

PEACE AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE

# JOURNAL

JANUARY - JUNE 2018

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 1

**MOVING  
TOWARD  
TRUTH AND  
RECONCILIATION**



ALL PEOPLE. ALL VOICES. ALL MATTER.



When word got to me that a descendant of the 1920 Ocoee Massacre was standing at the gate of the Greenwood Cemetery the night Don Green led a civil rights tour, I rushed to meet her, knowing our work had deep meaning for the community. Sherry Donaldson learned about the Ocoee film forums on Facebook, and was anxious to share her family's story. When she and I met for coffee, Sherry recounted the night her grandmother and great grandmother escaped Ocoee, becoming "refugees" in Apopka. Robbed of their former life, the Hickey family started from scratch to once again build a successful foundation for their family. The resilience and strength of the Hickey family is unquestionable.

Hearing her story, I once again felt the pain and tragedy of this history, and the willingness to be changed by it. I also experienced the hope for our community in facing the past in order to grow together toward truth and reconciliation. I believe facing our history of racial terror, understanding the economic impact on communities of color both then and now, and working for change is vital.

## Making a Difference Together

In this issue of the *Peace and Justice Institute Journal*, you will read about the *1920 Ocoee and Beyond: Paths to Truth and Reconciliation* film forums that took place this spring. Thank you to the hundreds of people who engaged in the events. You will also be invited to attend a gathering on July 11th when the community explores the next steps in moving toward racial equity.

The journal also considers the critical role voting plays in a thriving democracy, and the historical challenge of fair and accessible voting for all. With issues of safety and gun violence facing our community, voting is the means by which every adult citizen can make their voice heard. A democracy is only as strong as the engagement of its citizens.

Ten years ago, PJI was founded on the conversation of *possibility*; the possibility of building a more respectful, affirming, and compassionate culture for all of us. What we know for sure is education is the key. Today, PJI teaches peace and conflict studies, invests in teachers as an investment in children, works with lawyers to create a more peaceful and just legal system, hosts dialogues with police and residents to build community resilience, and grows the culture of peace one person, one gathering, one conversation at a time.

Together, with the thousands of people who have utilized the *Principles for How We Treat Each Other* to become more reflective and engage in meaningful dialogue, I thank you and celebrate you. I also thank each individual who contributed to this newly designed journal which celebrates and shares the work of PJI. Together we can and will make a difference.

Join us!

Rachel Allen  
*Peace and Justice Institute Director*

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Special thanks to our contributing writers.

*Cover: Josie Onifade, facilitating Ocoee and Beyond:  
 Paths to Truth and Reconciliation*

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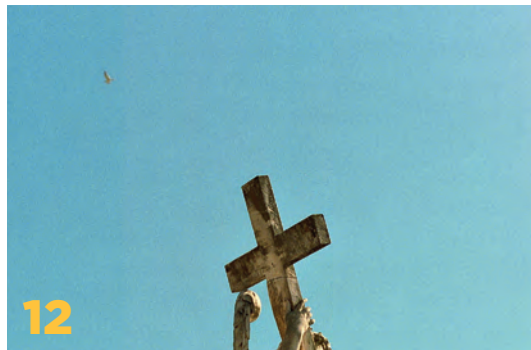
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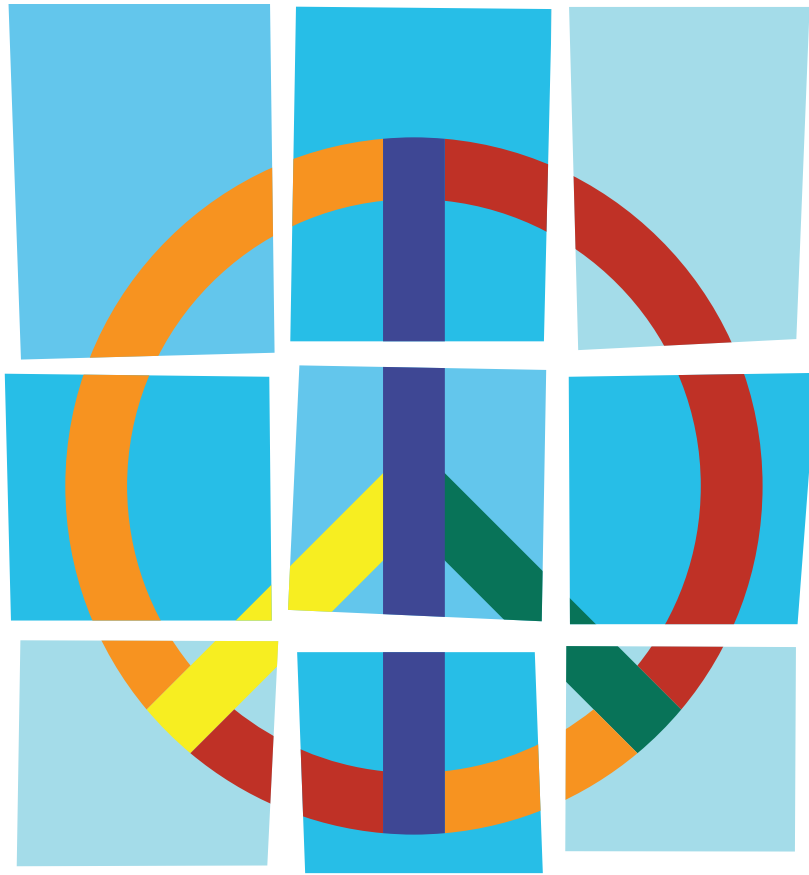


