




WE RISE TOGETHER

ONE COMMUNITY, ONE TEAM

RISE TOGETHER - MARCH 5, 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON DE&I

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN, INSPIRING GIRLS

Columbus is filled with women who made or continue to make history, and Columbus Recreation and Parks' facilities reflect that. Look no further than the [Priscilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center](#) or the soon-to-be [Fran Ryan Center](#), named after women who positively impacted our community.

Our department continues to celebrate women and girls alike beyond naming buildings after women who made history. On March 16, we will host [Girls Empowerment Day](#), an annual event meant to unite and celebrate young girls in our community as they participate in engaging sessions and self-reflective activities. Similarly, the Tyson Cultural Arts Center is hosting an exhibition by award-winning artist Claudia Retter all month.

Columbus is holding plenty of events celebrating women this month, and you can scroll below to find one near you. To learn more about some of the women of Columbus who made history, we recommend this [series of videos](#) by WOSU from 2019.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **National Women's History Month (March):** This annual observance is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the contributions and achievements of women throughout history as well as in contemporary society.
- **Gender Equality Month (March):** This observance is dedicated to raising awareness against gender bias in society.
- **International Women's Day (March 8):** This global holiday is celebrated annually as a focal point in the women's rights movement. It focuses on issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.
- **St. Patrick's Day (March 17):** A Christian and cultural holiday, St. Patrick's Day honors the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland.
- **Ramadan (March 10 - April 9):** Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting (*sawm*), prayer, reflection and community.

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well as a celebration of their contributions to society.

- **Easter (March 31):** Also called Pascha or Resurrection Sunday, Easter is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

CELEBRATIONS AROUND TOWN

- **[Women's History Month Events:](#)** March 1-31 at the Ohio History Center (800 East 17th Ave., 43211)
- **[Claudia Retter "The Pen Friends' Flying Adventures":](#)** March 1 – April 6 at the Priscilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center (139 W. Main St., 43215)
- **[Girls Empowerment Day:](#)** March 16, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Schiller Park (1069 Jaeger St., 43206)
- **[Ladies First: A Panel of Women First-Gen College Graduates:](#)** March 20, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at The Ohio State University's Ohio Union (1739 N High St., 43210)

Share your opinion with the DEI Committee by filling out this quick [online survey](#). Your input is valuable and it will help shape the committee's work. Do you want to see the DEI Committee organize events? Let them know!

NEWS AND INFORMATION

INDULGE IN PI DAY DELIGHTS WITH THE CREATE CULTURE COMMITTEE ON MARCH 14

Mark your calendars and join us on Thursday, March 14 as we celebrate Pi Day with a delectable array of sweet and savory creations! Make your way to the Continental Room at 1111 between 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. to savor the flavors and embrace the spirit of Pi.

To join in the fun, either bring in your favorite sweet or savory pie creation or contribute with a suggested donation of \$3.14. Your participation not only adds to the festivities, it also supports future staff appreciation events hosted by the CREATE Culture Committee.

Email Keeley Collins at KRCollins@columbus.gov with questions.

CHANNEL SPRING VIBES AT THE CREATE CULTURE STAFF COOKOUT

Feel the warmth of spring in the air and bid farewell to the lingering winter chill with the first cookout of the year!

Join the CREATE Culture Committee for our next staff lunch fundraiser! Stop by 1533 on Friday, March 22, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. For just \$10, enjoy grilled hot dogs and hamburgers with sides and a drink. Socialize with your coworkers with some light games. All proceeds will support future staff appreciation events hosted by the CREATE Culture Committee.

To ensure we have plenty for everyone, [RSVP to let us know you're coming!](#)

You can pay on-site with cash, check or credit card, or you can [pay in advance online](#) through the CRP Foundation; note "CREATE Culture" in the Gift Designation section. If you pay online, please be sure to also RSVP!

Let's welcome spring and spend some time together!





OPRA is now seeking applications and nominations for candidates for the upcoming election for three available seats on its Board of Directors. Terms for each seat will last three years (June 2024-June 2027). You can learn more about what board service entails and what qualifications great board members possess by reviewing the [OPRA Board Packet](#).

If you're interested, submit an [application](#) by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2024. Contact Nate Eppink with OPRA at 330-722-9364 with questions.

3/15/2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

March 8

All day

SPRING FLING REGISTRATION

March 15 @ 7:30 pm





STAFF SPOTLIGHT

KENNEDY BILLUPS

She/Her/Hers



Section

Recreation Assistant Manager-Community Outreach with Youth Development

Length of Employment

3 years

What's your favorite aspect of Columbus Recreation and Parks?

The impact of the work that we do.

What's your favorite project that you have worked on?

Cap City Experiences/Festivals

What is your favorite ice cream flavor?

Praline / Butter Pecan

What is your favorite book or movie?

Crooklyn

What is one piece of advice you have?

Be open to every opportunity!

