



BUILDING INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS MONTHLY EMAIL UPDATE

January 2011

Dear Educators,

Welcome to the January 2011 edition of the Building Inclusive Schools Monthly Email Update! The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities is pleased to provide this service to educators across the Commonwealth to support your efforts in fostering respectful and affirming school communities. As always, feel free to contact our office by phone at (804) 515-7950 or by emailing Ali Thompson, Director of Education & Training at athompson@inclusiveva.org or David LeFebvre, Program & Event Coordinator, at dlefebvre@inclusiveva.org if we can provide more direct support of your work.

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--- RESOURCES LIST ---

This month's Resources List focuses on how to incorporate diversity issues into art curriculum. Check out pages 3 and 4 for information on "ready-made" diversity programs for schools, potential funding sources, curriculum ideas, and more. Please pass along resources you know for future emails!

--- PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: DIVERSITY DIALOGUE DAY ---

The 2nd Annual "Diversity Dialogue Day" program will be held for VCIC's Lynchburg and Tidewater chapters this spring. Diversity Dialogue Day will take place on March 8 at Lynchburg College for the Greater Lynchburg area high schools and on March 10 at Old Dominion University for Tidewater area high schools. The 2011 theme is "Addressing Bullying in Schools." Diversity Dialogue Day will take the students through an experience of awareness to action, specifically focusing on how stereotypes affect their school environments. Each high school is invited to bring 15 students and 1-2 educators at no cost. If you are and high school educator in either the Lynchburg or Tidewater areas, please contact David LeFebvre at dlefebvre@inclusiveva.org for more information about Diversity Dialogue Day.

--- BULLYING CONFERENCE ---

The National Center for the Prevention of Community Violence (NCPCV) and Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters (CHKD), in partnership with Newport News, Hampton, York County, and Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools, will present a timely one-day conference on bullying for parents, community members, educators, youth service providers and others who are interested. The Bullying Conference will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at the Pointe Plaza Hotel In Newport News. If you would like to register online, go to www.solveviolence.com. Please direct any questions or requests to Julie Rose at 757-327-0711 or email her at julie.rose@cox.net.



--- ACTION PLAN PROFILE: L. DOUGLAS WILDER MIDDLE SCHOOL ---

The Action Plan Profile highlights activities taking place in Virginia high schools that advance Inclusive Communities' work. As you hold programs in your school throughout the year, please share information about them to be included in future monthly email updates! This month, we profile the students from L. Douglas Wilder Middle School in Henrico who sent a delegation of students to the Prejudice Awareness Summit (PAS) in October. As part of PAS, the students developed an action plan focused on the issue of bullying at their school. When returning from PAS, they worked with educators and administrators to develop a "Words Hurt Website" where students can anonymously report cases of bullying and gang related activity. Selected faculty members receive each anonymous message and respond appropriately. Congratulations to the students at Wilder Middle School on the success of their action plan!

--- ABOUT THE VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES ---

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (<http://www.inclusiveva.org>) conducts programs that promote understanding and respect on ALL issues of diversity, for ALL age groups, ALL across Virginia. Each year, Inclusive Communities leads educational programs, conferences, retreats, and workshops for thousands of youth, educators, community members, non-profit organizations, and corporate and business leaders.

SCHOOL RESOURCES LIST

Focus: Art Curriculum Resources • January 2011

CURRICULUM *(Ways to integrate human relations issues into education)*

Community Through Photography

<http://www.tolerance.org/activity/community-through-photography>

Visual & Cultural Backgrounds through the Art of Robert Grober

<http://www.teachersforjustice.org/2009/09/curriculum-visual-cultural-backgrounds.html>

Collective Poetry

<http://www.tolerance.org/activity/collective-poetry>

School Days: Hail, Hail, Rock 'n' Roll!

<http://zinnedproject.org/posts/580>

Self-Portrait

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/multiculturalism/lesson-plan/5.html>

WEBSITES *(Websites for professional development and curriculum ideas)*

Teaching a People's History: Art & Music

http://zinnedproject.org/posts/category/explore_by_theme/art-music

Finishing the Dream: Learning from the Civil Rights Era

<http://www.nbclearn.com/finishingthedream>

PROGRAMS *(Initiatives and observances to advance character education)*

King Day of Service – January 17, 2011

<http://www.mlkday.gov/>

No Name Calling Week – January 24-28, 2011

<http://www.nonamecallingweek.org>

Random Acts of Kindness Week – February 14-20, 2011

<http://www.actsofkindness.org/kindness-days>

Spread the Word to End the Word – March 2, 2011

http://www.specialolympics.org/spread-the-word-to-end-the-word_resources.aspx#

Day of Silence – April 15, 2011

<http://www.dayofsilence.org>

ARTICLES & RESEARCH *(News for sharing colleagues or as classroom discussion topics)*

Bargaining for Better Schools

http://www.rethinkingschools.org/special_reports/quality_teachers/beau194.shtml



FUNDING *(Grant opportunities to recognize individual leadership or support class projects and clubs)*
Special Olympics Get Into It Grants - Special Olympics is partnering with Youth Service America to offer Get Into It grants that bring together students of all abilities to fight childhood obesity in their schools and communities.
\$500 or \$1,000 grants
Deadline: January 19, 2011
www.YSA.org/getintoit