

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[circlecitywithlove.com](http://circlecitywithlove.com)

## Clevelanders Circle the City with Love by Standing in Unity the Day Republicans Arrive

Thousands of Cleveland area citizens representing the diversity of Northeast Ohio are expected to stand in intentional silence for 30 minutes on Sunday, July 17th, the day the city officially welcomes the Republican National Convention. Participants will hold hands from 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. while standing on the Hope Memorial Bridge connecting Lorain and Carnegie Avenues. The bridge unites Cleveland's east and west sides and rises above the city's historic origin.

**Circle the City with Love** is a non-partisan, no-labels, no-issue participatory event organized by a collaboration of faith-based communities. The idea of **Circle the City with Love** was originated by Sister Rita Petruziello, Congregation of Saint Joseph, who hoped for a peaceful event to demonstrate the unifying and transformative power of love in the world.

"By standing in unity and intentional silence, we will embody the power of love that brings peace and justice to our city, our country and our world at this important moment in our city's history," said Sister Rita. It is also a way for Clevelanders to showcase who we are and how we welcome visitors to our town.

Participants are asked to gather at two designated locations:

- St. Ignatius High School parking lot, on Lorain Ave. at W. 28th St. (opposite the Ignatius football field)
- Cleveland State University Wolstein Center, 18th St. and Carnegie Ave.

Those who choose not to travel downtown for the event are encouraged to form circles of reflection at the same time at locations of their choosing.

Following the 30 minutes of silence, participants are encouraged to attend a free **Keep The Promise** concert at the Wolstein Center sponsored by the Aids Healthcare Foundation. Performances include *Jussie Smollett*, *The Roots*, *Mary Mary* and more. For more information visit [U.S.A-KeepThePromise.org](http://U.S.A-KeepThePromise.org) now.

All are welcome and encouraged to register at [circlecitywithlove.com](http://circlecitywithlove.com) where they can purchase a **Circle the City with Love** T-shirt and sign an on-line pledge agreeing to appear at one of the designated locations, be substance free, nonviolent and law abiding while holding hands for 30 minutes as a demonstration of peace and love.

T-shirts can be picked up at the event or on Saturday, July 16th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the St. Ignatius parking lot, on the corner of Lorain Ave. and 28th Street.

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