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With timed tickets and safety measures in place, The Rosenbach is open to the public. Visitors will enjoy a socially distanced, guided tour of the historic house and library, along with a chance to see select pages from Joyce's manuscript up-close in our newest installation, "The Global Other: Race and Empire in James Joyce's *Ulysses*." Visitors can also explore the literature-themed garden, including plants connected to Joyce's works.

The Rosenbach creates unique experiences for broad audiences through programs inspired by its world-class holdings of literature and history. The Rosenbach is located in Center City Philadelphia and is open to the public, with growing content available at all times on Rosenbach.org. The Rosenbach is affiliated with the Free Library of Philadelphia.



Pre-pandemic: a scene from the traditional outdoor reading of *Ulysses* on Delancey Place, Bloomsday 2019.

Town Square

Enough? Taking Action Against Gun Violence – Municipal, State and National Coalition Efforts

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Cities can pass gun-control laws, but because of lawsuits brought by the NRA, municipal ordinances have been disallowed by the courts. At present, any gun-control legislation would need to happen on the state or federal level.

If you want to know what legislation is pending on gun-violence issues in Pennsylvania and you want to make your voice heard, go to [CeaseFirePA](#) and click on the Act page. In the Issue Action Center, you can sign your name to prepared letters on specific bills, and CeaseFire will send your letter to your state senator or representative.

The mission of CeaseFirePA is "to end the epidemic of gun violence across the Commonwealth and our country through education, coalition building, and advocacy."

Other information on the CeaseFirePA site includes the Common Agenda to End Gun Violence (Learn), gun violence news (Updates), list of CeaseFirePA partners (at end of About), and Donate. (Contributions are not tax-deductible).

The City of Philadelphia is trying to do what it can. In April, Mayor Kenney released an update to the city's five-year plan, *The Philadelphia Roadmap to Safer Communities*, along with increased funding. Highlights of the plan include education, training, and employment for young people at risk, coordination among city agencies, engagement with community residents, and resources for residents who feel unsafe, particularly in high-risk neighborhoods. Updates to the Roadmap include expanding violence-interruption tactics, improving coordination of social services in areas with high levels of violence, expanding the public-health approach to violence prevention and reduction, and greater community voice in the City's public-safety work. In 2020, Philadelphia lost 447 people to gun violence—the most gun-related homicides in 30 years.

The newly created Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives for Criminal Justice and Public Safety, headed by Senior Director Erica Atwood, will oversee the plan, and coordinate with other city agencies. Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said her department has seen some successes in reducing violence through Operation Pinpoint, which focuses prevention tactics on a small number of violent hotspots.

Philadelphia law enforcement is now getting support from more than a dozen local units of federal agencies such as the U.S. Attorney's Office and the FBI.

Councilmember [Jamie Gauthier](#), representing West Philadelphia, was recently selected to serve on the National League of Cities (NLC) Reimagining Public Safety Task Force, along with 22 other local elected officials from municipalities across the country. The task force will work with nationwide experts in criminal-justice reform and public safety from the Vera Institute of Justice, Urban Institute, Cities United, and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to develop a toolkit for local leaders, to include alternative violence-reduction solutions and best practices in public safety.

According to the *New York Times*, 40,000 people die each year from gun violence in the U.S., where there are five main types: mass shootings, suicide, urban gun violence, family shootings, and police shootings. Each involves different risk factors, motivations, and types of firearms. After 25 years, Congress has restored funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health for research to inform policies that could reduce gun violence.