# CONVERSATION ON JUSTICE



This past spring, nearly 3000 students, faculty, staff and administrators across Valencia College experienced the annual Conversation on Justice. Covering many of today's hot-button issues - ranging from gun violence, immigration and economic inequality to food insecurity, gender and sexual orientation - each event, through the power of transformative stories, facilitated dialogue, award-winning films, art projects and more, delved into critical conversations whose ultimate goal is to promote a culture of peace and understanding and mend the fabric of our humanity.





# GLOBAL PEACE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>-27<sup>TH</sup>

Join us for our Global Peace Week with celebrations including workshops, arts and crafts, music and guest speakers

**For the full schedule of events, please visit  
[www.valenciacollege.edu/pji](http://www.valenciacollege.edu/pji)**

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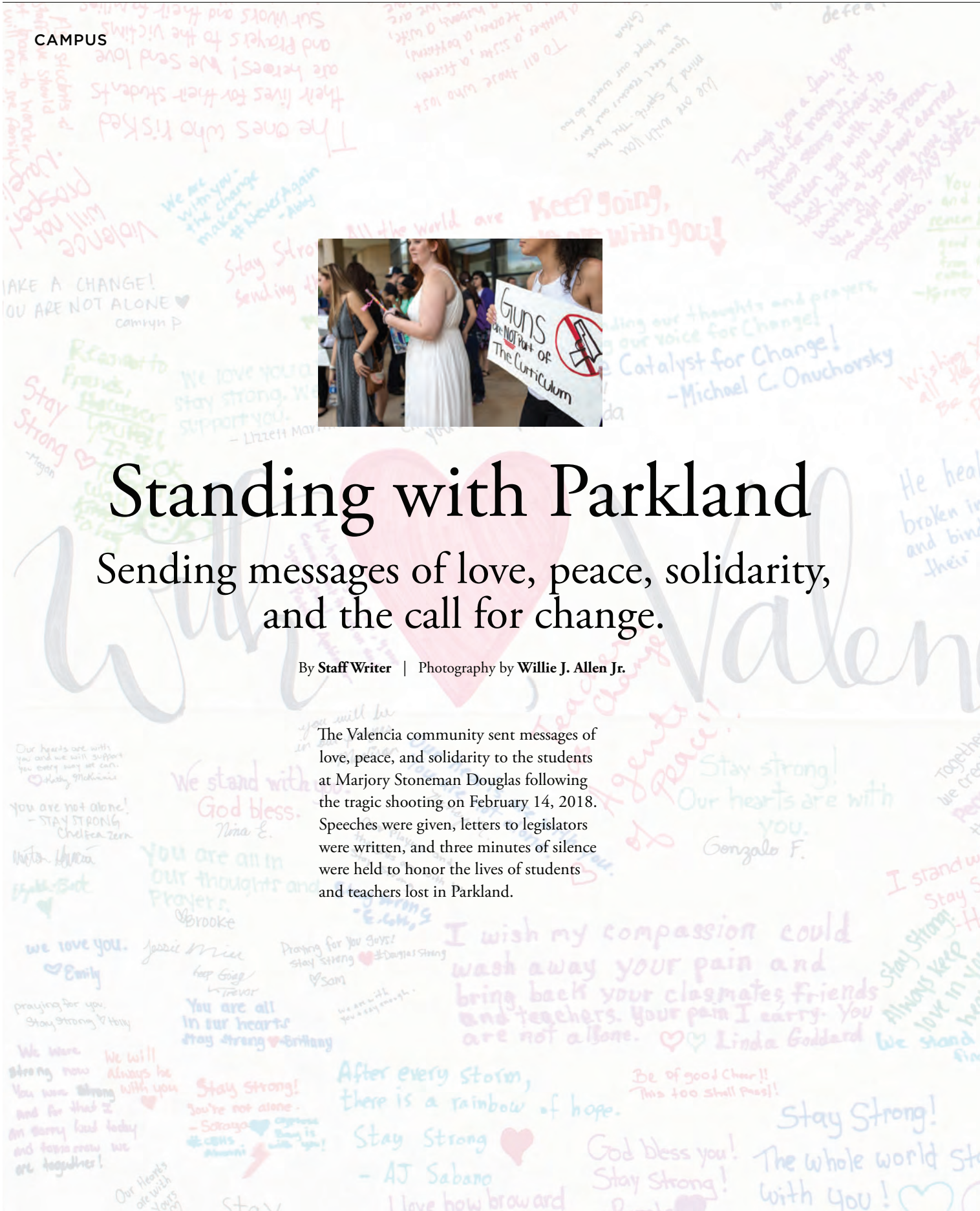


