

CLIMATE AND CULTURE

June Affinity Highlights

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion celebrates the rich tapestry of human experiences at Emory University. This month, May 2023, we recognize LGBTQ+ Pride Month and Juneteenth. In collaboration with campus partners, we have curated resources that highlight, educate, and encourage a sense of community.



Dear Emory Family and Friends:

This will be our final newsletter until September 2023. We want to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication this academic year! It has been a challenging year, but you have all risen to the occasion and made it our staff.

We are particularly grateful to you for their tireless efforts and dedication to Emory. You have gone above and beyond to support our students and faculty, and it has not gone unnoticed.

We are also grateful to our faculty for their commitment to learning. You have created a challenging and stimulating environment for our students, who have thrived under your guidance.

Finally, we thank our students for their hard work and dedication. You have made Emory proud, and we know that you will continue to do great things in the future.

For the next academic year, we have some exciting programs to look out for, which include:

- Diversity Week
- Diversity Retreat
- Pride Breakfast
- MLK Scholars Breakfast
- Douglass Day
- Women in Leadership Networking Luncheon

Thank you again for all that you do. We wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

Sincerely,
The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

THANK YOU

LGBTQ+ Pride Month



5 Pride Month Events to Plan for in June

Emory will celebrate Pride Month with events to engage LGBTQ+ students and employees as well as the broader Emory community. Throughout June, the office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs that address multiple aspects of LGBTQ+ identity.

The Emory Pride Employee Network (EPEN) will host several events on and off campus to connect LGBTQ+ employees and allies across the university. EPEN is one of four employee resource groups created by Emory Human Resources to provide a sense of community for people from historically underrepresented groups.

Jennifer Brazelton, senior associate donor experience officer in the Office of Advancement and Alumni Engagement, believes that supporting and engaging the LGBTQ+ community at Emory is crucial for the future.

"It's important we have these events where faculty and staff can come together to feel safe and be their true authentic selves," says Brazelton, who is also an EPEN advisory board member. "There are many areas at Emory that require representation and a voice, and there's no one better qualified to be part of or as a staff member than EPEN to strengthen and serve the LGBTQ+ community."

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ATLANTA PRIDE RUN & WALK 5K

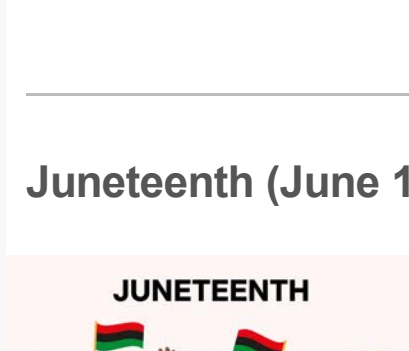


Sunday, June 4, 2023

The Atlanta Pride Run is a charity 5K walk and run dedicated to uniting the community to raise awareness and funds for those impacted by HIV. This event is for every one of every ability and a great time to show support for the LGBTQ+ community. And yes, we are a Peachtree Qualifier race!

REGISTRATION

Our Stories: A Celebration of Pride and Living Histories



Wednesday, June 7, 2023
Emory School of Nursing 1520 Clifton Rd, Room 101 (Hybrid)
Emory Pride Employee Network

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Kick off Pride Month with the Emory Pride Employee Network on June 7 for "Our Stories: A Celebration of Pride & Living Histories" featuring a panel of Emory's past and present history-makers. Join us for an hour of intergenerational storytelling, riotous humor, and powerful life lessons followed by a reception for in-person attendees.

All Emory employees are welcome!

REGISTRATION

Centering Community in Museums, Libraries, and Archives



Wednesday, June 7, 2023
Ackerman Hall
Emory Libraries, Carlos Museum
7:30 PM – 8:45 PM

What would it look like for archives, libraries, and museums to value their communities over their collections? How can these institutions more fully embrace practices of curating and preserving building, while interrupting traditional practices rooted in colonialism?

Join Clinton Fluker, PhD, senior director of culture, community and partner engagement for the Michael C. Carlos Museum and Emory Libraries, and Mike Murawski, consultant and author of Museums as Agents of Change, as they discuss the role of libraries and museums within their wider communities, how to begin reshaping what institutions value, and what it means to have a human-centered approach.

