



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equality

Contact:
<https://www.rhs4racialequity.org>

Organization's General Goals:
We advocate for racial equity for students who are furthest from educational justice. We raise awareness among students and those who impact their lives about educational inequities through partnerships, networks, and inclusion-centered practices. We promote actionable steps by providing tools, resources, and opportunities to learn and grow.

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Date of Award: | Level: |
| 2022 Q4 | \$500 to \$2,500 |

For more information, please read the attached report from Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equality.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulipCares.org

RARE Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equity

September 8, 2023

Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
msheldon@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

Re: **Q4 2022 14.2**

Dear Marilyn,

Thank you for Tulalip Tribe's gift of [REDACTED] on April 1, 2023 for RARE's (Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equity's) general operating expenses. Our proposal requested support our operating expenses in 2023, including consultants, events, and digital platforms, as well as the launch of our Connections program.

Because of your gift, our new Connections program was able to secure consultants for its curriculum, fund a program coordinator, and provide books for Connections workshops.

We were able to accommodate a total of 40 participants in the Connections spring and summer sessions. RARE collaborated with The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, the City of Seattle Parks Department and Roosevelt and Garfield High Schools. In other RARE program and project areas, hundreds of both students and the Seattle community have benefited from 42 showings of our documentary film *Roosevelt High School: Beyond Black and White*. There have also been two film airings on KCTS public television. RARE has successfully instigated a Restorative Practice coalition from a cross-sector of private and public organizations committed to racial equity and restorative practices in schools.

Thank you for the Save the Date announcement for your Raising Hands event October 28th. We look forward to receiving our formal invitation.

We are thankful for Tulalip's partnership this year. Thank you for your support. If you require additional information please contact Jude Fisher.

We are very interested in meeting with you. If you are so inclined, please reach out to Jude Fisher. In many ways our organizations are closely aligned.

Sincerely,

Joe Hunter, Jr.
RARE Chair
joe_hunterjr@yahoo.com

Michelle Y. Hightower
RARE Vice Chair
michelleyhightower@gmail.com

Jude Fisher
RARE Grants Chair
judefisher@gmail.com

This letter serves as your receipt for your donation. No goods or services were given in exchange for this donation.

Connections 201 Walks Through Indigenous History at the University of Washington

Nitu Jenks / July 27, 2023



This spring, after five weeks learning practical skills for engaging with people of different backgrounds at their home schools, Roosevelt and Garfield High School [Connections 101](#) students came together to explore beyond the classroom in several Connections 201 activities. On April 29, Connections 201 brought them to the [Indigenous Walking Tour](#) guided by Roosevelt alum Owen Oliver (Quinault/Isleta Pueblo) who created the project while he was a student at the University of Washington.

The Connections students were curious about each other and took in the information along stops including the Burke Museum, Indigenous artworks, the Medicinal Herb Garden, the Ethnic Cultural Center and the Union Bay Natural Area. Along the way, they were engaged and asked poignant questions. At one stop, [wəstəbʔatxw](#), they wondered why the UW longhouse was called "Intellectual House". They felt the Lushootseed translation, "House of Knowledge", would have been the better choice.

Throughout the tour the students also shared stories about their Connections experience. Marissa, a student from Garfield who moved to the US from Mexico less than a year ago, found the Connections space provided a safe space for her to show up as herself. She felt that it gave her an intimate and encouraging environment for practicing her English and her language skills improved a lot.

Another student said she joined for "something to do" and because the program sounded interesting. She did not need service hours offered for participating in Connections.

Several students wished there had been more: more time to go "deeper" in conversations, more events, more connection. They deeply appreciated both the Connections 101 course and the rich 201 opportunities to connect with each other and enhance what they learned in the classroom.

If anyone in the RARE community would like to share the Connections 201 experience, the self-guided [Indigenous Walking Tour](#) is waiting for you to explore.

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RARE's Open Discussions Return with a Panel on Being Biracial



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RARE Awards 2023 Scholarships



Film Outreach Continues Its Impact



Connections Spring 2023 Program to Launch at Roosevelt and Garfield!

RARE's Open Discussions Return with a Panel on Being Biracial

Bruce Johnson / May 16, 2023



Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equity's (RARE) **Open Discussions** made a stirring return May 1st as a panel of five participants who identify as biracial spoke candidly about being of mixed racial ancestry in America and abroad. The group of panelists showed a collective wisdom and a willingness to tell their stories as they navigate lives that have been at times both challenging and exhilarating. Full video [here](#).

