# 

Brought to you by **Beyond Differences**<sup>®</sup>

## Understanding and Celebrating Differences

#### THE WORLD OUR KIDS LIVE IN

Research has shown that students from marginalized communities are more likely to have challenges in school.

- **23%** of students of color reported harmful interaction on the basis of race.
- **16%** of queer students reported harmful interactions on the basis of sexual orientation.
- **11%** of disabled students report harmful interaction based on their disability.
  - 8% reported harmful interaction based on religion. Source: 2016 Civil Rights Data Collection on School Climate and Safety

"All students who attended came together to create a beautiful mural—students became friends with others they'd never think to speak to before this day."

- Teacher

The **Know Your Classmates**<sup>®</sup> program invites identity exploration alongside compassion and empathy development.

This initiative supports teachers and students in creating cultures of belonging, where you are encouraged to embrace differences and see them as strengths.

### Impact in 2022



**1,412** <u>Schools Participated</u>



**706,000** Students Connected



Helping students embrace and celebrate their differences.

#### Resources provided to schools at no cost include:

- 8 lesson plans, videos, and other materials co-designed by educators and members of our National Teen Board.
- Insight from experts on racial justice, equity, social and emotional learning, and social isolation.
- \* A student leadership guide and a day of action activity kit.

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Learn More!



www.BeyondDifferences.org