REGISTRATION

Juneteenth (June 19)



Giving Voice Juneteenth Event: Cultivating a Culture of Black Wellness

Thursday, June 15, 2023
(Zoom)

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM
Neill Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, School of Medicine

Juneteenth event featuring panel presentations on 3 areas of wellness: mental, spiritual and physical from Rev. Toton Pace, Ceevoya D. Gaston and Shaquella Starks. Co-sponsored by the School of Medicine and the School of Nursing.

REGISTRATION

CEBA Atlanta Juneteenth Social @ The Beverly



Friday, June 16, 2023
The Beverly 1730 Glenwood Ave SE Ste 260, Atlanta, GA 30316
Caucus of Emory Black Alumni (CEBA) Emory Alumni Association

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Begin your Juneteenth weekend with CEBA (Caucus of Emory Black Alumni) at The Beverly! Join us for a round of drinks, plenty of appetizers, and good fun celebrating this important holiday. It's been a while, and we look forward to seeing you.

REGISTRATION

Juneteenth Atlanta Parade and Music Festival



June 16-18, 2023
Centennial Olympic Park

This high-spirited celebration of freedom, unity, and equality is known for filling Centennial Olympic Park and the streets of Atlanta with the soulful sound of live music, amazing hand-made merchandise from local and international vendors, mouthwatering cuisine, and an array of immersive cultural activities for all attendees. To heighten this already extraordinary experience, the event bolsters a vibrant televised parade (June 17, 2023) featuring captivating floats, colorful dance troupes, community youth organizations, mesmerizing marching bands, and esteemed local and national dignitaries. Join us as we commemorate the historic day of Juneteenth, marking the emancipation of enslaved Africans in America. We welcome you to be a part of this monumental event where community, equality, human rights, and justice for all merge to create a better world for future generations.

REGISTRATION

Jubilee: A Juneteenth Celebration



Saturday, June 17 - 18 2023
National Center for Civil and Human Rights

Join The Center for a day of engagement to celebrate Juneteenth through music, history, and culture. This program explores the history of Juneteenth and the new traditions being created in honor of this joyous occasion. Juneteenth is the celebration of the emancipation of people who were enslaved in America, and the continued celebration and liberation throughout time. Stop by to enjoy music inspired by this history, immerse yourself in the culture of Juneteenth through internships, and find fun ways to get involved.

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Juneteenth Celebration



Sunday, June 18, 2023 10am - 4pm
Atlanta History Center

Join us as we celebrate Juneteenth 2023 (and Father's Day) by honoring the history of Black genealogy and agricultural practices. This year's event promises to be a truly immersive experience featuring live music, powerful storytelling, interactive crafts, and delicious food.

Our workshops and talks will provide valuable insights into the history of Juneteenth and offer tips on how to research your family tree and preserve family artifacts.

This event is suitable for people of all ages. Pre-registration is optional, but highly recommended to expedite the check-in process.

Although this is a free public program, donations are greatly appreciated and can be made via the registration link above. Your donation will help offset the cost of this event and help fund future Juneteenth programs. We thank you for your support!

This program is part of Atlanta History Center's celebration of the Civic Season, a nationwide initiative encouraging historically-informed civic participation through a two-week activation between Juneteenth and July 4th.

REGISTRATION

Noteworthy News



Berlin Prize Awarded to Emory College Historian Mariana Candido

Emory College of Arts and Sciences historian Mariana P. Candido, who specializes in West Central Africa during the era of the transatlantic slave trade, has been named a 2023-24 Berlin Prize fellow.

She is among 26 U.S.-based recipients that the American Academy in Berlin selected as representing the highest standards of excellence in their fields within the humanities and social sciences. The prize provides recipients the time and resources to advance important scholarly and artistic projects, while also creating opportunities for community engagement through lectures, readings and performances.