The panel included the evening's moderator, LeiLani Nishime, Professor of Communications at the UW and author of *Undercover Asian, Multiracial Asian Americans in Visual Culture*; Quincy Purcell, a Case-Western bound senior at Roosevelt High School (RHS), Jessamyn Young, a second-generation RHS grad with multiple degrees from Loyola of New Orleans; Teshika Hatch, an active RARE member who works at Equal Opportunity Schools, advocating for Black and Brown students; and TaRessa Stovall, a former Racial Voluntary Transfer student and 1973 RHS grad. TaRessa is also the author of *Swirl Girl*, a lively account of growing up biracial in Seattle.

Growing up has its challenges, and self-identity can be a struggle for many. How one views him or herself is often an issue. For many people of mixed race, having to deal with how others see them is an added challenge. For our panelists this was a daily thing that has taken them on journeys that have made for extraordinary lives. Unlike most White people who don't have to consider their race on a daily basis, these panelist have had to. At times feeling they had to explain, even justify, themselves, all the while trying to find a sense of belonging. Despite being the fastest growing ethnicity in the country, being born of mixed race can be a lonely ordeal for many as they try to fit in.

Professor Nishime led the discussion with questions, beginning with what were the most common misconceptions about biracial people? Not surprisingly, stereotyping came into play. Quincy Purcell, in explaining how some saw him, used a sports analogy of some of his peers wondering if he acquired a flare for golf from his White ancestry and the same for basketball from his African American side. He noted more skeptical treatment directed his way at airports when dealing with TSA. Other misconceptions were that biracial kids are a solution to the "race problem". TaRessa Stovall said, "We're not." Teshika Hatch added that identity brings in a lot more than race. "It's history, it's language, it's culture." Jessamyn Young's concern was not how she saw herself, but at times the judgmental ways others saw her. "You're not enough of this, or not enough of that. I'm more than enough!" All agreed that there is no particular right or wrong way to be biracial. "You're the boss of your identity," said TaRessa Stovall. "It's your journey. Embrace it."

For all the panelists, geography loomed large in their journeys. The first time Teshika Hatch felt viewed as different was when she moved to Japan and some of her classmates referred to her as "half and half".

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Fundraising Update – February 2023

Beyond the Screen: RARE's Film Outreach Making a Difference

Sarah Rankin / June 30, 2023



(L-R) Anna Peterson (Thorton Creek PTSA Moderator); Joe Hunter and Leah Scott (RARE Panelist)

RARE's film outreach efforts are going strong! This spring, we made great progress in our film outreach efforts. Since the film was produced, it has been screened with positive reviews at many schools and several religious organizations such as University Temple United Methodist Church and Beth Shalom Synagogue. Since the school year is winding down, we decided to focus current outreach efforts to religious organizations. This month, we've sent out two email blasts to over 100 religious organizations and set up email automations to customize our messaging and manage responses. We hope to see some positive responses for setting up film screening events as well as further engagement in RARE's other areas of focus including restorative practices and connections work. In the fall, we plan to again focus our outreach efforts to more schools, civic, community and business organizations.

June film screenings! This month we showed Beyond Black & White at two Seattle schools. On June 14th, RARE participated in The Center School's Racial Equity Day (RED). We screened the film during two workshops, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. 8-10 students were present per session, plus one Roosevelt High School substitute teacher attended in the afternoon. Several students participated by answering questions and providing some of their own insights based on their personal experiences. On June 16th, RARE screened the film at Thorton Creek Elementary School for a group of about 40 parents and students. We also shared a potluck meal and a meaningful post-film discussion. Main takeaways from these in-person screenings are that 1) This work of helping to foster racial equity in our schools is ongoing and unending and how important it is to continue the work anyway. 2) We need to respect others despite our racial differences 3) Connect with our own selves first. Figure out what motivates you; what you like and want to support and then go do something to help make a difference for the greater good.

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Roosevelt High School: Beyond Black & White

A DOCUMENTARY FILM (30 min)

50 Years Later, Seattle Still Struggles with Race & Diversity



LEARN HOW WE CAN DO BETTER IN THIS DOCUMENTARY ABOUT RACE AND EDUCATION, BASED ON THE EXPERIENCES OF ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL YESTERDAY AND TODAY

