FROM THE VIRTUAL DESK OF HUMAN RESOURCES

GSD Staff News
Community and Wellness Resources

Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging
Anti-Racist Resources

To be an ally is to be an active agent of change. This includes proactively recognizing your privilege, amplifying Black voices, and working towards a permanent social and systematic change. In the words of author Ibram X Kendi, “No one becomes ‘not racist,’ despite a tendency by Americans to identify themselves that way. We can only strive to be anti-racist on a daily basis.”

ACTION
• How to support racial justice in Massachusetts - a running list of resources in Massachusetts to turn action into real change
• 8 everyday ways to fight racism

WATCH
• Trevor Noah shares his thoughts on the killing of George Floyd, the protests in Minneapolis, the dominoes of racial injustice and police brutality, & how the contract between society and black Americans has been broken time and time again.
• Dear White People an original show on Netflix students of color navigate the daily slights and slippery politics of life at an Ivy League college that’s not nearly as "post-racial" as it thinks.

FOLLOW
• Resources for Talking About Race, Racism and Racialized Violence with Kids (Center for Racial Justice in Education)
• 'Raising White Kids' Author On How White Parents Can Talk About Race (NPR Interview)

CONVERSATION
• Sean Canty (esean_canty_) Designer & Assistant Professor of Architecture at the GSD
• Brittany Packnett Cunningham, co-founder of Campaign Zero, a policy platform to end police violence, and a host of Pod Save The People.

LISTEN
• The 1619 Project (New York Times Podcast)
• Hear To Slay, “the black feminist podcast of your dreams,” with Roxane Gay and Tressie McMillan Cottom

University Closure in recognition of Juneteenth
excerpt from Larry Bacow’s announcement

On this Friday, June 19, the University will be closed to commemorate Juneteenth. All faculty and staff will have a full day of paid time off. If you must work that day to support essential operations, your efforts will be acknowledged with other paid time off.

Long celebrated as an Independence Day in the African American community, Juneteenth marks the day—155 years ago this year—that enslaved African American people in Texas were told of their freedom from bondage. It offers a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the promise of a new beginning, and I cannot imagine a better year for Harvard to begin recognizing its significance. These are extraordinary times distinguished by extraordinary displays of passion and resolve. We are everywhere reminded of the possibility of something different—something better—for our communities, our states, and our nation, as well as the deep reflection and hard work getting there will require of all of us.

GSD Staff Remote Work Survey

We invite you to take a moment to complete the GSD Pulse Survey for Staff. This will provide you with the opportunity to share feedback about how things are going for you so far and the chance to ask any questions.

Resources for Self Education & Action - Teams Channel

A new channel was created in the GSD Staff – Community & Wellness Team as a result of the discussion during last week’s all-staff meeting with Dean Whiting. We encourage you to utilize this space to share ideas, reading recommendations, action steps and other suggestions to support a diverse and inclusive GSD community.

Harvard Libraries

Harvard Libraries has created a resource guide, Black American Experiences during the COVID-19 Pandemic, a collection of materials aimed at assisting students, faculty, and researchers in exploring the effects of COVID-19 on the Black community as it is tied to the historical legacy of race in America from multiple social and cultural perspectives.

GSD staff have unlimited access to the Ten Percent Happier mindfulness app. Refer to the flyer for links to the registration instructions and the FAQ. If you have questions, email worklife@harvard.edu.

The GSD Staff Newsletter is available online at www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/
Ice Cream

It’s kind of ice cream but not a smoothie. A delicious ice cream recipe that will cool you off on a hot summer day.

**Ingredients:**

- 2–3 overripe bananas
- 1–3 handful of frozen blueberries
- Sprinkle of cinnamon
- Dash of vanilla
- Any milk your prefer
- Chocolate chips

1. Take a bunch of overripe bananas and peel them, then cut them up and freeze 2 or 3 bananas in each bag.
2. Add the frozen bananas, blueberries, cinnamon, and vanilla.
3. Add enough milk of your choice so it will blend but don’t make it smoothie consistency.
4. Blend until consistency of ice cream.
5. Pour into cups or bowl of your choosing.
6. Add a handful of chocolate chips on top if you want.

*Suggested Pro tip: eat with a spoon and outside on a beautiful summer evening*

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**Your 2020 Virtual Pride Guide**

It is the 50th anniversary of Pride Month of LGBTQ+ Pride Traditions! Visit [Boston Pride](https://www.bostonpride.com) for a calendar of events & resources. Visit [The Library of Congress](https://www.loc.gov) to learn more about the 50th anniversary, and for supports and resources that intersect with our work, visit the [Title IX Office’s LGBTQ+ Resources webpage](https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/).

On June 15, 2020 the Supreme Court said the language of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits sex discrimination, applies to discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. This ruling protects gay and transgender workers from workplace discrimination, handing the movement of LGBTQ equality a long-sought and unexpected victory! Read more about the historic ruling [here](https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/).

In the era of the coronavirus, traveling and gathering are not options for many. But that should not hinder the spirit and mission of Pride. Read this [article](https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/) to learn more about the upcoming virtual Pride celebrations.

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**These Authors Are Glad You’re Buying Their Books. Now Do the Work.**

With multiple books about race appearing on several of our lists, we checked in with two best-selling authors to hear their thoughts on the work they’ve done and the road ahead. Learn more about Layla F. Saad and Ibram X. Kendi responses [here](https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/).

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**Black chefs have overcome countless obstacles. This might be the hardest yet.**

Until the coronavirus pandemic shut them down, restaurant kitchens in recent years have been one way to achieve a patriotic dream: a dream of success that seldom materializes for marginalized people. After navigating the waters of discrimination and countless “isms,” some black chefs have beaten the odds and created a platform for others, becoming an inspiration. Young cooks look to them and wonder, “If they can do it, why can’t I?” Read more [here](https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/).

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**Padma Lakshmi on Creating ‘Taste the Nation’**

In Taste the Nation, award winning cookbook author, host and executive producer Padma Lakshmi, takes audiences on a journey across America, exploring the rich and diverse food culture of various immigrant groups, seeking out the people who have so heavily shaped what American food is today. From indigenous communities to recent immigrant arrivals, Padma breaks bread with Americans across the nation to uncover the roots and relationship between our food, our humanity and our history — ultimately revealing stories that challenge notions of identity, belonging, and what it means to be American. Taste the Nation premieres on Hulu on June 18, 2020. Visit Hulu to watch the [trailer](https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/resources/human-resources/gsd-staff-newsletter/).