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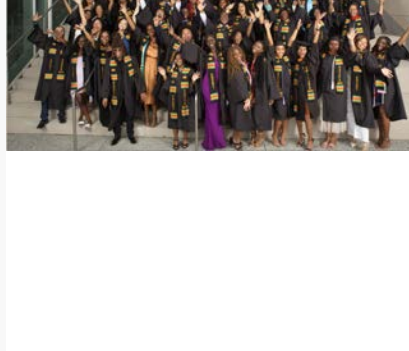


Emory Develops Toolkit to Promote Safe and Successful Global Experiences for Diverse Travelers

Preparing to study and work abroad can be an exciting — yet nerve-wracking — experience for students and employees. While pre-departure guidance and checklists may cover many facets of travel, they often fall short of addressing challenges, discrimination or threats to one's physical and mental well-being due to identity.

To bridge this gap and promote safe and successful global experiences, Global Safety and Emory — a unit of the Office of Global Strategy and Initiatives (OSI) — has partnered with global education diversity, equity and inclusion specialist Elizabeth Garcia to develop the "Navigating My Identities Abroad" toolkit. Garcia offers consulting and training services for international education companies, organizations and institutions in North Carolina in 1978, and from 1979-1981 worked at WVSP Public Radio in Warrenton, North Carolina, as a project and workshop director, media producer, and writer. In 1982, she served as Playwright-in-Residence for The Road Company in Johnson City, Tennessee, and from 1983-1985, she was Writer-in-Residence at Harrisburg Area Community College. In 1986, she was hired as the Executive Director of the Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project (SEAMEC), a multi-arts organization for the gay and lesbian community in Atlanta, Georgia, and served in that capacity for twelve years, receiving the Robert Chesley Foundation Lifetime Achievement award in 2004.

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Badia Ahad Named Dean of Oxford College of Emory University

Badia Ahad, an award-winning teacher, innovative scholar and seasoned academic leader, has been appointed as the next dean of Oxford College of Emory University. Ahad currently serves as vice provost for faculty affairs and professor of English at Loyola University Chicago. She will begin her service at Oxford on Aug. 1.

"Badia Ahad understands that Oxford College is unique in American higher education — a place like no other," says President Gregory L. Fenves. "She has bold ideas and is going to bring tremendous enthusiasm and energy with her to Oxford. Dr. Ahad is a scholar and leader, and I know our students, faculty and staff will connect with her immediately."

Ahad's appointment was announced May 23 by Ravi V. Bellamkonda, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, following a competitive national search.

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Affinity Group Ceremonies Honor Diverse Student Identities and Celebrate Community

As part of Emory University's 2023 Commencement festivities, Campus Life hosted ceremonies for seven Belonging and Community Justice (BCJ) affinity groups, celebrating community and honoring the graduates' accomplishments.

"From day one at Emory, we want all students to know they have community. It is vital for our students to feel supported and see mirrors in our staff, faculty and among their peers," said Kristina K. Bethea Odejimi, incoming dean of students and associate vice president for belonging, engagement and community.

"To know you are not alone is incredibly impactful and provides reassurance as you move forward. Celebrating graduation milestones is another way we are building a continuum between students and an alumni experience," Odejimi said. "A whole network of support and connection is available to students beyond graduation."

Graduates in each ceremony were encouraged to walk across the stage with someone who has been a support for them, such as a parent, partner, friend or faculty member. That person carried the stole, which the students would wear again at graduation, and placed it across the graduate's shoulders.

VIEW MORE



Barbara Krauthamer Named Dean of Emory College of Arts and Sciences

Barbara Krauthamer, an award-winning author and historian, has been appointed as the next dean of Emory College of Arts and Sciences. Currently dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts at University of Massachusetts Amherst, she will take the helm of Emory University's largest school on July 1.

"Barbara Krauthamer, through her high-level academic leadership and scholarship as a historian, has shown the power of higher education to change lives through knowledge, discovery and creativity," says President Gregory L. Fenves. "She has broad professional experience and a compelling vision to take the Emory College of Arts and Sciences to new heights of excellence and she will be a champion for our students and faculty across disciplines and specialties."

