



## RISE TOGETHER - SEPT. 12, 2023

### SPOTLIGHT ON DEI

#### NEW LANGUAGE POLICY IMPROVES ACCESS FOR RESIDENTS

Today we are highlighting the Language policy, which was most recently updated in July. Highlights of the policy include:

**Communicating in Multiple Languages:** The department communicates information in multiple languages in several ways:

- The department's website can be translated into 11 different languages.
- ACTIVEnet, our external registration software system, can be translated into Spanish.
- Pool rules signs contain a QR code that, when scanned, directs people to the department's website.
- SOME printed materials are translated into Spanish and Somali.
- Augmentative and Alternative Communications (AAC) boards are added to all new playgrounds.

**Translation and Interpretation Services:** The department partners with the Department of Neighborhood's Translation and Interpretation Services to translate documents, or to provide interpretation services.

**Recruiting:** It is important that the department's staff represent the community it serves. The department takes steps to recruit diverse candidates, and candidates who can speak languages other than English. The department takes the following action:

- Promote job openings in media outlets to reach diverse audiences.
- Promote job openings in locations that predominantly communicate in languages other than English.
- Department banner offers instructions in English, Spanish and Somali.

[View the Language Policy in its entirety.](#)

#### JOIN IN THE LATINO HERITAGE MONTH PARADE

English

The [Latino Heritage Month Committee](#) is hosting the Latino Heritage Parade kick-off this year's Latino Heritage Month celebrations. The inaugural committee was formed out of the office of Columbus City Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla to promote visibility, cultural awareness and togetherness during Latino Heritage Month in hopes of creating lasting impact in the greater Columbus community.

This year, the parade will take place on Saturday, Sept. 16, from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. (please arrive by 9:20), starting at Rich Street Bridge and finishing at City Hall, where the Latino Heritage Festival will be held. Our department has put together a Passion Team to march in the parade. Join your coworkers and celebrate culture, community and diversity as we parade through downtown Columbus.

If you're interested in taking part, [please register by Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 5 p.m.](#) If you have any questions, reach out to Carlos Mojica ([CDMojica@columbus.gov](mailto:CDMojica@columbus.gov)) or Emiliana Morales ([EMMorales@columbus.gov](mailto:EMMorales@columbus.gov)).

### Upcoming Important Dates

- **National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15):** Celebrates and recognizes the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture and achievements for the United States. The beginning of this month coincides with the independence day for several Latin American countries such as Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua (Sept. 15), Mexico (Sept. 16) and Chile (Sept. 18)
- **Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 15-17):** Celebrates the Jewish New Year. It is one of two “High Holy Days” of Judaism and begins a 10-day period of penitence culminating in Yom Kippur.
- **Yom Kippur (Sept. 15-17):** The holiest day in Judaism and Samaritanism, it occurs annually on the 10th of Tishrei, corresponding to a secular date in September or early October. It is primarily centered on atonement and repentance, with the day's main observances consisting of full fasting and ascetic behavior accompanied by long prayer services in synagogue.
- **HeForShe (Sept. 20):** A solidarity movement for the advancement of gender equality, initiated by the United Nations. Grounded in the idea that gender inequality is an issue that affects all people, socially, economically and politically, HeForShe seeks to involve men and boys in achieving equality by taking action against negative gender stereotypes and behaviors.

### Cultural Celebrations Around Town

- **[Latino Heritage Month Parade and Festival](#):** Saturday, Sept. 16 in Downtown Columbus; Parade: 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Festival: 12-4 p.m.
- **[Columbus Caribbean Community Day](#):** Saturday, Sept. 16, 1-6 p.m. at Linden Community Center (1350 Briarwood Ave., 43211)
- **[Opening Reception: Art from the Day of the Dead Festival](#):** Friday, Oct. 6, 6-8 p.m. at Priscilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center (139 W Main St., 43215)
- **[Day of the Dead Columbus 2023](#):** Saturday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Green Lawn Cemetery (1000 Greenlawn Ave., 43223)
- **[Latino Heritage Month Art Show 2023](#):** Friday, Oct. 13, 6-9 p.m. at Wild Goose Creative (188 McDowell St., 43215)

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### DON'T FORGET TO COMPLETE ANNUAL ETHICS TRAINING BY OCT. 23

Each year, City employees are required to complete ethics training. This year, Citywide Training is offering *OEC: The Ohio Ethics Law 2023 – Following the Right Path* to meet this requirement. The one-hour online training is available through the Training Gateway.

9/18/2023

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27	28	29	30	31	1	2
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If you need to complete this training, you should have received an email from Citywide Training. You will also see it under “Your Active Training” when you log in to the [Training Gateway](#).

Don't wait - complete the training today!

