Coalition is a youth-led organization taking local action to reimagine Fairfield's definition of what constitutes a comprehensive education. Our goal is to push for equitable policy and curriculum changes within Fairfield Public Schools while raising awareness on injustices against marginalized populations within our community.

Welcome to our **thirty-eighth** newsletter! As a community newsletter, we encourage our readership to reach out with suggested items. Thank you for your continued interest in our coalition!

COALITION UPDATE

Happy Pride Month! As we celebrate the LGBTQIA community, we are reminded that this observance started as a commemoration of the Stonewall Riots of 1969, a watershed moment for what was then called the Gay Liberation Movement that sparked the modern fight for queer* rights. Queer love and identity has historically been, and in many ways still presently is, an act of defiance. We honor our LGBTQIA friends, family, community members and fellow humans this month and will be highlighting different events, readings and videos to share more about the history of Pride and the struggles that persist to this day for the LGBTQIA community.

As we mentioned in our previous newsletters, FEC has partnered with [CT Murals](#) to create a large-scale, professional mural done by a local artist that will depict themes of equity alongside local and national civil rights leaders. We invite any readers who know of a business with a large, blank outdoor wall that might be interested in this project to contact us by email at fairfeldequitycoalition@gmail.com.

Finally, the Fairfield community congregated one year after the murder of George Floyd on May 25th to mourn his loss and speak about the fight for racial equity and justice from our oppressive policing systems. You can watch the entire livestream [here](#), and/or the individual speeches from our President, Lynnaija Brevard, and our Community Outreach Overhead, Andrew McKinnis, [here](#).

**The use of the term "queer" is a reclamation of the word from its derogatory past and refers to people who identify outside of the heterosexual orientation and/or cis-gender binary.*

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- **Monday, June 7th - Sunday June 13th, 300 Summit St, Hartford, CT and Online:** "34th Annual CT LGBTQ Film Festival" multi-day event hosted by Out Film CT. Register for in-person screenings (at Cinestudio on the campus of Trinity College) or at-home virtual viewings of 14 feature films, 3 documentaries, and many more selections! Registration required, different price packages offered. Details here.
- **Tuesday, June 8th, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM, via Zoom:** "Here From the Beginning: LGBTQ History in Central Connecticut Since 1901" free event by Middletown Pride. Listen to this talk by Jesse Nasta, PhD, which is based on recent interviews with elders who came out in the Hartford area long before Stonewall. Registration required. Details here.

ACTION ITEM *a way to make a difference today*

We are once again calling on artists that are current FPS students or alumni to please fill out our Google form to inquire about our inter-organization "Activism through Art" project. We hope this initiative will allow students of all different backgrounds and identities to express their experiences and perspectives through art work that will be reflected throughout the entire FPS community. If you have any further questions about the project, please email us at Fairfeldequitycoalition@gmail.com

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Reading "Five Trailblazers You Should Know: Pride Edition" from the National Museum of African American History and Culture. This short article highlights five revolutionary and radical Black queer thinkers and activists that greatly advanced the Gay Liberation Movement and whose impacts are still felt to this day. We wanted to highlight this article specifically because, much like other discussions of American history, the vital contributions of Black people often remain unacknowledged or plainly denied. LGBTQIA history is Black history, just as it is for every other racial identity. We hope this article helps to highlight just some of the many Black leaders that contributed to ongoing fight for queer liberation.

GET INVOLVED

We are always seeking new members and leaders! If you are a current student or alumni of FPS and are interested in further involvement, please fill out this survey. If you are a teacher, administrator, parent, or Fairfield resident, please email us at fairfeldequitycoalition@gmail.com to get involved.

FOLLOW US!



Fairfield Equity Coalition



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