

## **Racial equity challenge opportunity, sponsored by the MGC**

Deadline for response: January 29, 2021

Hello, Maize Genetics Cooperators:

The newly formed CODIE (Committee for Outreach, Diversity, Inclusion, and Education) of the Maize Genetics Cooperation (<https://maizegdb.org/mgc/outreach/index.php>) is sponsoring a series of “21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenges” so that we can become more aware of how racism appears in our community, labs, and society. The goal of this program is to foster racial equity by helping each of us more clearly see systemic racism and to develop the tools to make racial equity a habit. Participating in the challenge is an acknowledgement that racial equity is a personal and achievable goal.

The Challenge (see link below) is structured as 21 days of reflection through a variety of media. Each day, participants will go to the resource list and choose something to read, watch, or listen to. On days when you are short on time, choose a three minute video or a two page narrative. On days when you have more time, choose a short film, documentary, or longer text. You control the daily time commitment and even the short pieces are impactful. The CODIE facilitators will host weekly one-hour virtual discussions during which we can reflect as a group, process what we’ve learned, and share how this might change how we act in our professional spheres.

We will begin the Challenge for the second time on Monday February 1, 2021. If you are interested in participating, please email John Fowler at [fowlerjo@oregonstate.edu](mailto:fowlerjo@oregonstate.edu) by **Friday Jan 29, 2021**; please include your home institution and your current position in the email. Thank you for considering participating in this important work.

Best regards,  
Marilyn Warburton and John Fowler  
Facilitators, On behalf of CODIE

Link to 21 Day Challenge: <https://www.eddiemoorej.com/21daychallenge>