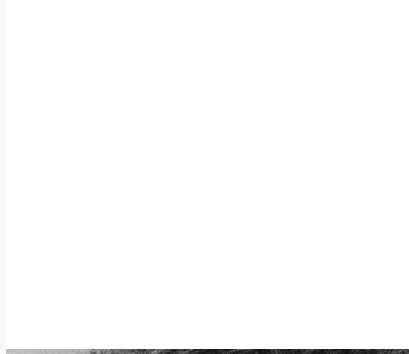
Krauthamer's appointment was announced April 25 by Ravi V. Bellamkonda, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, following a competitive national search that attracted nearly 100 candidates.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND AWARENESS

Making Impact at Emory

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion highlights individuals whose impact at Emory helps to cultivate a diverse, equitable, and inclusive Emory.



David A. Lowe 92C

Moving from suburban Cleveland, David A. Lowe (92C) was looking forward to a different part of the country, better weather, and a more diverse and inclusive environment—when he enrolled at Emory in fall 1988. He had no idea how much his presence would change the university.

As an openly gay freshman, Lowe attended a meeting early that first semester of the Emory Lesbian and Gay Organization (ELGO) and was met by a very small group of about a dozen people who, he says, held occasional meetings and social activities, but little else. But then things started to get interesting.

"We started getting more active and visible, speaking at freshman dorms and organizing campus events. At some point, ELGO invited a guest speaker from ACT UP Atlanta, and it was just blown away. In the suburbs where I grew up, the AIDS crisis wasn't talked about and gay issues in general were rarely discussed and there was not much activism. I found it refreshing to be part of this group of people being vocal and being active and engaging with the media," Lowe says. "I thought, 'This is what the LGBT community should be doing,' not just with respect to AIDS, but in politics and on social issues."

Lowe began participating in ACT UP meetings and community events—including several AIDS protests, and subsequent arrests, at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), CNN, and the state capital—and brought that energy back to Emory. He started working with others in ELGO to increase visibility and engagement on campus, building awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) student needs; and advocating for increased resources.

During his four years at Emory, Lowe saw growing recognition of LGBT issues on campus—including advocating for the establishment of the university's Office of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Student Life (now the Office of LGBT Life)—accompanied by a groundswell of new LGBT organizations at Emory University, and growing influence among Emory's LGBT community. By his junior year, acceptance of gay and lesbian students on campus had progressed so much that Lowe narrowly lost election as SGA president as an openly gay candidate.

Lowe collected many mementos of his activities that he took with him when he moved to California for law school and to San Francisco as he built his law career.

"I had a close friend working with the LGBT Historical Society in San Francisco, and I initially asked if there was anything I had from Atlanta that would be interesting to them," Lowe says. "He told me that it was regional history that really belonged in the place where the history unfolded."

The papers of David Lowe are housed here at Emory University and are part of the David Lowe Papers Collection at the Stuart A. Rose Library. Click the link below to schedule an appointment with the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library to view the collection.

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Rebecca Hargett Ranson, 1943-2017

Rebecca Ranson, Southern lesbian playwright and author, was born on September 9, 1943. She was one of three children along with her sister, Laura (Ranson) Burns, and her brother, Murphy Dale Ranson. She attended the University of Georgia, Athens, and received a Bachelor of Arts in Radio, Television, and Film in 1970. She earned a Master of Fine Arts in Playwriting at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1973. She married Charles Richard Engle in 1965 and had one son, Charles. They divorced in 1967, and she was later married to William "Coke" Aerial, III. During her marriage to Aerial, she began a relationship with Miranda Campasio that lasted from the late 1970s through the early 1980s. She began her career as a creative writing instructor in North Carolina in 1978, and from 1979-1981 worked at WVSP Public Radio in Warrenton, North Carolina, as a project and workshop director, media producer, and writer. In 1982, she served as Playwright-in-Residence for The Road Company in Johnson City, Tennessee, and from 1983-1985, she was Writer-in-Residence at Harrisburg Area Community College. In 1986, she was hired as the Executive Director of the Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project (SEAMEC), a multi-arts organization for the gay and lesbian community in Atlanta, Georgia, and served in that capacity for twelve years, receiving the Robert Chesley Foundation Lifetime Achievement award in 2004.

