



Diversity Encourages Understanding, Respect, and Great New Friendships

Don't let bias or bigotry grow. Get to know your neighbors.

The City of Lancaster is committed to promoting equality and opportunity throughout the community in our neighborhoods, housing, schools, and workplaces.

“We’re working with community leaders from across the spectrum to develop new bridges and find common ground for all our residents,” says Elizabeth Brubaker, the City’s Director of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization. “By bringing the community together in warm and casual occasions, we can foster greater understanding.”

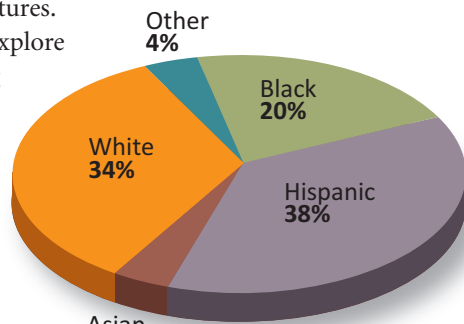
Lancaster is a diverse and varied community with people of many faiths, races, and origins. Census figures show that the City has no single ethnic majority, but rather a heterogeneous blend of many races and cultures.

Lancaster has rich cultural assets which explore and celebrate our diversity. The Performing Arts Center invites groups from around the world to bring their music, dance, and culture to our community.

The Lancaster Museum of Art and History (MOAH) mounts exhibitions which explore many points of view and encourages dialogue through activities surrounding these showings.

When communities embrace diversity, remarkable things happen. We soon find we have much more in common than we ever imagined. We learn from each other and grow stronger together. When we shed prejudice, we gain bonds that help us find wonderful connections.

Take time to get to know your neighbors. It might just kindle friendships which last a lifetime.



Lancaster Population by Race and Ethnicity
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Noted British Economist, Philippe Legrain found diverse communities create real benefits for all.

“The biggest economic benefit of diversity is that it stimulates new ideas, which are the source of most economic growth.”

– Philippe Legrain
British Economist

Academics at the University of Pennsylvania discovered that diversity adds to the city’s arts and culture in important ways.

“The arts are one way neighbors build connections. These become assets that a community can use to address common challenges.”

– Mark J. Stern & Susan C. Seifert
University of Pennsylvania



FAIR HOUSING: It’s the law and the right thing to do.

Most home sellers, landlords, and real estate agents are professionals who want to do the right thing.

Occasionally, potential buyers and renters may run into someone who seems to have a bias based on the race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or family status of an applicant.

This may be a violation of the Fair Housing Act. If you believe you’ve been discriminated against when looking to buy or rent a home, report it. Contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at www.hud.gov or 1-800-347-3739 or call the L.A. County Housing Rights Center at 1-800-477-5977. They’ll investigate the claim and further assist those whose claims are validated.