This year has been extremely trying and has pushed us all in a variety of ways, but we have all come out the other side hopefully learning something new about ourselves, our colleagues, and the students we serve. Truly, we have all learned how resilient, flexible, and compassionate each of us are. In spite of our own struggles, we were able to come together to do our best in an unprecedented situation. Thank you all for the time, effort, and energy that you have put in to make this year a success. We hope that you find some time for self-care and know that we are all in this together.

**CULTURAL AWARENESS & CELEBRATIONS FOR JUNE**

**JUNE IS NATIONAL CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, AIDS AWARENESS MONTH, LGBT PRIDE MONTH AND AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION MONTH.**

For more information about LGBT Pride Month click [HERE](#).

**June 12:** Loving Day  
- Loving Day is a celebration of the Supreme Court case Loving v. Virginia, which struck down state bans against interracial marriage.  
- The interracial couple at the center of the trial was Richard and Mildred Loving.  
- Lessons and resources are available in the link [here at Teaching Tolerance](#).

**June 12:** Philippines Independence Day  
- This date commemorates the Philippine's declaration of independence from Spain in 1898.  
- Teacher resources are available in the link [here](#).

**June 19:** Juneteenth ([click here for more information](#))  
- “This celebration marks a day in 1865 when enslaved Texans learned they'd be free (two months after Robert E. Lee surrendered and ended the Civil War and two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation). Initially a uniquely Texan observance, Juneteenth has now been recognized in some form in every corner of the country.”  
- Resources to teach about Juneteenth [here at Learning for Justice](#).

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

“You never completely have your rights, one person, until you all have your rights.”

-MARSHA P. JOHNSON
Adam Northam, a member of the Communication and Marketing subcommittee, suggested we watch In Defense of Justice in Denver. In Defense of Justice in Denver is a documentary directed, shot, co-written & edited by William Whiteman. The documentary follows the community activists, arrested after organizing mass demonstrations in protest of the killing of Elijah McClain. These activists are facing up to 48 years in prison, which in recent history is one of the highest charges for peaceful political protests.

Mr. Northam, "A perfect follow up to the write-up on Anthony Smith*. This documentary explores the plight of justice fighters in Denver who are having similar experiences. It's important to understand that there is a massive and coordinated attempt at the highest levels to suppress voices demanding justice and equality. As a group of individuals dedicated to equity and inclusion, we cannot remain silent. We must use our considerable collective voice and scream about against this fascism. We must use our considerable collective experience and expertise to act against it."

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*Anthony Smith is a teacher and community organizer in Philadelphia, currently facing charges for “arson of property belonging to an agency [the Philadelphia Police Department] receiving federal funding, arson affecting interstate commerce, obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder, and aiding and abetting.” An article about Anthony Smith was featured in the first Equity Is newsletter.

Watch the Documentary Here
May Was...

We recognize that sexual assault is an ongoing issue that is not time bound. To commemorate Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the SAAM planning committee has put together a virtual gallery filled with art, poems, comics, and posters that speak to us. We are encouraging our SDP community to interact with the pieces that are there, share your own pieces of art or one's that you love, and take some time to reflect on how we can create a culture of consent within SDP and beyond! Our hope is that this gallery can live as a growing archive of community voices that are often unheard and give us an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment as an organization to equity.

Additionally please find below some resources should you or someone you know experience sexual assault.

Click here to access the Gallery Walk

Click here to access resources for individuals experiencing sexual assault

Equity Partners Fellowship Kicks Off!

On Tuesday, April 27th our district launched the Equity Partners Fellowship, featuring an inaugural cohort of individuals from varying roles throughout the district. This fellowship includes teachers, students, and central office staff members. These 16 individuals will engage in a year long professional learning journey to infuse equity into their personal and professional practice. The Fellowship is a personalized, experiential learning opportunity designed to help educators and students create interpersonal, institutional, and ideological change around race and equity. It will develop, support, and sustain a group of diverse and exceptional students and leaders who are primed to drive transformational change in our District.

Click here to meet our inaugural cohort of Equity Partners Fellows