# Standing with Parkland

Sending messages of love, peace, solidarity, and the call for change.

By Staff Writer | Photography by Willie J. Allen Jr.

The Valencia community sent messages of love, peace, and solidarity to the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas following the tragic shooting on February 14, 2018. Speeches were given, letters to legislators were written, and three minutes of silence were held to honor the lives of students and teachers lost in Parkland.





The loss of loved ones isn't the easiest thing, it will never be. We as humans must always cherish those we love. Take care of each

Let this make you to be the change you want to see in the world. Most importantly, keep your head high and heart strong; never let the hate in this world ruin the good that's within you.

We support you! You voice  
F. E. A. R.  
has two meanings -  
Forget Everything And Run  
OR  
Face Everything And Rise!

EVENTS

# SPRING 2018 IN REVIEW



**SEED**

January 15–April 15

*Valencia College - All Campuses*



SEED's yearlong cohorts explore ways of developing inclusive classrooms and campuses through group processes and reflective practice.

## JANUARY

**Conversation on Justice**

January 29–February 1

*Valencia College - All Campuses*



Students engaged in weeklong critical conversations on hot-button issues ranging from gun violence, immigration, economic inequality, food insecurity, race, gender and sexual orientation, through discussion, film, art projects and more.

**1920 Ocoee and Beyond: Paths to Truth and Reconciliation**

January 29–May 15

*Various Locations*



Funded by the Florida Humanities Council, this series of eight film forums and dialogues educated participants about a historical event of racial terror lynching and explored its impact on Central Florida's race relations, voting practices and economics, then and now.

**Sowing Peace, Growing Peace Through Service**

January 15–May 2

*Valencia Winter Park Campus*



In a period of 16 weeks, these students learned about community needs, both in and outside the classroom through peace education, working with local organizations and meeting leaders making a difference in our community.



## FEBRUARY

### Valencia College Stands with the Students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School

February 21

Valencia East and West Campuses



Students from East and West Campus join together to send messages of love, solidarity, and peace to the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

### PJI Faculty and Staff Retreat

February 23-24

Venue on the Lake, Maitland

Faculty and Staff join together for the annual PJI Retreat where participants explored themes of belonging, mindfulness, and emotional intelligence based on Brené Brown's book *Braving the Wilderness*.



### Beverly Tatum, Ph.D.

February 27-28

Various Locations



Dr. Beverly Tatum, scholar and author of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* joins Valencia and PJI as part of the Inclusive Excellence Speaker Series.

## MARCH

### Peace Breakfast: An Interfaith Gathering

March 21

Valencia East Campus



Twice a year PJI welcomes faith and philosophy leaders from the community to increase interfaith understanding.

### Spring Fling Service Project

March 24

Coalition for the Homeless



PJI, along with student clubs and organizations, hosts the annual Spring Fling with music, games, art, and a lunch for Coalition residents.

