



FORJ, Families Organizing for Racial Justice & the Harmony Foundation

Present:

Tell Me the Truth: Exploring the Heart of Cross-Racial Conversations

Tuesday, April 9th @ 7:30, Angier Elementary School
1697 Beacon St., Waban, MA 02468

Kickoff @ 6:30 with Mayor Ruthanne Fuller's Pre-Event Meetup



Debby Irving
Author, *Waking Up White*
Racial Justice Educator and Writer



Shay Stewart-Bouley
Blogger, *Black Girl in Maine*
Executive Director, Community Change, Inc.

How can we speak openly and honestly in cross-racial conversations? What would such a conversation even look like?

Shay Stewart-Bouley (Black) and Debby Irving (White) show us as they share racism's impact on their lives and how cross-racial conversation has been instrumental in their own understanding of 21st century racial dynamics. Shay and Debby will explore the common fears and pitfalls of cross-racial conversation that keep people isolated in their own racial groups, at the expense of personal, professional, and societal growth. They'll also help audience members understand how interpersonal social patterns hinder organizations from living up to their own ideals for diversity. No two conversations are alike as they step on stage with no agenda. Current events, in their own lives and in the larger world, inspire the organic conversation they engage in. Finally, Shay and Debby will offer suggestions to create racial justice habits that can move us from isolated events to sustainable connections. There will be opportunities throughout the presentation for "turn and talk" sharing in small groups about our own experiences.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the [Newton Cultural Council](#), a local agency which is supported by the [Mass Cultural Council](#), a state agency.