## VOLUNTEER FOR TEEN OUTDOOR DAY AND SENIOR WELLNESS JAMBOREE

We're looking for staff members to volunteer with Teen Outdoor Day, presented by Columbus Recreation and Parks Department's Girls Empowerment, as well as volunteers to help with the Senior Wellness Jamboree.

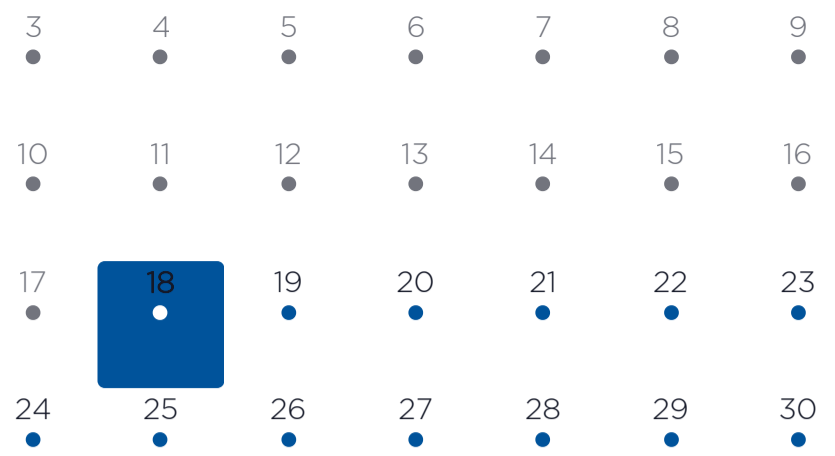
Teen Outdoor Day will see roughly 50 participants ages 12-18 enjoy some fun outdoor activities. The event is set to take place on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at McKnight Outdoor Education Center. The activities for the day will include canoeing, archery, birding and fire building. To volunteer, email Suzanne Schwartz at [SMSchwartz@columbus.gov](mailto:SMSchwartz@columbus.gov).

Senior Wellness Jamboree is an event for Columbus' 50+ population, during which they can participate in fitness walks, classes and activities, get tips and resources for a healthy lifestyle, and win prizes. The event will occur on Friday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Franklin Park Adventure Center. To volunteer, reach out to DaShaunta Drew at [DNDrew@columbus.gov](mailto:DNDrew@columbus.gov).

*Please note that, if you're typically scheduled to work on Fridays or Saturdays, you will need to get permission from your supervisor before volunteering.*

## QUALIFYING LIFE EVENTS AND BENEFITS CHANGES

Outside of Open Enrollment, you may make changes to your insurance coverage within 30 days of a Qualifying Life Event, such as a birth, marital status change, or loss or gain of other insurance coverage. It's easy to submit your benefit changes or enrollment on [Dayforce](#): Navigate to the “Forms” tab and complete the “Life Event Declaration.” Once approved, you will need to complete a “Life Event Enrollment” to enroll or make changes to your coverage. Contact the Benefits and Wellness Office at 614-645-8624 or [EmployeeBenefitsAndWellness@columbus.gov](mailto:EmployeeBenefitsAndWellness@columbus.gov) with questions or for assistance.



August 25

All day

KNOWN AND STRANGE THINGS EXHIBITION

All day

ADULT VOLLEYBALL LEAGUES - FALL SESSION REGISTRATION

All day

ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUES - FALL SESSION REGISTRATION

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

## What's your favorite part of football season?

kfrancisapr@gmail.com [Switch account](#)

Not shared

\* Indicates required question

What's your favorite part of football season? \*

- The snacks at tailgates and parties
- Watching the game
- Getting together with friends and family
- The rivalries
- Going shopping with no crowds while everyone is watching the game
- The early morning games
- I could take it or leave it

## LEADERSHIP UPDATE

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### GREG POSTON

He/Him/His

**Section**

Golf Program Manager

**Length of Employment**

51 years



**What’s your favorite aspect of Columbus Recreation and Parks?**

Working with a really good staff of employees and volunteers.

**What’s your favorite project that you have worked on?**

Working on starting a volunteer program years ago when we did not have enough help.

**What is your favorite ice cream flavor?**

Strawberry

**What is your favorite book or movie?**

*To Catch a Thief*

**What is one piece of advice you have?**

If you don’t love your job, you should find another one.

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**Nominate A Coworker for the Staff Spotlight**

[Fill out this form to nominate a coworker.](#) They will be notified that they were nominated in order to answer spotlight questions.

# ARCHIVE

**2023**



**2022**



**NATURE**

- [Nature](#)
- [Conservation](#)
- [Educational Gardens](#)
- [Nature Preserves](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation](#)
- [Parks](#)
- [Pollinator Gardens](#)
- [Trails](#)
- [Urban Forestry](#)

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**WELLNESS**

- [Wellness](#)



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