## APRIL

### Legal Education Action Project Navigating Bias Series

April 20, May 18, and June 15

Valencia Winter Park Campus



This lunch and learn series for the legal community addressed unconscious bias and skillful ways of mitigating it.

### National Memorial

April 26-27

Montgomery, Alabama

PJI director Rachel Allen joins members of the local Orange County Equal Justice Initiative Task Force in Montgomery for the opening of the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. (See main image.)

# A Path to Truth and Reconciliation

By Clay Rivers, Author | Photography by Willie J. Allen Jr.



The Peace and Justice Institute, in conjunction with the Florida Humanities Council, held a series of forums entitled, “1920 Ocoee and Beyond: Paths to Truth and Reconciliation.” Eight events took place between January and May 2018 at community centers, social clubs, and high school and college campuses in Ocoee, Kissimmee, Orlando, Winter Park, and Sanford, Florida.

The forums sought to define and reveal little known facts about the 1920 Ocoee Massacre and other local events that shaped the history of racial terror in Central Florida through a nuanced facilitation of community dialogue, a panel discussion,

and a screening of the award-winning short documentary, *Ocoee: Legacy of the Election Day Massacre*, which included poignant interviews with the descendants of the lynching victim Jules Perry and descendants of the lynching mob.

The almost 100-year-old events of November, once shrouded in speculation, occurred as follows—

Over the course of two days, in response to the attempt of a black man named Mose Norman to assert his voting rights, a white mob led by Orange County officials burned 25 black-owned homes, two churches and a lodge. They also attempted to lynch those African American residents who helped Norman

resist the denial of his access to the polling station. An estimated 32 African Americans died as a result of these fires.

Jules Perry was hanged from a tree near the intersection of Orange Blossom Trail and Colonial Drive (Highway 50), near the Orlando County Jail after being accused of helping to organize a protest of Mr. Norman’s treatment by the polling officials.

This history was addressed through facilitated discourse about race and racial injustice by Peace and Justice Institute director Rachel Allen and Josie Onifade of the Bridge the Gap Coalition.

Local humanities scholars, historians and activists led the panel discussions including Francina Boykin, of the Democracy Forum; Dr. Kristin Congdon, University of Central Florida Professor Emerita; Dr. Harry Coverston, Professor



*Images from the 1920 Ocoee and Beyond: Paths to Truth and Reconciliation events including Sherry Donaldson, descendant of the 1920 Ocoee Massacre pictured standing in the far left. Darrel Gray pictured above, lent his voice to the work at multiple events during the spring.*

of Humanities at Valencia College; Dr. Heather Bryson, Professor of History at Valencia College; Curtis Michaelson of the Democracy Forum; Trent Tomengo, Professor of Humanities at Seminole State College; and Fairolyn Livingston of the Hannibal Square Heritage Center.

The forums support a larger led effort by the EJI and their efforts to face the history of lynching in America. The forums increased knowledge and dialogue about our local history of racial terror, and invited us to consider our individual

## Lynching in counties surrounding Orange County

- Brevard County - 1 lynching victim
- Lake County - 3 lynching victims
- Osceola County - 0 documented victims
- Polk County - 20 lynching victims
- Seminole County - 2 lynching victims
- Volusia County - 4 lynching victims

and collective response to these events moving forward.

As evidenced in attendees' evaluations, people experienced an increased awareness, cultural sensitivity, and initiated community healing among individuals,

who previously had little or no knowledge of this history and gained a changed perspective. Many were inspired to learn more and participate in other community activities focused on the work of peace and justice in Central Florida.

# A Lynching in Central Florida

## Exorcising the ghosts of racial terror

By Clay Rivers, Author | Photography by Stefie Zawa

I seldom, if ever, had reason to be in Ocoee. I grew up hearing rumors about Ku Klux Klan activity in Lake County. This has been a pervasive fear among black families who have lived in central Florida long enough to know of Ocoee's reputation as a sundown town. For years, a well-known sign even gave public notice that blacks should not be found in Ocoee after sunset.

On Tuesday, October 12, ghosts of Ocoee's untold horrors accompanied me on my drive into the town. I hoped, no—prayed, that my desire to attend a forum produced by the Peace and Justice Institute would lead only to a clearer understanding of the events from almost one hundred years ago and not to my own demise. White friends of mine, transplants from Chicago to Orlando, who live in Ocoee, reacted in what I interpreted as a mix of mock horror and

disbelief when I explained why I don't make visits to their secluded lakefront home late in the day: rumored lynchings that occurred in the area.

