

To: Educators and other possible host sites
Re: Diversity / Social Justice Programming

Alfred University's Art Force Five team has successfully provided **diversity and non-violence workshops** for over one hundred elementary schools, dozens of high schools and colleges, and most recently, developed a faculty workshop for professional development training. We have also begun partnering with police departments to improve community relations. We specialize in using art therapy techniques to respond to community issues including bias and violence.

Part of our success stems from our non-traditional approach to diversity education. We package our efforts under the guise of a team of **real-life superheroes** known as the Art Force Five. The central theme of our program is strengthening creativity as a powerful response to conflict. Through this theme, we weave issues of diversity and conflict-resolution strategies. We adapt the program for our audiences' maturity levels and explore relevant issues within your community. We have received repeated feedback from principals, teachers, and coaches that our professional workshops were "unexpectedly enjoyable and extremely helpful" due to **preconceived notions of diversity training which are often dismissive or negative**. We believe diversity / non-violence training can be simultaneously enlightening and entertaining.

Offerings:

- "Creativity over Conflict" workshops
60 minutes for Kindergarten – 7th grade
90-120 minutes for high school & professionals
(Presented by founder Dan Napolitano or whole team)
- Community-based art
Multi-day residencies (Only 2-4 per year available)
- Consultation & design
Projects designed to meet community needs.

Thank you for your time. Do not hesitate to contact us for more information.



Dan Napolitano,
Director, Drawn to Diversity
Alfred University



ALFRED UNIVERSITY'S **ART FORCE FIVE** WORKSHOPS



MISSION: Alfred University's Art Force Five uses creativity to promote equality, reduce violence, and strengthen communities. Our outreach includes workshops, community-based art, and engaging exhibits.

KINDERGARTEN - 2ND (AND BEYOND)

CREATIVITY OVER CONFLICT WORKSHOP

(1 hour / 20-50 ideal audience size)

- Introduces diverse cast and appreciation of equality
- Power of images and outward attitude to influence others
- Interactive history lesson through cos(tume)-play
- Promotes creativity over 'flight or fight' response
- Self-esteem building art activity

Note: Can be adapted as introduction for any age group



3RD & 4TH GRADE

DREAM GALLERY PROJECT

(1 hour / 15-25 ideal audience size)

- Partnership within the art classroom
- Introduces audience to historic dreamers
- Follow-along drawing activities
- Interactive history lessons (indoor baseball game)
- Launch-point for bigger "Dream Art" project.

Note: Participants invited to display their final art work at "Dream Gallery" event which may include construction of their own dream candy bar.



5TH - 7TH GRADE

FROM CREATIVITY TO EMPATHY

(90 minutes / 20-50 ideal audience size)

- Concept of using creativity for greater empathy
- Puzzle activity allows participants to understand community
- Discussion about the roles people play within community
- Presenters share their own real struggles at young age
- Audience gives suggestions on presenters' conflicts

Note: Presenters will discuss issues relevant to the community based on feedback from the contact.



COLLEGE-LEVEL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENT WORKSHOP

(90 minutes / 20-50 ideal audience size)

- Correlates with 2013 DASA Act
- Uses concepts from all other workshops
- Introduces a model to respond to issues within school
- Examines real situations of racism, bias, and bullying
- Note: Not sufficient to replace 6-hour DASA training



COMMUNITY-BASED ART provides a productive and creative outlet for community members to express emotion and a diversity of viewpoints. Such projects can be used as a means to heal in the wake of tragedy, celebrate in response to triumph, or just acknowledge the events and issues that impact our lives. Contact the Art Force Five for free consulting if your community is looking to address an issue.

CONTACT: D2D@alfred.edu / www.DRAWNtoDIVERSITY.com / 607-871-2925

TESTIMONIALS

“Drawn to Diversity, and their outreach team known as the Art Force Five, have provided their unique creativity workshops for our students for the past four years. They present art and creativity as the ultimate super power in facing conflict. The program’s anti-bullying message and celebration of differences perfectly supports Alfred-Almond Elementary School’s own goals of inclusion and citizenship.”

- Todd Goho, Principal
Alfred-Almond Elementary School, Almond, NY

“I felt they had a significant impact on our students’ learning. They reached all modalities of learning. They appealed to auditory, visual and tactile/kinesthetic learners with their skits, student interaction and art activity.”

-Melissa Miller, Second Grade Teacher
Jasper-Troupsburg Central School, Jasper, NY

“They ran their workshop flawlessly because it worked well in engaging each student, and having something that related to each and every one of them. The Drawn to Diversity program created space for each participant to be proud and acknowledge who they are as an individual. Their topics-- bullying, fighting, equality, and diversity are crucial topics to explore as middle school students.”

-Ricky Santana, Middle School Tutor
Red Hook Initiative, Red Hook, Brooklyn, NY

“P723X serves special-needs students from low socioeconomic backgrounds - and this program was made for them! I have never seen my students more engaged. The performance was a huge success!”

- Ilana Davi,
English Language Arts Teacher
P723X Middle School, Bronx, NYC

“When the Art Force 5 students traveled to our school during finals week, it meant the world to us. They conducted a kid-friendly workshop, using creativity to bring to light new ways to cope with our feelings, different perspectives, challenges and change to overcome adversity.”

-Jessica Ventura, 6th Grade Teacher
Henry Hudson #28, Rochester City School District

“We have had difficulty with assemblies in the past; getting our at-risk youth to pay attention. D2D captivated and inspired a gym full of 150 of our teens and was a perfect start to our anti-bullying week. ”

-Sarah Kornhauser, Dean of Students
9th & 10th grade, Broome Street Academy, NYC, NY

“On a college level, it worked incredibly well for leadership training and inspiring residence hall staff. D2D is a creative approach to conflict resolution and diversity education. The students were engaged, entertained, and appreciative of a new approach to topics that are too often taught using traditional lecture methods.”

-Chevanne DeVaney, Director of Multicultural Affairs
Keuka College, Keuka, NY

“As director of public programs at The National Museum of Play, I have had the pleasure of working with a significant number of organizations and performers over the past eight years. Without fail, Drawn to Diversity is one of the best, both behind the scenes and out on the floor interacting with guests. You make my job easy—you and your students are flexible, creative, passionate, and 100% dependable and the quality of your work is outstanding year after year.”

-Corrie Kraai, Director of Public Programs
The Strong National Museum of Play, Rochester, NY