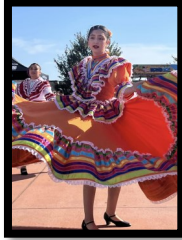


## “Linking Our Community”

### 2022 International Village Food and Music Festival

Hundreds of Triad residents enjoyed food, crafts and merchandise from vendors and listened to music from the popular Reggae band, Liontracks, during the 2022 International Village Food and Music Festival, from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at Corpening Plaza in downtown Winston-Salem.



Cultures from all over the world were showcased and celebrated through music, dancing, fashion shows, food, arts and crafts vendors, and information booths.

A naturalization ceremony was held at 12:00 p.m. at Corpening Plaza, where 20 people from 17 countries became citizens of the United States.

Food trucks were stationed on the Liberty Street side of Corpening Plaza. Options included: Jamaican, IMexican, Cuban, Mediterranean, Indian, Dominican, Chinese, and more. Keep an eye out for the 2023 International Village Food and Music Festival in the fall of 2023.



### Student Race Relations Forum

Students from Winston-Salem/Forsyth County high schools discussed their perspectives on race relations during the annual Student Race Relations Forum, held virtually Thursday, Sept. 29, and streamed live on the city's YouTube chan-



nel. The students discussed their views regarding racial attitudes, personal experiences, and the overall relevance of diversity for youth today. Mayor Allen Joines welcomed the students, along with Commissioner Kerry Wiggins, Chair of the Student Relations Committee of the Human Relations Commission, and Tricia McManus, Superintendent of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) was a co-sponsor of the forum.

### BIC Pipeline Session

The City of Winston-Salem Human Relations /DEI Department and Building Integrated Communities stakeholder committee welcomed over 30 newcomers back in person for the BIC Pipeline Sessions at Forsyth Technical Community College on October 19, 2022.

The mechanism that Winston-Salem has created, specifically, to synthesize resources and tangible results is the Winston-Salem BIC Pipeline. The Pipeline is a clearinghouse of information that includes quarterly informational sessions for immigrants/newcomers and a one-stop-shop informational resource guide. The goal is to proactively make newcomers aware of local services and community resources, as well as their relevance and importance in their daily lives. Since many newcomers are completely unfamiliar with American systems and how to maneuver within them, the Pipeline helps newcomers to integrate into the local community more seamlessly. As a result, all newcomers, despite language barriers and cultural differences, have a point-of-reference for accessing services and a baseline understanding of how our local community functions.

One of the key resources for accessing necessary information is through the City of Winston-Salem's BIC website. The

website features a multilingual online directory of the featured high-impact lifestyle areas. The online directory also includes immigrant information that incorporates mapping and statistical population data.

For more information, please contact the Human Relations/Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department or visit [wsbic.com](http://wsbic.com).

### Citizenship Fair



The Human Relations/DEI Department partnered with the Southeast Asian Coalition to hold a Citizenship Fair on Saturday, November 19 at Sprague Street Community Center. At the fair, permanent residents received free on-site assistance completing their citizenship applications along with legal advice regarding their applications. The Wake Forest Law Pro Bono Project assisted with providing both student and attorney volunteers. Twenty-three community members were able to receive assistance at the fair, and 21 finished their citizenship applications.

### Human Relations/Diversity Equity and Inclusion Assistant Director

Dr. R. Delaney Christian has 17 years of experience serving as a Central Office Program Director, Principal, Assistant Principal, and Instructor. In addition, he has 10 years of local



government experience working in the areas of law enforcement, workforce development, and the Human Relations Department.

Dr. Christian is certified in Nonlinguistic Programming (NLP) and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). He earned his Ed.D. from the University of North Carolina Greensboro, a Master of Science degree from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Appalachian State University.

Dr. Christian is passionate about life and learning. He believes that the resolution of issues around matters of diversity, equity, and inclusion is the key to a better community and a brighter future.

## Winter Calendar

### January

- 11 African-American Heritage Initiative Meeting  
2:00 p.m.— via WSTV-13
- 17 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Young Dreamers Award at City Council 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Building Integrated Communities Pipeline Session, 9:30 a.m.—Forsyth Tech, West Campus Auditorium
- 24 Youth Advisory Council Meeting  
5:30 p.m.— via WSTV-13
- 26 Human Relations Commission Meeting  
5:30 p.m. live-streamed via the City's YouTube Channel
- 27 College Advisory Board Meeting,  
12:30 p.m.— via WSTV-13

### February

- 1 African-American Heritage Initiative Meeting  
2:00 p.m.— via WSTV-13
- 22 College Advisory Board Meeting,  
12:30 p.m.— via WSTV-13
- 23 Virtual Human Relations Student Awards  
6:30 p.m.—live-streamed via the City's YouTube Channel
- 25 Showcase of Song, 1:00 p.m.—Union Baptist Church
- 28 Youth Advisory Council Meeting  
5:00 p.m.— via WSTV-13

## NEXUS Challenge

### Question 1

You live in a rental apartment and the landlord refuses to repair unsafe maintenance issues in a timely manner or not at all. What should you do?

- A. Consult an attorney or the City of Winston-Salem Human Relations/DEI Department while continuing to pay rent;
- B. Withhold rent until the repairs are made; or
- C. Withhold rent until you can move out,

**ANSWER: The answer is A.** In the state of North Carolina, even if there are incomplete maintenance requests or discrimination issues, a resident cannot withhold rent, according to the North Carolina Landlord-Tenant Act. It is best to consult an attorney if there is an issue before withholding any rent monies.

### Question 2

A landlord can refuse housing to which of the following people?

- A. A lady with a mental illness;
- B. A black male;
- C. Muslim family; or
- D. None of the above.

**ANSWER: The answer is D,** none of the above. A landlord can be charged with Fair Housing discrimination by refusing housing to anyone based on disability, national origin, race, color, sex, religion, or family status. If someone believes he or she has been discriminated against, please contact the City of Winston-Salem Human Relations/DEI Department.

## Commissioner's Corner Annual Human Relations Commission Retreat

The Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission virtually held its annual retreat on August 19, 2022. The commissioners received updates from all of the divisions within Human Relations/DEI including Fair Housing, Landlord/Tenant, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Non-Discrimination Ordinances, and community outreach. Before lunch, the HRC had a robust discussion about strategic action planning. Assistant City Attorney Takeisha Redd gave updates on initiatives involving the department. Gene Troy, from the North Carolina Human Relations Commission, closed out the day with updates on a statewide level.



Winston-Salem

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citylink@cityofws.org

### City Council

Mayor Allen Joines; Denise D. Adams, Mayor Pro Tempore, North Ward; Kevin Mundy, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; John C. Larson, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Barbara Hanes Burke, Northeast Ward; Annette Scippio, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee D. Garrity

### Human Relations Commission

Chair: Robert Leak III; Vice-Chair: Kerry Wiggins; Jeffrey Bloomfield, Sonny Haynes, Michely Preble, Joshua Price, Ruth Sartin, Fred Taylor, Melissa Thompson, Patrick Usher

### Human Relations/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Department Staff

Wanda Allen-Abraha, J.D. Director; Dr. R Delaney Christian, Assistant Director; Adolfo Briceño, Sherita Cain, Javier Correa-Vega, Karlyn Duncan, Christopher Martin, Iris McKnight, Julie Puckett, Erika Simon, Eleanore Tebbetts, Bob Thompson, Jayme Waldeck