With just enough sunlight to separate the sky from the ground, my iPhone's Maps app plotted a course along two-lane roads that ran deeper into north Ocoee than I anticipated or desired. My drive cut through the shadowy landscape rife with the remains of neglected orange groves, a sprinkling of ramshackle houses, and sprawling, walled subdivisions—the state's version of twenty-first century gentrification. My destination, the ultramodern Ocoee High School, greeted me as the last of the sun's tangerine glow bled from the sky.

I overcame my desire to observe the forum from a far-removed seat near the back of the high school's cafeteria, and sat in the middle of the room for the

sole purpose of being fully engaged in the session. The facilitators encouraged participants to sit with someone they did not know. Two white guys in their early sixties (one from Rhode Island, the other from Arkansas), and a young, black college coed from Miami joined me. We bade one another warm welcomes, shared non-threatening information like hometowns and how long we lived in the area, and settled in.

The co-hosts introduced themselves, led the 120 or so attendees in a small group ice-breaker activity, and reviewed the rules of engagement—a thirteen-point list intended to foster an environment free of shame, blame, or guilt for discussion and reflection.

First item, a 26-minute award-winning documentary about the events of November 2 and 3, 1920, entitled *Ocoee: Legacy of the Election Day Massacre*,

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featuring interviews with the grandson of the man who led a lynch mob and the great-grandson of the man who was lynched for exercising his right to vote.

In 1920 Ocoee, Florida, citrus was the cash crop and owning land to grow that crop was a sign of prosperity . . . unless you were a black citizen; in which case, you were viewed by the white citizens as a threat. You see, the blacks in Ocoee had banded together, pooled their resources, and a few men like Mose Norman and Julius “July” Perry had become prosperous; more so than their white neighbors.

Across the state, blacks were registering in record numbers to unseat Southern

were killed. The mob returned with backup. Norman escaped, but Perry was subdued, then dragged behind a car. And thus began the massacre that lasted well into the pre-dawn hours of the next day.

The white mob burned at least twenty-five homes, two churches, as well as the groves of black residents and killed an unknown number of people attempting to flee the fires. Those not murdered escaped to the nearby towns of Apopka and Winter Garden with only the clothes on their backs. Perry wasn't seen again until his body appeared hanging from a tree (some sources say light post) outside Judge Cheney's well-to-do enclave.

*In 1920 Ocoee, Florida, citrus was cash crop and owning land to grow that crop was a sign of prosperity . . . unless you were a Black citizen.*

white Democrats. Roughly thirteen miles from Ocoee in Orlando, the county seat for Orange County, Judge John Moses Cheney (a Republican running for Florida Senate) started a voter registration campaign to get more blacks registered. Norman and Perry led the drive to register blacks in Orange County. Their efforts were so successful that according to the 1920 Census, 68% of Ocoee's black community registered.

On November 2, Election Day, despite warnings from the Klan that no blacks would be allowed to vote in Ocoee, Norman and Perry went to the courthouse to vote. Whites turned them away on their first visit to the polls, and pistol whipped them on their second.

That night, members of the Klan showed up at Perry's home, in search of Norman. A shoot-out ensued in which Perry was shot in the arm and two whites

No black residents lived in Ocoee for sixty years. The people who murdered, burned out, and assumed possession of black property were never brought to trial.

Judge Cheney was never elected to the Florida Senate.

The Ocoee Massacre is still considered the bloodiest day in modern American political history.

The resulting silence after viewing the documentary was deafening. No one spoke a word until after everyone completed deep-breathing and stretching exercises led by the co-hosts. They also posed questions that gave us the opportunity to voice our reactions to the film.

Between carefully led small group dialogue and panel discussions, we addressed Florida's laws which permanently strip felons of the right to vote even after their debt to society has been paid, voter

suppression, gerrymandering, racial bias against blacks, and the black community's distrust of law enforcement.

There is an old tradition in the south that there are certain things which should not be discussed and by avoiding those subjects, they'll magically remedy themselves or disappear. Out of sight, out of mind. That's not the case at all. Unresolved conflicts will only fester and poison the lives of everyone.

