Resources and Recommended Reading

Because diversity and inclusion are essential components to our hope for a peaceful world, we want to support parents in their crucial and courageous conversations with children, family members, and others in their community. Assembled below are a variety of print and online resources for families that may be helpful.

Book Recommendations:

1) Toddler and Early Childhood: Families, by Shelley Rotner (depicts many forms of diversity within families using real pictures)

2) Early Childhood and Kindergarten: The Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Pena (chronicles a boy’s heartwarming Sunday morning routine with his nana)

3) Kindergarten and Lower Elementary: My Name is Yoon, by Helen Recorvits (explores immigration through the young eyes of a female Korean American main character, and examines the importance of names)

4) Upper Elementary: Hidden Figures, Young Readers Edition, by Margot Lee Shetterly (chronicles 1st African American women to work for NACA/NASA who were the little known mathematicians known as “human computers”—movie of story out in January)

5) Adults: Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehesi Coates (very timely letter from African American father to his son)

More recommendations are available on this Google Doc.

Moving Forward: Recommended Reading for Addressing Racism and Bigotry in our World

1) From German Lopez at Vox.com: Research-Proven Ways to Reduce Racial Bias (suggestions for having this conversation in constructive ways that don’t make people feel condemned)

2) From the POD Network Diversity Committee: Responding to Microaggressions with Microresistance: A Framework for Consideration (elucidates a strategy for dealing with microaggressions and effective culture change)
3) From the Southern Poverty Law Center: Speak Up: Responding to Everyday Bigotry (resources for dealing with bigotry in others and ourselves in a host of situations)

4) From Upliftconnect.com: What it Really Means to Hold Space for Someone (explains the process of “holding space” or being an ally to others through challenging times)

Election Conversation Recommendations:

1) From the New York Times: How Could You? 19 Questions to Ask Loved Ones Who Voted the Other Way (a guide to facilitate conversation between Trump voters and Clinton voters)

2) From Dr. Geoffrey Greif of the University of Maryland: Losing Friends and Family Over the Election? (suggestions for navigating relationships when you are not of the same political party)

3) From CNN: How to Talk to Your Kids about the Election (important messages and suggestions for talking to children, regardless of your candidate preference)

4) From Dr. Emma Seppala of Stanford University: How to Keep Politics Off the Playground (suggestions for fostering safe environments for children instead of destructive, politically-hurtful ones)