Springing Forward

Coming to the Table

We were invited to the Annual Black History Dinner with Coming to the Table. This national group is dedicated to seeking to heal from the racial wounds of the past — from slavery and the many forms of racism it spawned. The meal was delicious and the table conversations were thought-provoking. Thanks for engaging our youth with this opportunity to learn and grow.

RVA Table Talk

In March, our students also participated in RVA Table Talk: Youth, a discussion hosted by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities at Temple Beth-El. Our students, alongside students from Partnership for the Future facilitated discussions focused around youth, their challenges, and their opportunities. The students did an excellent job bringing to light issues they

face daily to the greater community. A highlight of the evening was a short PSA we created that speaks to the effects of trauma on the lives of Armstrong students. A very special thanks to all the mentors, teachers, friends and sup-



porters who came out to support the youth. We would also like to give a special thanks to **Anne Gibbons**, Outreach Program Coordinator, for hosting a workshop to prepare our students on best practices for facilitating roundtable discussions.

University of Richmond Collaboration Continues

We also met with University of Richmond's community-based learning class to continue work on our oral history project, *Growing Up Civil Rights-Richmond*. Previously, our students participated in a writing prompt activity utilizing the power of poetry to express their thoughts and personal experiences. The workshop gave them the opportunity to put their words into dance and movement which was led by **Kevin Lamar Jones**, founder of *Claves Unidos*. Both groups of students explored the interrelation between language and movement as they continue to prepare for the closing presentation in April.

University of Richmond Peer Network

Big thanks to our peer mentors for the campus tour, dinner and panel discussions on the college admissions process. During their visit, ALP students learned firsthand what student life is like on campus. The discussion allowed ALP students to ask questions and probe deeper the pros and cons of attending college. We would like to thank Jennifer Mullins and Michael Johnson and the entire team of peer mentors for planning this wonderful event.

Save the Date: Student Performances, April 9th, 6 p.m. at the University of Richmond's Modlin Center for the Arts, Harnett Museum of Art

If you are interested in participating in Armstrong Leadership Program, please contact **Yvette Davis Rajput, Director** at work: 804-783-7903, ext. 13, or cell 804-314-2622, or: yrajput@richmondhillva.org

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