These discussions are difficult and painful, but necessary. Descendants of both black and white residents of 1920 Ocoee were present for the seminar. Racism is evil and it cuts both ways. One woman present had family members who committed acts similar to those of the Ocoee whites but in another part of Florida. Her shame, guilt, and sorrow were apparent, even decades after the events. And for blacks, the emotions are unspeakable. But these are the conversations that need to take place in order to achieve—not total understanding—but better understanding of ourselves and others. That's how we foster healing and growth. Today, the city of Ocoee is one of the most racially diverse of any city in central Florida.

With the knowledge of what transpired ninety-eight years ago and how much the city has changed since then, I headed to my car feeling hopeful about the future. I know now that the specters of Ocoee's past can be driven out with open and honest dialog in the light history. I'm hopeful about the future of black Americans and People of Color, in the knowledge that we have not always lived in a state of economic despair. I am inspired that even in the face of envy we thrived until hatred and murder took hold and became the accepted norm for a time. I know that real and lasting change is possible when we recognize the humanity that is inherent in all human beings.

As I left Ocoee High School that night, I felt free of ghosts from the past . . . even though the needle on my gas tank rested slivers away from E.

# Voter Suppression

## How the Poor, Felons, and Minorities are Disenfranchised in the United States

By Tyler Branz, Valencia College Professor of Political Science

“Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.” When listed here in the United Nation’s Declaration of Human Rights, there is little argument for the inhibition of suffrage in our world. Yet time and time again we read or experience some form of limit on the fundamental right to vote that deviates from the “universal and equal suffrage” that Eleanor Roosevelt and the other 18 drafters of the Declaration sponsored.

In 2016, thirty-two states in the United States had a voter-ID law on the books. Some of the strictest require a photo-ID for any individual to vote. In some cases, the federal courts have found these voter-ID laws to have a discriminatory effect on Black and Latinx voters, as seen in Texas and North Carolina. However, any limit on the right to vote may transform into the silencing of an entire group of people; a silence that can grow into an oppression.

Although the days of the appalling treatment of minority voters seem long gone to some, a perpetual awareness of the history of voter suppression is imperative. During the era of Jim Crow, states institutionalized understanding clauses, grandfather clauses, and literacy tests to hinder the participation of black voters. Only through the diligence of the NAACP, SNCC, and other civil rights activists and groups, did states begin to bend to the rules of the Fifteenth and Nineteenth Amendments. The Fifteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution



was ratified in 1870, and granted all men, “regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude” the right to vote. Congress is in charge of enforcing this amendment through proper legislation, yet it took almost a century to see the Voting Rights Act of 1965 rectify literacy tests and other arbitrary limits to suffrage.

For women, the call to arms started well before the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. At the Woman’s Rights Convention in

Seneca Falls, NY in 1848, the suffragettes garnered 100 signatures on the Declaration of Sentiments pronouncing “all men and women are created equal.” Under the law, there are still inequalities; but the Nineteenth Amendment guarantees the right to vote regardless of sex, fulfilling a promise that should have been expressed 131 years earlier.

Many of the current limits on suffrage continue to abnegate poor and working class voters, felons, and non-whites; his-

tory demonstrates this pattern has never gone out of favor. In the earliest American elections, property owners were guaranteed a right to vote as they had an interest in who governed and levied property taxes and policy. Poor citizens without property were considered non-players and were denied participation in elections with property requirements embedded into state constitutions. In accordance with the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the administration of elections (and voting requirements) was left to individual states; this allowance brandished states with immense power over who could and could not vote.

Felony convictions also prohibit voting rights for those in prison and delay the reclamation of rights for those who have served their prison sentences. Today, “Florida, Kentucky and Iowa are the only states where people convicted of a felony permanently lose their voting rights pending clemency hearings; an estimated 1.7 million Florida residents have been stripped of voting rights.” Felony convictions, however, continue to place a burden on citizens who have served their sentences and seek to restore their voting rights. The Office of Executive Clemency grants the return of voting rights, but recently Federal Courts have found the Office’s methods to be “arbitrary and exceedingly slow.”

Finally, movements toward limiting poor non-whites were increasingly prevalent. Poll taxes, especially during the Jim Crow era and the changing tides of civil rights in the mid-Twentieth Century, were utilized as just another “facially neutral” attempt to prohibit non-whites from the ballot box. With its ratification in 1964, the Twenty-Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution banned poll taxes, helping to further ensure “universal and equal suffrage” to all American citizens.

