



UPCOMING BEYOND DIFFERENCES EVENTS



A quick and handy monthly listing of important dates for parents who need to juggle many schedules!

February 14th: Assembly at Family Montessori

- 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- 7075 Cutting Boulevard, El Cerrito

February 14th: National No One Eats Alone Day: Spread the Love!

- Celebrating differences at lunchtime across the country!
- Press conference will be held at Elmhurst Community Prep, Oakland

February 27th: Assembly at the Marin School

- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 150 N San Pedro Road, San Rafael

February 28th: Assembly at Hall Middle School

- 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- 200 Doherty Drive, Larkspur

March 10th: Assembly at Burlingame Intermediate School

- 11:40 a.m. - 1:40 p.m.
- 1715 Quessada Way, Burlingame

TAKE ACTION!

...a few other easy ways you can support
Beyond Differences

BRING NATIONAL NO ONE EATS ALONE TO YOUR SCHOOL, OR A NEW COMMUNITY, ON FEBRUARY 14TH!



SPREAD THE LOVE
FEBRUARY 14, 2014
NATIONAL NO ONE EATS ALONE DAY

BeyondDifferences.org

ATTENTION PARENTS AND STUDENTS!

Attention Parents!

1. Those who are eager to fund-raise, event plan, organize, and help shape the future of **Beyond Differences** should contact Board Member Marit Bakken at Marit.Bakken@me.com.
2. Help us get ready for the Annual Spring Event? Contact Co-Chair Jacqueline Neuwirth at jneuwirth@gmail.com.
3. We are looking for dedicated adults who are interested in leadership positions with the **Beyond Differences** Board of Directors! Contact lauratamus@gmail.com for more information.

Students!

Join us for the next **SHUT DOWN ASK.FM** meeting on Sunday, February 9th at 1:00 p.m. at 30 North San Pedro Avenue, San Rafael. **See you there!**

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY UPDATES

A glimpse into the life of an LATP student this month!

All of our LATP schools are in full throttle planning mode for our National **No One Eats Alone** event on **February 14th!**



Davidson: Davidson students participated in a fabulous workshop on groups and cliques led by long-time **Beyond Differences** friend, Peter Oppenheimer. **The group was present and engaged!** We also had a very successful lunch time planning and art making meeting to gear us up for National **No One Eats Alone Day!**

Hall and Kent: Students from both schools worked together with special guest, Peter Oppenheimer, on dissecting the positive and potentially harmful dynamics that come from groups and cliques. We also had another very successful lunch time club meeting!

White Hill: In addition to kick starting an AMAZING club launch, White Hill students were visited by special guest, Claudia Perez, who led us through a workshop on empathy. We had a deep discussion talking about the emotions and experiences that connect us. We now recognize that these shared experiences allow us to have empathy for those around us.

Brandeis: Brandeis students were also visited by empathy expert, Claudia Perez! We discussed the experiences and feelings that allow us to relate to one another and we learned why it is so important (but often challenging) to be empathetic.

Sinaloa: In addition to community building activities, Sinaloa students spent our last meeting gearing up and delegating tasks for the National **No One Eats Alone** event on February 14th!

Coming up Next for the LATP:

- National **No One Eats Alone Day!**
- **Groups and Cliques:** Brandeis and White Hill
- **All About Empathy:** Hall, Kent, and Davidson



TEEN BOARD CORNER

Beyond Differences is not a membership or club. It's a way of life.

We had our mid-year Teen Board Retreat on January 26th. Throughout the day, we got to work on **intention-setting and commitment** through yoga practice with expert **Kelly Knoche**. Then **Marcia and Lola** (therapist and therapy dog!) led us in a session on exploring what it feels like to be different, and **how to join another's world with empathy**.

We went over some Teen Board **strategic planning** for the rest of this year and next, as well as some reviewing some major **talking points** and themes about the **Beyond Differences** movement.

Finally, **Abbey Levine** led us through some amazing **assembly prep**. It was a dynamic and powerful day as a Teen Board!

In other news, **Jake, Ruby, Jordan** and **Adam** joined four very special young people from Anna Vagin's therapy group for an afternoon of **bowling and building connections**. And **Lorrie** and **Adam** joined Laura, AK, and I for an incredibly interesting session on **Bullying and Disability!** We learned a lot and have some great new resources for embracing differences.

