



AUSTIN HEALTHY
ADOLESCENT
INITIATIVE

What is the Middle School Diversity Leadership Conference?

The Conference empowers students and adults of diverse racial, ethnic, religious, and cultural identities to address issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. For the past 11 years, East Ed has been successfully hosting these conferences around the nation, where students are actively engaged in the planning and facilitation process.

The Conference's approach encompasses two core elements: **giving youth the opportunity to direct their own learning and take action, and giving teachers and parents tools to support student leadership and action.**



The Conference is made possible by the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department's Austin Healthy Adolescent Initiative and the planning committee, comprised of local organizations, schools, businesses, faith communities, and volunteers.

How does the Conference Work?

The Conference is a one day event for middle school students and their adult chaperones, though the skills gained at the Conference will be brought back to school campuses and incorporated throughout the school year. The event agenda includes:

Welcoming. Students will participate in a welcoming ceremony with icebreaker activities.

Artistic Production. Students will explore diversity issues through the arts.

Valuing Diversity. Students will explore how diversity impacts their lives and learn strategies for creating positive experiences.

Small Group Dialogues. Students will facilitate discussions to explore topics they consider important in their daily lives.

School Group Discussion. Schools will have time to meet and plan how they can bring what they've learned back to their school.

Large Group Discussion and Open Mic. Students will come back together to share what they've learned.

Adults Professional Development Session. Adults accompanying students to the conference will learn and network together.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The cost of attending the conference is \$45 per person (for students & adults). Some scholarship opportunities are available; please contact us for details.

When and Where is the Conference?

Wednesday, April 18, 2012
Registration at 8:30 am – Program from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
St. David's Episcopal Church
301 E. 8th Street
Austin, TX 78701

What People Are Saying About the Conference

"This was a major event for our kids who felt having student-led groups was so valuable and enabled them to really talk openly about these issues." ~Teacher

"Thank you—great thing for our school. Really appreciate the opportunity it gives our kids. Invaluable!" ~Teacher

"This was a highly meaningful experience for our students. Having groups led by peers made it more important than if adults had been talking to them." ~Teacher

Become a Conference Sponsor to Support the Conference and Provide Scholarships
Your contribution is tax deductible and will be noted in the program!

Bronze Level = \$250
Silver Level = \$500
Gold Level = \$1,000
Platinum Level = \$2,000

In Kind donations or raffle items also greatly appreciated!

Organizations Serving on the Planning Committee



Planning Committee Facilitation



To register students, visit:
www.easted.org

For more information contact:

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