



FACING
HISTORY
AND
OURSELVES



FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES IN CHICAGOLAND

TRANSFORMING CHICAGO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Facing History and Ourselves brings teachers and students together to address difficult questions around race, membership, and identity through a social justice lens—and we're doing this in Chicago's Public Schools. Through our Chicago Public Schools Curriculum Project, we are transforming the ways educators teach humanities. Partnering with CPS, we infuse classrooms with deep learning and dialogue around the human choices made during three key moments in history: the Reconstruction era, the Holocaust, and the Civil Rights era. This proven approach activates students' empathy and ultimately helps them make informed, ethical choices in their own lives—today and into the future.

BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING

Facing History's Chicago Schools Alliance helps school leaders foster more inclusive learning environments that are centered around equity and justice. We put our expertise in humanities education and social-emotional learning into action, helping educators and administrators cultivate school cultures that are safe and supportive of diverse identities and perspectives. Through our frameworks and trainings, we help build communities of belonging—where students feel they are heard and respected, can glean real meaning from their work, and can contribute positively to society. Research shows that students who receive an education grounded in social-emotional learning experience dramatically improved academic, civic, and career outcomes.

CHICAGO BY THE NUMBERS

1,081

schools with Facing History-
trained teachers

10,418

educators using Facing
History materials

753,500+

students reached

“When I think about a city as segregated as Chicago, with so much opportunity, but plagued by some very real challenges in terms of equity access, I think Facing History is exactly what our city needs.”

BEYOND CHICAGO

USING THE PAST TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE

At Facing History and Ourselves, we believe the bigotry and hate that we witness today are the legacies of brutal injustices of the past. Through our partnerships, we help educators around the world face our collective history and address racism, antisemitism, and prejudice—so that their students can connect difficult choices made in the past to those they will confront in their own lives. Together, we are creating the next generation of leaders who will build a world based on knowledge and compassion.

Facing History reaches more than 100,000 educators who reach millions of students every year through our nine regional locations and international partnerships in France, Northern Ireland, South Africa, and beyond.

Chicago	London
New York	Cleveland
Los Angeles	Toronto
Memphis	New England
San Francisco Bay Area	

OVER 40 YEARS OF PROVEN RESULTS

Facing History’s impact—on teachers and students—has been demonstrated through more than 160 studies over four decades:

99% of teachers would recommend Facing History’s professional development to their colleagues.

81% of Facing History students feel they are more capable of recognizing racism, antisemitism, and prejudice.

77% of Facing History students stand up for what they believe in, even when others disagree.

Facing History is recognized by The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)—the leading experts in social-emotional learning in the United States—as one of only nine programs in the U.S. proven to increase students’ empathy and prosocial behavior, and create more equitable learning environments.

OUR MISSION

Facing History and Ourselves uses lessons of history to challenge teachers and their students to stand up to bigotry and hate.