













YWCA Delaware in Partnership with Delaware Libraries Launches Social Equity Championship

Wilmington, DE – Thursday, January 20, 2022 — YWCA Delaware, in partnership with Delaware Libraries, has launched the <u>Social Equity Championship</u>, an e-interactive statewide social justice contest designed to promote awareness of economic, political and social inequities and provide opportunities for learning and civic engagement.

The contest is open to children and adults of all ages with a Delaware Library Card. Free library cards can be obtained online. Participants who register for the championship on the Delaware Libraries website will choose from the different categories of activities each month. Completing the required number of activities each month will earn a badge for participants. Bonus badges will be available for activities that involve leading others to participate. Examples are conducting a book study group or organizing a classroom activity. Nonprofit organizations active in the social justice arena may contact Delaware Libraries to have their social justice activity considered for inclusion.

The possible activity categories include Read/Listen, Listen, Watch, Action, Attend, Parent Reading, and DIY Social Justice. All categories may not be available each month to encourage participation in a variety of learning activities. Participants will choose from a comprehensive list of books, podcasts, documentaries, tv series, movies, and activities that promote understanding of social justice and community engagement.

At the end of the year, participants will be eligible for prizes and recognition as Delaware's Social Justice Champions.

"We are thrilled to have such an incredible partnership with Delaware Libraries that allows us to help deliver educational materials in an exciting way that fosters community connections while also uplifting social justice leaders through multiple mediums. This extraordinary opportunity propels our mission and increases accessibility to our programming in a truly interactive way," said Stephanie Staats, YWCA Delaware CEO.

"We launched the program on MLK Day. Dr. King's legacy reminds us that social justice is not a one-day commitment. It's a daily component of our democracy," said Rebecca Cotto, Director of YWCA Delaware's Racial and Social Justice Program.

State Librarian, Dr. Annie Norman said, "Delaware Libraries provide opportunities and resources for lifelong learning for all Delawareans. We are pleased to partner with YWCA Delaware to contribute our free resources to this focused effort that will increase understanding of social justice and encourage participants to engage in community activities."

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About YWCA Delaware

YWCA Delaware has been at the forefront of most significant movements in the United States as a pioneer in race relations, labor union representation, and women's empowerment. YWCA Delaware invites all people to join the mission to empower women and eliminate racism. For comprehensive information about this vital work, visit www.ywcade.org.

About Delaware Libraries

Delaware Libraries facilitate lifelong learning and lead efforts to improve literacy for all Delawareans. Your free Delaware Library Card is the key to millions of resources including print books, <u>eBooks</u>, <u>eAudiobooks</u>, magazines and other publications as well as programs on a wide variety of topics. Explore what interests you by searching our <u>online catalog</u>, use our <u>calendar</u> to filter through hundreds of programs or ask a librarian at your community's <u>public library</u> for a recommendation.

Reporters may contact

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