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Summer on the Cuyahoga
Statement of Solidarity and Support

The tragic deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor remind us that eradicating hatred, racism and discrimination requires collective action and shared commitment to address the ways our society falls short of our ideals. We intend to be part of the change. Summer on the Cuyahoga, one of Cleveland’s most racially and socioeconomically diverse college internship programs, pledges to reject intolerance, to model inclusivity, and to promote economic opportunity.

We recognize that learning about injustice, inequality, and violence must be an ongoing goal, rather than a checked box, as we continue to work with community partners to fulfill our mission. Our staff members and board of directors are eager to find and work toward meaningful solutions that make Cleveland a more equitable and welcoming city. Specifically, this season for our summer 2020 cohort, we will address the impact of recent injustices and provide safe spaces for them to share their perspectives and examine our collective biases.

Summer on the Cuyahoga believes that Black Lives Matter. We stand by anyone who fears that their skin color, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or religion makes them vulnerable to prejudice or hatred. We strive to uphold, protect and embrace the worth and dignity of every human being. We believe our differences make us stronger and more resilient.

Educational Resources

- <http://www.clevelandnp.org/reiresources/>
- <https://urban.csuohio.edu/deans-diversity-council/ddc-resources>
- <https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2020/06/06/871023438/this-list-of-books-films-and-podcasts-about-racism-is-a-start-not-a-panacea>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>

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