

**St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School Presents**  
**FREE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workshops for Middle Faculty**

*For six years, SSSAS has offered an amazing opportunity for Middle School students and the faculty that advise them through our annual Middle School Diversity Conference. We also understand that in this unprecedented time, an in-person conference for middle school students is not feasible.*

*In lieu of the student conference, we would like to offer a series of workshops for MS faculty and staff who advise their diversity program. Our focus will be creating opportunities for DEI in the time of Covid-19 and will be centered on how best to engage MS students in DEI work either in a virtual setting, hybrid setting or in person through dialogue and activities. We hope the information and resources will help you as you build or prepare your middle school program during this highly unconventional time.*

**When: Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

**Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm**

**Each workshop will be limited to 24 participants.**

*Please visit our website at [www.sssas.org](http://www.sssas.org) to register for the event. More information? Contact [kdavis@sssas.org](mailto:kdavis@sssas.org) or [kkunz@sssas.org](mailto:kkunz@sssas.org).*

## **Workshops**

Four workshops each will be offered in two time slots (4-4:45pm and 5-5:45pm)

### **"Art is Life. Life is Art." Kati Towle**

We, in the DMV, have amazing visual arts resources and programs that are dedicated to supporting students learning through the arts. How can we connect these community resources to teaching about DEIB, especially if we aren't "artists" ourselves? In this workshop we will meet several American artists, whose work is close to home, and explore how they speak to and represent issues of Justice in and through their art.

**Confederate Statues and History: Jon Japha**

In this worksop, we will look at linking current events to historical events, and helping students see their connection. We will also discuss helping students navigate difficult and often emotionally charged topics by practicing elements of civil discourse.

**Student Ownership: Putting Affinity Groups into the Hands of Students: Candace Crawford**

Affinity groups bring people together who share a common identity or experience and provide a powerful space for personal development in areas like self-advocacy, confidence building, and healthy dialogue. Student buy-in and ownership leads to richer conversations and meaningful relationships. In this workshop, we will discuss the benefits and logistics of electing student leaders in order to make these safe spaces student-centered and student driven.

**DEI Resources for Middle School: Alicia Blowers**

Anti-racist literature, nonfiction, podcasts and documentaries abound. But what resources out there work best for a middle school audience, and how can they be utilized best in formal curriculum and extracurricular programming to help tweens and teens become educated and informed? This workshop will spotlight a variety of resources to help students gain an understanding of their own and others identities, the history of injustice and the social justice movements working to counteract racism and other inequalities.

**Experiential Learning and Cross-Curricular Connections: a Social Justice Lens: Ella Taranto**

In this workshop, we will look at the ways that social justice content and frameworks can lead organically to interdisciplinary connections, experiential learning opportunities, and service actions. We will use as a case study a 4-day trip to Montgomery, AL planned for last spring that drew on elements of the 7th and 8th grade History and English curriculums and empowered students with tools from our Service Learning program.

**Diversity in Religion: Rebecca Cooper**

Understanding religious diversity in our country and in the world is an essential skill, and yet many educators are hesitant to engage the topic. In this workshop, we will explore a helpful framework for teaching about religion in the classroom, develop tools for examining multiple perspectives, and discover ways to build interdisciplinary connections. With the rise of religious-based discrimination, bullying, and hate crimes, educators must be equipped with knowledge and tools to increase empathy and inspire upstanders in our schools.

**Post-election: How to use dialogue to rebuild community: Kristen Farrington**

We are in the middle of the most contentious election in recent memory. No matter what the outcome, our communities will have a lot of healing to do. In this workshop, we'll explore strategies for creating safe and brave spaces where students can engage in dialogue about issues that are important to them and their vision for the future of the country.

**The Healing Power of Dialogue: Ron Ginyard**

We will travel the journey that led towards the implementation of modeling true dialogue (the conveyance of meaning). Dialogue gives us access to a basic human need - true human connection. Human connection develops Empathy. Empathy can guide us towards thinking together to solve problems in our communities. It is our responsibility to develop this important skill in our students. We do this through our Saints Advisory Program.