

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS!

Columbus Recreation and Parks is excited to announce the development of our 10 year vision plan, Playbook Columbus, and we need your input!

Help shape the future of our recreation programs, parks and open spaces by taking a survey at PlaybookColumbus.com. Learn more about our efforts to improve the quality of life for everyone in our community and share your input today!

Visit PlaybookColumbus.com



RISE TOGETHER - AUG. 6, 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON DE&I

THE ORIGINAL PEOPLE OF COLUMBUS

We often talk about Columbus' growing population and what it may look like in the future. In honor of International Day of the World's Indigenous People, this month we look at some of the original people of central Ohio.

Between roughly 3500 BCE (Before the Common Era) to the 16th century, central Ohio was home to many groups of indigenous cultures who constructed mounds and earthworks and are often referred to as Mound Builders. These mounds were typically flat-topped or rounded cones and served as burial and ceremonial structures. One of the last remaining ancient conical burial mounds is [Shrum Mound](#), which can be found within Columbus city limits.

Some of the last known Native American nations to live in central Ohio are now referred to in English as the Delaware, Mingo, Shawnee and Wyandot. This area was home to several villages scattered throughout Franklin County, the largest of which was a Mingo village located on the banks of the Scioto River.

Recently, Experience Columbus compiled a list of [six destinations around Columbus where you can view earthworks and artifacts that showcase Native American history](#). This month, take some time to visit some of these sites and learn about the original people of central Ohio.

ONLINE REPLAY: THE SOMALI EXPERIENCE

If you weren't able to attend *The Somali Experience*, a Lunch & Learn hosted by the DEI Committee, you can [watch an online replay](#).

This informative event focused on Somalia, the Somali Diaspora and Columbus' burgeoning Somali population. Fatuma Bulle, one of our intervention specialists with Youth Development, served as a guest speaker. Fatuma, who speaks four languages, talked about her experience living through a civil war in Somalia, as well as moving to the U.S. She also shared some insight into Somali costumes and suggested some best practices to ensure cultural awareness when working with our Somali residents. Attendees also sampled traditional Somali cuisine of sambusas and cookies and viewed some Somali garments. The event was the highest-attended DE&I Lunch & Learn to date!

If you attended the event and haven't already done so, please [share your feedback through this online survey](#). Your input will help the DEI Committee plan additional Lunch & Learns later this year. We appreciate everyone who attended, and commend Fatuma on an excellent presentation!

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS AROUND TOWN

- [Festival Latino](#): Aug. 10-11, 12-6 p.m., at Genoa Park, 303 W. Broad St., 43215
- [CBUS@ Soul Fest](#): Aug. 17, 4-11 p.m., at Genoa Park, 303 W. Broad St., 43215
- [India Festival](#): Aug. 24, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., at the Ohio Expo Center's Celeste Center, 717 E. 17th, 43211
- [2024 Latin American Film Festival](#): Aug. 28-Oct. 16, at Hagerty Hall, Room 180, 1775 College Road, 43210
- [Columbus Greek Festival](#): Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 555 N. High St., 43215

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Purple Heart Day (Aug. 7)**: Honors U.S. military members who were wounded or killed in action while serving their country. The day also aims to raise awareness of the impact of war on veterans and their families.
- **International Day of the World's Indigenous People (Aug. 9)**: Observed annually to raise awareness and protect the rights of the world's Indigenous population. This event also recognizes the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve world issues. It was first pronounced by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1994.
- **Women's Equality Day (Aug. 26)**: Commemorates the 1920 adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibits states and the federal government from denying United States citizens the right to vote on the basis of sex. It was first celebrated in 1971.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

INTRODUCING PLAYBOOK COLUMBUS: OUR VISION FOR 2025-2035

We've launched Playbook Columbus, our vision plan for the next decade. This year-long process will involve public engagement to shape the future of our programs, facilities, parks and trails.

How You Can Help:

8/19/2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

1. **Learn More:** Visit PlaybookColumbus.com.
2. **Take the Survey:** Share your thoughts on our services. It takes about 10 minutes.
3. **Promote the Survey:** Encourage others to participate and share our posts.
4. **Stay Involved:** Watch for more participation opportunities.

Your input is crucial. Thank you for your dedication!

Supervisors: [Please print and/or post this memo in common areas to ensure every staff member receives this information and has the opportunity to complete the survey.](#)

BALANCING WORK AND FAMILY: CHILDREN IN THE WORKPLACE POLICY

We understand that occasional visits by employees' children happen for various reasons. However, the regular or extended presence of children during work hours is not allowed due to work interruptions, health and safety concerns, and liability issues. The [Children in the Workplace Policy](#) is designed to help balance workplace and family needs.

