Letters: Our differences make us who we are

By Post readers

Submissions from Post readers

Yes, I admit that when it comes to my adopted country, America, I am fiercely patriotic. Not because she can do no wrong; not because of the constant and noisy and at times crazy politics; and certainly not because everything is always “good” and “right” when it comes to matters of religion, ethnicity, civil rights, government decisions and oh so many other issues. And yet, it is precisely because of all of the above that I am so fiercely and unashamedly patriotic.

I attended a pre-Fourth of July concert at Florida Atlantic University that was aptly titled “The Spirit of America.” The concert made me acutely aware of the wondrous diversity of our people, our origins and most especially our music. Music unites us in our “Americanism” more than any other form of expression. Is it ironic that so much of our “American” music is rooted in our multiethnic makeup … and super-ironic that much of this music was created and performed by Jewish genius? This blending of our own Jewish history, our countries of origin, our cultural background — all have created a love and appreciation of music — of words and sounds which encompass what we, the people of this country, call America. And though we Jews come from many countries and many cultures, one thing unites us, our souls.

So, if we are so different, so separate, so diverse … and yes, let’s admit it, so argumentative and at times so very righteous about who we are, what we believe in and what is best for everyone, then what makes me so strongly patriotic and proud to be counted as a staunch American? Because it is where I can be all of the above.

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