

EDI FRIDAYS

LEARNING ABOUT EACH OTHER — ONE FRIDAY AT A TIME



Friday, March 10th, 2023

Learning about each other...one Friday at a time.

KNOWLEDGE

DEFINITIONS

CIVIL RIGHTS

The rights of individual citizens to be protected against unfair treatment based on personal characteristics like race, gender, age, or disability.

Governments enact civil rights laws to protect its citizens from discrimination in social functions such as education, employment, housing, and access to public accommodations.

These laws are designed to guarantee fair and equal treatment for groups of people ("protected classes") who have historically faced discrimination.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



"An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Faculty/Staff Spotlight

JOAN COLLIER

(She/Her)

Assistant Vice President for Equity & Inclusion

Chair, Diversity Education Network
Rutgers University Office of Equity & Inclusion

Biography

Hobbies: thrifting, event and experience planning, leisure and recreation, and karaoke.

She also enjoys creating beauty, cultivating joy, investing in play, and loving on people in her life.

"I do equity work because everyone deserves the opportunity to thrive."

"Equity work is essential to me because we're all better when everyone is able to thrive."

Student Spotlight

UCHENNA AGBU

(She/They)

*Junior, School of Arts & Sciences
Artistic Director, Cabaret Theater*

Major | Theater Arts

Minors | Creative Writing & Human

Resources

Hometown | Willingboro, NJ

Hobbies | Writing, singing, and watching coming-of-age movies



"Fighting for equity is important to me because I've seen the negative effects of inequity firsthand. All of our experiences deserve to be represented because they are bigger than us as individuals."

"Equity is one of the first steps we need to take in order to capture our shared human experience in an inclusive and honest way."



Artist Spotlight

REBECCA CYPRESS

Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

Associate Professor, Musicology

[Biography](#)

250 Years Ago, a Black Composer Etched Anti-Racism into his Music

by Rebecca Cypess

Published February 27, 2023

[Read](#) about Rebecca's recent work on the eighteenth-century Black British writer and composer Ignatius Sancho (ca. 1729-1780), who used irony and biting wit to hold a mirror up to British society,

prompting reflection on its prejudice and apathy in the face of suffering. Cypess shows that Sancho inscribed antiracism not just in his letters, but also in his musical compositions.



Ignatius Sancho, in an engraving by Francesco Bartolozzi after a portrait by Thomas Gainsborough. Printed in the 1802 edition of the "Letters of the Late Ignatius Sancho, an African."

EVENTS

FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS

Mental Health First Aid

Tuesday, March 14, 2023, from 9:00am-5:00pm

Location: TBD (lunch provided)

[More Info](#)

Strategies for Creating an Inclusive Classroom (virtual)

Tuesday, March 21, 2023, from 1:00-2:30pm

[More info](#)

2023 Mutual Mentoring Grant Program

Application Deadline: Thursday, March 30, 2023, 12:00pm

[More Info](#)

Faculty & Staff of Color Reception

Thursday, March 30, 2023, from 4:00-6:00pm

Location: Rutgers Club (Livingston Campus)

[More info](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MGSA Inclusive Community Award

Now accepting nominations - Deadline: April 15, 2023

Given annually to a Mason Gross faculty or staff member who has had an extraordinary impact in fostering a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment for our school.

[See here for instructions.](#)

MGSA Inclusive Teaching Grants

Now accepting applications - Deadline: June 1, 2023

Mason Gross faculty are invited to apply for up to \$2,500 to revise their courses to reflect the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

[See here for instructions.](#)