

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Award Winning Community Conversation Returns for the 3rd Year on Wednesday, August 3rd.

Bristol, CT – [July 26, 2022] – The City Of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) is pleased to announce the return of the Award Winning Community Conversation for the third year at the Rockwell Park Amphitheater on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 from 5:30 PM-7:30 PM.

The Third Annual Community Conversation on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) will focus on cultural humility and will be facilitated by Kamora Le'Ella Herrington, founder and visionary of Kamora's Cultural Corner, a Hartford based organization that provides the space to learn.

BPRYCS is committed to social equity and inclusivity and the community conversation is a venue for the community to engage in this work. Superintendent of BPRYCS Dr. Joshua Medeiros remarked, "We are very pleased to once again be hosting the Award Winning Community Conversation on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Rockwell Park. I believe the conversation is needed now more than ever in order to bring people together to have open, honest and at times uncomfortable dialogue about the challenges we face surrounding racism, white supremacy rhetoric, and the continued battle for equality and equal rights that have disenfranchised some members of our community. Working with Kamora, we are committed to providing a safe and brave space for everyone in the community to come together to listen, learn and grow".

The BPRYCS' Community Conversation event received the Inclusive Program of Merit Award from the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association in 2021, which honors outstanding, ongoing inclusive or adaptive programs which demonstrate a conscious effort to service people of all needs and abilities.

This year's event is co-sponsored by the BPRYCS Department, Bristol Boys and Girls Club, Bristol Eliminating Substance Use Together (BEST), and Primo Press. The event is completely free and will include a presentation and engagement activities that encourage community members to listen, learn and share experiences. Food Trucks will be on site at 5:30 pm and the first 100 participants will receive a FREE food voucher and Community Conversation t-shirt. The Rockwell Park Amphitheater has seating but participants are encouraged to bring their own chair.

Kyana Anderson, Youth and Family Coordinator and Co-Chair of the BPRYCS DEI Committee, shared her excitement about the event, "I am so glad that community conversations have become a staple in the city. Conversations like these are so important, and though they can be uncomfortable we must push ourselves into that feeling. Personal growth and reflection often does not come from a place of comfort."

There is no registration, no cost, and no appointments are needed. For more information, please visit <u>www.BristolRec.com</u>

To learn more about the City of Bristol's Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services Department; visit us at <u>www.Bristolrec.com</u> Join the conversation @BristolCTParksandRecreation on Facebook & @bristolctparksrecservices on Instagram



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About the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services

It is the mission of the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) to deliver high-quality services and facilities that enhance the community's quality of life, meet the diverse needs of all citizens, and build a sustainable future.

Media Inquiries:

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