



WELCOMING WEEK

September 9-18, 2022
#WhereWeBelong

Throughout Austin, neighbors of all backgrounds come together to build strong connections and affirm the importance of welcoming and inclusive places in creating home together. Austin is a place “Where We Belong”

Events are free and open to the public (unless noted, food trucks extra) and the community is welcomed and encouraged to attend!

Welcoming Week Events: More info and updates at <https://www.facebook.com/austinhumanrightscommission>

Tuesday, September 6

Mower County Commissioner Meeting, 1:00 PM, Government Center, 201 1st Street NE
Proclamation declaring September 9-18, 2022 as Welcoming Week

Austin City Council Meeting, 5:30 PM, City Hall, 500 4th Avenue NE
Proclamation by Mayor King declaring September 9-18, 2022 as Welcoming Week

Thursday, September 8 Kick-off Event!!

Cedar River Farmers Market, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, 501 E. Oakland Avenue, Market vendors, live entertainment by Debbie Anthony, food trucks (cost) and activities for kids (bounce house, free). Dunk tank with local “celebrities”.

Friday, September 9

Becoming Real, Artworks Center, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, 300 N. Main Street, Solo exhibition by AK Garski;
A non-binary visual artist who creates artwork that deconstructs the gender binary and confronts social injustice.

September 12 – 16 Multicultural Read Aloud throughout the week, Woodson Kindergarten School Facebook Page. Culminating with a LIVE story telling event on Friday, September 16. (Not open to the public)

Monday, September 12

Our Austin, Our America, Panel discussion, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Avenue NE
Hear the stories of community members who have moved to Austin from countries around the world. What challenges did they face? How can you make a difference in making Austin a place “Where We Belong”?

Tuesday, September 13

Immigrant Voices, Immigrant Stories, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Riverland Community College Austin East building library, 1900 8th Avenue NW

Hear the stories of students and community members who have moved to Austin from countries around the world. How can you make a difference in making Austin a place “Where We Belong”? Light lunch provided.

Wednesday, September 14

Immigrant & Refugee Business Panel, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM, Town Center 329 N. Main Street, lower level
Are you interested in starting a business or just want to learn and hear from others who have started one? Hear from a panel of immigrant & refugee business owners to learn from their experiences.

Inviting Table – Where We Belong, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Austin Artworks Center – 2nd Floor Gallery, 300 N. Main Street. Join the Welcome Center, DCA and ILCM for an evening of connection and celebration of Welcoming Week. Space is limited, RSVP by calling the Welcome Center at 507-434-2863.

Thursday, September 15

Whiteness in Plain View Author event, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Avenue NE
Join author Chad Montrie for an engaging dialogue about the history of racism in Minnesota along with creating a more welcoming Austin.

Friday, September 16

Indoor concert with LaGuia De Oaxaca, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Avenue NE
Live entertainment inside the library; with food truck vendors in the parking lot.

YMCA Free Family Fun Night, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, 501 4th Avenue NE
Explore what the YMCA at ACRC has to offer! Fun for the entire family.

Saturday, September 17

Science is Where we ALL Belong! 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, The Hormel Institute, 801 16th Avenue NE
All are welcome to this fun, family-friendly event! Participate in hands-on-science experiments and learning stations, help create a community art piece and enjoy delicious, healthy snacks from all different cultures!

Fiesta Latina, 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM, Tienda Guerrero store parking lot, 301 4th Avenue NE
Live music, Mexican Independence Day celebration

Tuesday, September 20

Welcoming Family Night, 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM, Sumner Elementary School, 805 8th Avenue NW
Celebrating diversity through activities for all ages and Food Trucks.

Ongoing throughout the month of September, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Avenue NE, Culture and Art events

Saturday, September 24 – 11:00 AM, Austin Public Library; Jacquie Rodas Cardio Latin Dance – all ages

Ongoing, “Our Austin, Our America” Portraits on Display at Mower County Government Center, 201 1st Street NE, Tour the halls, while the building is open, and see the many faces that make up our Austin community.

Welcoming Week sponsors:

Austin Area Arts | The YMCA | Cedar River Farmer’s Market | Sumner & Woodson Schools
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota | Mower County Historical Society | Sweet Reads | DCA