Ranson wrote over thirty plays, including The Incorporation of Annie (1983), Desperadoes A Trilogy (1982), Warren (1984), Blood on Blood (1987), For Love and for Life (1987), Secretly (1988), and A Gleaner (2000). Warren was one of the first plays concerning AIDS to be produced and was written after her friend, Warren Johnston, died of AIDS in April 1984. She started writing a novel and conducted interviews with members of the organization, People with AIDS (PWA), nurses, doctors, partners, families, and friends in San Francisco, California, and Atlanta, Georgia. This research led to the creation of the play Higher Ground in 2010.

The papers of Rebecca Ranson are housed here at Emory University and are part of the Rebecca Ranson Papers Collection at the Stuart A. Rose Library. Click the link below to schedule an appointment with the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library to view the collection.

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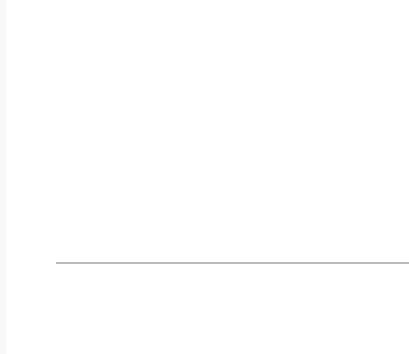
O DEI Learning Corner



Reflecting on Juneteenth (Proclamation)

On June 19, 1865, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation took effect, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that enslaved people were now free and the war was over. As Emory joins the nation in commemorating Juneteenth, community members reflect on the importance of the holiday.

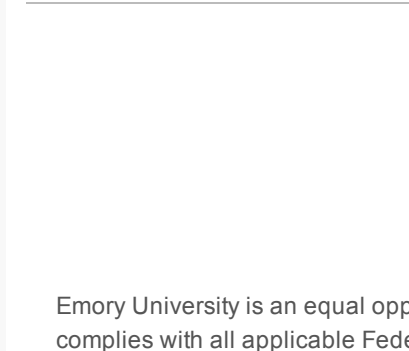
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Juneteenth: Connecting the American to the Now

As part of a lecture series titled "Connecting the American to the Now" through the lens of federal vs. states' rights and discuss the historical and current political significance of the holiday. Panelists: Jeanne Cobb, IRA Lippman Professor of Journalism at Columbia University; Inani Perry, Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University; Anette Gordon-Reed, Carl M. Loeb University Professor of History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University; and Terrell, Andrew, and Wilson at Emory University's Center for the Study of African American History and Culture who will moderate.

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Emory, Racism and the Journey Towards Restorative Justice

Avia Williams never considered going to Oxford College of Emory University. Though she grew up nearby, she didn't think she would be welcome there, even with grades in the top 1% of her class. But when she was admitted with a scholarship, her grandmother insisted that she attend. When she arrived on campus, her work-study assignment was in the library.

It was 1976. Although school desegregation had been the national law for more than 20 years and Emory had graduated its first African American students in 1963, there were still few Black or other students of color at the university. Williams was relieved to see a familiar face in the library; her grandmother's friend was a custodial worker there.

She recalls inviting the woman to have lunch with her in the employee break room. Her grandmother's friend refused, saying that custodial workers were not allowed to eat in that area. Williams watched as a woman she'd known her entire life ate her lunch in the mop closet. There was no formal policy that Black custodial staff could not eat in the break area, but there was an unspoken understanding that they were not welcome. For Williams, this simply would not do.

"I approached my supervisor and I said that I thought the woman might be senile because she thought it was 1866 and not 1976," says Williams. She recognized that humor might be an effective means to get her point across.

The next time Williams had a shift in the library, her grandmother's friend was eating lunch in the employee break room.

"She said to me, 'I don't know what you did, but thank you,'" says Williams.

That lunch incident is but one in a series of injustices that mark Emory University's history. As a member of the University's Studying Slavery Consortium, the university is committed to unpacking its participation in acts of prejudice and discrimination in order to pave a new path characterized by unity and equity. This means going back to the early 19th century before the original campus at Oxford was built.

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2. In the text of the email, write: [SUBSCRIBE:O DEI](mailto:SUBSCRIBE>O DEI) [your first name] [your last name] for example: [SUBSCRIBE:O DEI](mailto:SUBSCRIBE>O DEI) John Smith

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