The policy clarifies when children are allowed in the workplace, including when they are making a brief visit, such as to meet your co-workers or in the event of an emergency (please note that your section head must approve this, and submit the approval in writing to Human Resources). It clarifies your responsibilities as a caregiver. It also states that, when possible, supervisors should work to honor requests for flexibility.

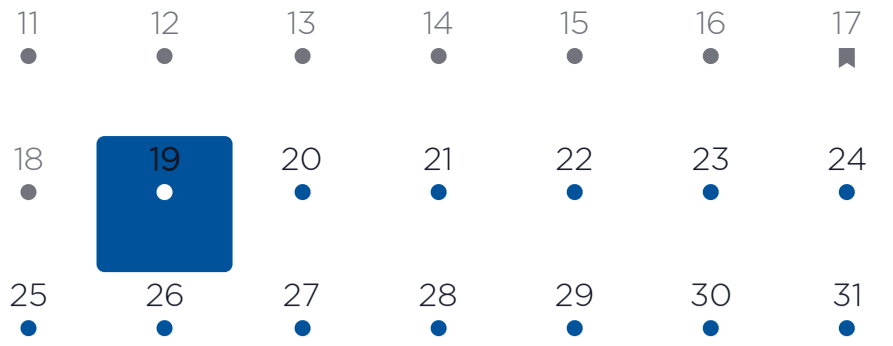
Please take a moment to review the policy so you're familiar with it.

To access the full policy manual, go to the [intranet's CRPD page](#) and click on the [Administration box](#). You can search for a specific policy on this page.

**You must be on the City network to access the intranet. If you need a copy of the policy, please talk with your supervisor or your HR representative.*

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER WITH COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS

Ready to take the next step in your career, or are you looking to get experience in a different area of the department? We have full- and part-time job openings in a variety of areas. Current openings include community



August 9

All day

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE - FALL REGISTRATION

All day

SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE - FALL REGISTRATION

All day

ADULT KICKBALL LEAGUE - FALL REGISTRATION

August 19 @ 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

SCHILLER HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK

interventionist, custodial worker, therapeutic recreation specialist, forestry technician trainee, aging programs care coordinator and more.

[See all available opportunities, and apply today!](#) Know someone who would be a great addition to the team? Encourage them to apply!

REINVESTING IN YOU

This year, one of our areas of focus is reinvesting in our staff. In this section, we highlight some of the ways you can grow, personally and professionally, and celebrate those who have reached a professional milestone.

TRAINING

Check out these upcoming training opportunities.

- [Tuesday, Oct. 22 - OPRA: Artificial Intelligence for Parks and Recreation Professionals](#)

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Have you recently earned a degree, award or certification? [Let us know, and we will share your accomplishment in the newsletter!](#)

CELEBRATING YOU

OUR GOLF COURSES ARE AMONG THE BEST

Check out these kudos the Golf team recently received praising the condition of Champions and Raymond Memorial golf courses.

- We received this [note from the American Junior Golf Association tournament director](#) after they held the Memorial Junior 2024 event at Champions earlier this summer.
- Also, take a look at this email a Columbus resident sent in after playing at Raymond Memorial: *"I want you to know your fairways and greens were in excellent condition with not a weed to find. You should be proud of your team and you for doing a magnificent job in tough weather conditions ... Keep it up!"*

Congratulations to the teams at Champions and Raymond Memorial for all of your hard work! We know we have a great Golf team, and it's nice when others share that they agree!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

This week, we're taking a break from our typical staff spotlight and recognizing a few of the outstanding APPS Job Readiness Program (AJRP) participants as they celebrate the conclusion of the summer season.

AJRP is an empowering workforce development initiative that equips youth ages 14-23 with the tools and experiences needed to confidently move toward future pursuits. Participants engage in skill development, real-world exposure, mentorship, networking, confidence building and career planning while gaining real-world, paid work experience with City departments and local businesses. [Learn more about AJRP.](#)

This summer, 319 youth worked with the program. Not only did they learn and prepare for a bright future, they're making a difference! Here are just a few of the participants who have received kudos from their peers and supervisors; [read more about their accomplishments.](#)

- Cheyenne Hines
- Oscar Rodriguez
- Envy Ayers
- Sir Jonathan Wilder
- Thomas Ferguson
- Savannah Shellow
- Kaleb Allen
- Orion Davis McDaniel
- Joel Brown
- Charles Moore
- Claire Collins
- Jessica Garcia
- JMikel Harris
- Jeffrey Stewart
- Saleena Williams
- Danielle Williams

Congratulations to these promising youth and to all of the AJRP participants!

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

2024



2023



2022

