



**MEDIA ALERT**  
March 6, 2016

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## **Lynchburg-Area High School Students to Learn the Power In Story at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity Dialogue Day**

**What:** Diversity Dialogue Day

**When:** Wednesday, March 9, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** Lynchburg College, Schewel Hall, Lynchburg, VA 24501

**Who:** High school students and educators from public schools in Amherst, Appomattox, Buchanan and Bedford Counties as well as Lynchburg City will come together in a hands-on workshop setting to learn lessons about diversity, discrimination, and respect. Diversity Dialogue Day is sponsored by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities. The 2016 Diversity Dialogue Day programming is developed in partnership with I AM MY LIFE (<http://www.iammylife.org/>).

**How:** This year's theme is "Power In Story", with a curriculum taking participants through a process of awareness-to-action. Students will learn to recognize stereotypes and understand how they contribute to prejudice and intolerance. They will work closely with their peers from a wide range of ethnic, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds as trained facilitators guide them through small group learning activities that will explore personal experiences with discrimination as well as the value of sharing their full stories with others. At the end of the day, students will leave with practical skills to help make their schools more inclusive.

**For More Information:** <http://www.inclusiveva.org/programs/schools/diversitydialogueday/>

**Interview Opportunities:** Members of the press are invited to visit the Diversity Dialogue Day anytime during the program. *For interviews, the preferred visiting time is from 11:45am – 12:05pm. For programming, the preferred visiting times are from 10:05am -- 10:55am or 1:05pm – 1:30pm.* Parents/guardians have granted permission to photograph and interview students. Educators are also available for interview. Please contact Meriel Martínez by telephone at (804) 495-1580 or by e-mail at [mmartinez@inclusiveva.org](mailto:mmartinez@inclusiveva.org).

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