



FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES DENVER/ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATES

7150 MONTVIEW BOULEVARD, DENVER, CO 80220

VISIT US AT WWW.FACINGHISTORY.ORG/DENVER

Facing History and Ourselves is an international educational and professional development organization whose mission is to engage students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice, and antisemitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry. By studying the historical development and lessons of the Holocaust and other examples of collective violence, students make the essential connection between history and the moral choices they confront in their own lives.

Over the years we have provided in-depth seminars for more than 29,000 educators. Accounting for attrition, we estimate that our active teacher network reaches nearly two million students each year.

Facing History has been building a strong presence in the Denver area since 2000, and opened an office here in 2006. For more information, contact us at 303-316-4848.



SPOTLIGHT: East High School Launches Facing History Course

Shane Atkinson, a history teacher at East High School in Cheyenne, Wyoming, has participated in Facing History's Holocaust and Human Behavior seminar and numerous local workshops. Inspired by his experience, Atkinson (pictured with students)

designed a year long history course entitled Facing History and Ourselves and now teaches four sections of this class. He reflects:

"This year has rejuvenated me and helped me to refocus my goals and ambitions as a teacher. By helping students connect to history on a deeply personal level, I have watched them blossom before my eyes. I have honestly never experienced a class of students come together with the common understanding about how we need to treat each other as human beings, and what the consequences can potentially be if we do not."

One of his students writes: "This class has helped me learn more about who I am as a person and focus on how I think about the world around me. . . . This is by far the most insightful and thought-provoking class I have taken."



Facing History provides **775** area educators in Denver and the Rocky Mountain States with our programs and resources.

75,000 middle and high school students are reached by these teachers in **120** public, religious, and independent schools throughout the Rocky Mountain States region.

Ninety-nine percent of seminar participants say they would recommend a Facing History seminar to their colleagues.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT FACINGHISTORY.ORG/EVALUATION

SUPPORTING SAFE SCHOOLS



Facing History and Ourselves' Civic Identities and Safe Schools Symposium brought together more than 140 educators, community members, and students for a day-long conference. The symposium, funded by the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Colorado and presented in partnership with the Matthew

Shepard Foundation, used two questions to guide the day's agenda: What is a safe school? What is the role of education, student voice, and the community in creating safe schools and safe civic spaces for all students and educators?

Facing History staff led workshops using new resources related to bullying and ostracism created in partnership with Harvard University. The symposium offered sessions on topics including cyberbullying, statewide anti-bullying policy, and using inclusive language. The afternoon keynote featured activist Betty DeGeneres (pictured), mother of television personality Ellen DeGeneres.

NEW OFFERINGS

What Matters and What Counts in Education Speaker Series

In partnership with the Donnell-Kay Foundation and Colorado Legacy Foundation, Facing History launched a breakfast speaker series aimed at expanding our notions of what makes a great education in the twenty-first century. This spring's talks considered civic education, reforming professional development, and securing success for minority students in higher education. Speakers have included Peter Levine, head of the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at Tufts University. For information about upcoming speakers, go to facinghistory.org/denverevents.

New Classroom Resource Celebrates the Freedom Riders

Facing History introduced one of its newest study guides, *Democracy in Action*, at the National Conference for Social Studies held in Denver this winter and plans to introduce it over the coming school year. Created in partnership with PBS's American Experience series, the guide is designed to accompany the film *Freedom Riders*. It prompts students to explore the stories of the Freedom Riders, a group of civil rights activists who challenged segregation by traveling together on buses and trains through the Deep South in 1961. Visit facinghistory.org/freedomriders to download our free study guide, view film excerpts, and more.

SPOTLIGHT:

Community Conversations

Our Community Conversations, presented in partnership with The Allstate Foundation, bring prominent scholars, authors, filmmakers, and policy leaders to speak and participate in discussions about civic engagement, individual and collective responsibility, and tolerance. Recent speakers have included Jennifer Arnold, director of the film *A Small Act*, and scholar and author Daniel Goldhagen (pictured), who presented on his most recent book, *Worse Than War: Genocide, Eliminationism, and the Ongoing Assault on Humanity* at CU-Boulder and at the University of Denver. Community Conversations have reached audiences of more than 40,000 nationwide.



EXPLORING TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

Facing History offered an in-depth three-day seminar in the beginning of the year for veteran educators in our local network focusing on transitional justice.

Highlights of the seminar included exploring our new classroom resource *Fundamental Freedoms: Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. The seminar also featured award-winning documentary filmmaker Pamela Yates, who spoke about her films *Reckoning*, about the International Criminal Court, and *Granito*, about current truth-seeking efforts in Guatemala.