Change requires activism and diligence. The right to vote should not be a guarantee to some, but to all; regardless of age, sex, race, color, creed, religion, capacity, and/or residency. To protect suffrage rights for yourself and others, become

involved in your local and state elections along with the national forum. Subscribe to the League of Women Voters who offer citizens detailed candidate questionnaires and state amendment information. In Florida, one must register to vote 29 days in advance of any election; the registration process can be in person, by mail, or online. For upcoming primaries, one must join their party of choice 29 days prior to their party’s primary election; party changes are made through updates on a voter registration form (along with name, address, or signature changes). To vote in an election, Florida voters can access the polls in person, during the available early voting period, or through the mail. To find out more about elections in Florida and pertinent rules and regulations, be sure to visit the Florida Division of Elections website [<http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/>] and your local county Office of Elections website.

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# COMMUNITY VISIONING 1920 OCOEE AND BEYOND: PATHS TO TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



Join us for an engaging evening of dialogue, voices of descendants from Ocoee, music and arts. We will vision and share ideas about truth, reconciliation and moving toward racial equity.

Doors Open | 5:00 pm  
A light dinner will be served  
Program | 6:00 – 8:30 pm

We need you. We need your voice.  
Join us!

**Wednesday July 11<sup>th</sup>**

Valencia College West Campus  
Building 8 - Special Events Center  
1800 S. Kirkman Road  
Orlando FL 32811

For more information contact  
Ann Persaud at  
[apersaud4@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:apersaud4@valenciacollege.edu)  
407-582-6524

The event is free and open to the public. Presented by







# HOW TO GET INVOLVED with the **PEACE AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE**

**The Institute is guided by its mission: All People. All Voices. All Matter. Making a difference by intentionally engaging in practices and principles that explore, advocate, and honor the dignity of self, others, and the earth.**

## **PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES**

The Peace and Justice Institute offers a variety of interdisciplinary courses centered around perspectives of peace, community building, multicultural interconnectivity, conflict transformation, and service learning. To read the full list of peace and justice courses, visit:

<http://valenciacollege.edu/PJI/students/curriculum.cfm>

## **PEACE AND JUSTICE DISTINCTION**

The Distinction offers students an opportunity for a co-curricular focus in peace and justice to advance their personal and professional development. Through the Distinction program, the student will gain awareness, garner interest, and seek additional learning opportunities in Peace and Justice.

## **PEACE AND JUSTICE AMBASSADORS**

The Peace and Justice Ambassadors program provides students with the opportunity to give back to Valencia and the greater Orlando community by assisting the Peace and Justice Institute with events, projects and activities. Peace and Justice Ambassadors complete 60 hours of service (3 credit hours of SLS 2940) through the Peace and Justice Institute.

## **SOWING PEACE, GROWING PEACE, THROUGH SERVICE**

The Sowing Peace, Growing Peace, Through Service program provides students with the opportunity to become great peace leaders by exploring the nonviolent wisdom and practices of cultures past and present. In addition, over the course of 16 weeks, students will learn about our own community needs, both in and outside of the classroom setting, through working with local peace leaders. Students will attend 4 mandatory off-campus field trips to local organizations. After completion of all assignments, attending all meetings at the Winter Park campus, and fully participating in the 4 mandatory off campus field trips, students will receive a \$300 stipend.

## **LEADERSHIP FELLOWS**

The Peace and Justice Leadership Fellow position offers students the opportunity to become more highly engaged with the work of the Institute by aiding in the development of programming, providing administrative support, and establishing the Culture of Peace. Fellows should be committed to the values and the teachings of the Peace and Justice Institute and have strong communication, intercultural, computer and organizational skills.

For more information, please contact the  
Peace and Justice Institute at  
[PEACEANDJUSTICE@VALENCIACOLLEGE.EDU](mailto:PEACEANDJUSTICE@VALENCIACOLLEGE.EDU)

