



FACING
HISTORY
AND
OURSELVES **SAN FRANCISCO
BAY AREA**

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VISIT US AT WWW.FACINGHISTORY.ORG/SANFRANCISCO

For more than 30 years Facing History and Ourselves has believed that education is the key to combating bigotry and nurturing democracy. Our resources, seminars, and public events link historical events such as the Holocaust and the civil rights movement to the everyday issues people face in their own lives, providing opportunities for people of all ages to recognize the importance of civic participation and learn from the courage and resilience of others.

Founded by educators in Brookline, Massachusetts, in 1976, Facing History has grown from an innovative course taught in a single school district to an international organization with more than 150 staff members. Through nine offices in North America, an international hub in London, and educational partnerships that span the globe, Facing History has established itself as the premier educational organization delivering high-quality classroom strategies, content, and lessons for teachers and students. Our network of trained educators now includes more than 29,000 teachers who reach nearly two million students each year. Since the San Francisco Bay Area office opened in 1997, more than 2,100 teachers in the area have participated in the program.

More than ninety studies over the last three decades document Facing History's positive impact on teachers and students. To learn more, please visit facinghistory.org.



SPOTLIGHT:
The Power of Testimony

Facing History and Ourselves has launched an exciting partnership with Voice of Witness, an organization founded by author and publisher Dave Eggers and Dr. Lola Vollen, visiting scholar at the Institute for International Studies, University of California, Berkeley. Voice of

Witness is dedicated to illuminating contemporary human rights crises through oral history.

Through the collaboration, nine Facing History teachers are participating in a pilot project that will integrate oral history into their Facing History classrooms during the Fall 2010 semester. The project will reach almost 1,000 students in seven Bay Area schools. Pending additional funding, next steps will include the development of an online resource collection using oral history in the Bay Area and additional cities.

Pictured: Teachers Trevor Gardner (left) from Envision Academy, Oakland, and Kyle Beckham from Downtown High School, San Francisco, engage in role play interviews as part of an orientation to the project.



2,100 area educators have participated in professional development programs since the San Francisco Bay Area office opened in 1997

190,000 middle and high school students are reached by these educators each year

Over **300** public, religious and independent schools are implementing Facing History in one or more classes throughout the Bay Area

Landmark study proves Facing History makes a significant impact on teacher effectiveness, student academic performance, and civic learning.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THIS STUDY VISIT
[FACINGHISTORY.ORG/
EVALUATION](http://FACINGHISTORY.ORG/EVALUATION)



CHANGING SCHOOL CULTURE

The introduction of the Facing History program often sets the stage for dramatic change in schools, with students starting the journey to become engaged, responsible and compassionate global citizens.

In Northern California, an increasing number of schools recognize the impact that Facing History can make when the program is implemented in an in-depth way, either by using it in multiple grades or in semester or year-long courses. Just a sampling of the independent, public, or charter high schools working with us in this way include **Notre Dame, Antioch, Foothill, Jefferson, Oceana, Palo Alto, and Lighthouse Charter, Oakland.**

In addition, Facing History's Small Schools Network connects more than 25 schools across the country including four Bay Area schools. The schools meet regularly, both virtually and face to face, to share accomplishments, challenges, and replicable models for sustaining positive learning environments. A major aim of the network is to assist the schools as they develop a culture of inquiry and student achievement through their work with Facing History. **Oceana High School, City Arts and Technology High School, Envision Academy for Arts and Technology, and Lighthouse Charter High School** are in the network.

Antioch Unified School District has contracted with Facing History for ongoing, intensive staff development and follow-up support for curricular efforts focused on race and membership in American history; human rights and genocide studies; and school practices that honor diversity.

TEACHER USES STROM AWARD TO PUBLISH STUDENTS' MEMOIRS

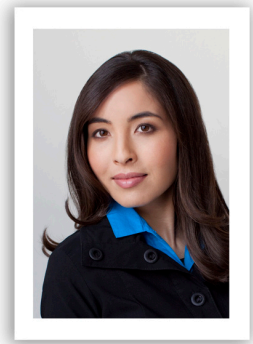
Melissa Fully of **Envision Academy for Arts and Technology, Oakland**, used the **Margot Stern Strom Teaching Award** she won to publish a collection of her sophomore students' writing titled "Universe of Obligation Memoirs." Following their in-depth Facing History units, students had the chance to reflect on a time in their lives when they chose to be bystanders or "upstanders." Armed with historical knowledge and strong definitions of these terms, the students reflected on moral choices they had confronted successfully or less than ideally in past years.

The Teaching Award, established in 2006, is awarded to educators who demonstrate commitment to using Facing History in the classroom. For more information, go to facinghistory.org/teachingaward.

SPOTLIGHT:

Community Conversations

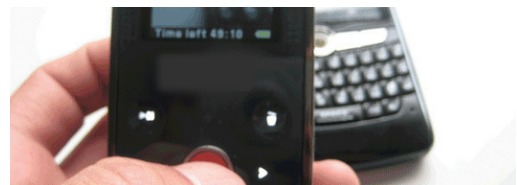
Community Conversations, presented in partnership with The Allstate Foundation, bring prominent scholars, authors, filmmakers, and policy leaders to participate in discussions about civic engagement, individual and collective responsibility, and tolerance.



On November 15th, **Roxana Saberi** (pictured above), author of *Between Two Worlds: My Life and Captivity in Iran*, will speak about her incarceration in Evin Prison and the implications of her story for a study of human rights.

Recent speakers included **Sheryl Wu-Dunn**, co-author of *Half the Sky*, a book that explores the plight of women world-wide; and **Marco Williams**, whose film *Banished* uncovers the stories of three counties that violently expelled African American families a century ago.

Since their inception in 2005, **Community Conversations** have reached audiences of more than 40,000 nationwide. For information, visit facinghistory.org/communityconversations.



Digital Media in the Classroom

Facing History launched its Digital Media Innovation Network in January 2010 with support from the Ford Foundation, the Righteous Persons Foundation, and the Fledgling Fund. This new network will position Facing History at the juncture of research, classroom practice, and teacher professional development in the use of digital technology and new media in humanities education. Two Bay Area educators involved with the pilot project will utilize digital media in their classrooms with the aim of developing best practices that can be shared throughout our teacher network.