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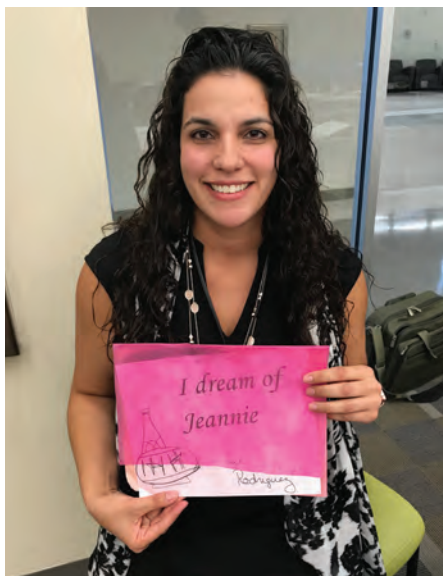
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# One Woman's Journey Through SEED

By **Jeannie Rodriguez**, Valencia College Library Staff



This year 18 people committed themselves to the year long journey of Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) at Valencia College. SEED took place once a month, for eight months, from 5:30 pm- 8:30 pm in the middle of the work week. Participants came from all areas and hierarchy of the college, had long work days, family obligations, sickness, injuries, and they still kept coming back every month full-well knowing that what may be in store could be arduous.

SEED is a national peer-led program, started over 30 years ago by Dr. Peggy McIntosh after publishing “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack.” The mission of SEED is to transform how we as educators view ourselves, our

students, and the communities we exist in. By deeper reflection into who we are, what we think, and how we navigate the world, we are able to better appreciate the differences we have and use this to build more successful, inclusive, equitable environments through personal, societal, and organizational change. Diversity and equity are not just buzz words. SEED is a unique experience that challenges indi-

the tears, the “respecting the silence”, the fellowship, the isolation, the emotional highs and lows- all of it made this SEED year impactful in a way that the caricatured version of a diversity program could never do justice.

This experience is what I view as a “life program.” As a society many of us are indoctrinated to not talk about politics, race, money, and religion - but at

*SEED is a unique experience that challenges individuals to speak openly and honestly, and what I find most important, learn how to truly listen.*

viduals to speak openly and honestly, and what I find most important, learn how to truly listen. In the simple act of listening you can open gateways into universes you did not know existed. Through stories, videos, readings, and experiential activities, a cohort is able to recognize the windows and mirrors of their lives.

Having been involved with SEED for over four years now, two years as a participant and two as a nationally trained SEED Leader, it never ceases to amaze me just how much I learn and grow from each session. While I hoped as I facilitated these sessions I would help people on their own journeys, I can certainly say they have tenfold helped me on mine. The truth spoken, the laughter,

what expense? Our expense. Our family's expense. Our communities' expense. In yearlong SEED'ing we became better equipped to have these difficult conversations. And, it's not easy. As my co-facilitator Stanton Reed always says: “It can get messy.” But, as the time goes on, participants learn to move towards that discomfort because therein lies the step toward change.

The bravery this year's cohort exhibited in speaking their truth and “trusting in the process” made the time together that much more poignant. Many “seeds” were planted and will hopefully grow and flourish in the classrooms and campuses of our college, as we create more equitable and inclusive learning environments.

# PEACE AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE

All People. All Voices. All Matter.



## PJI ACADEMY FOR TEACHERS

### “WE TEACH WHO WE ARE”

- Parker J. Palmer

The Peace and Justice Institute offers this unique and powerful experience to teachers working in K-12 through higher education with the goal of creating more inclusive, respectful, compassionate and loving classrooms and citizens. The teacher academy model is based upon ten years of collaboration with leading scholars in the field of peace studies including Dr. Peggy McIntosh, Dr. Beverly Tatum, Dr. George Lopez, Dr. Michael Nagler, Elaine Sullivan, and Dr. Alma Abdul-Hadi Jadallah. The academy pairs their insights and practices with local PJI experts to create peaceable and inclusive classrooms for your students.

### WORKSHOP DETAILS

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

K-12 and post-secondary teachers

#### WHAT?

40 hours of teacher development

#### WHEN?

July 23 - 27, 2018

### KEY TOPICS

#### CREATING AN INCLUSIVE CURRICULUM

- Scholarship on the Shelf/ Self
- Missing Histories
- Multicultural Selves
- Using Windows and Mirrors

#### CREATING A PEACEABLE CLASSROOM

- Tools for Conflict Transformation
- Peaceful Communication Skills
- Creating a Safe Space for Dialogue
- Pedagogy to Build Collaborative Classrooms

#### INTEGRATIVE EDUCATION

- We Teach Who We Are
- Holistic Education: Marrying the Head and the Heart
- Emotional Intelligence

#### DIVERSITY, BIAS AND INCLUSION

- Exploring the “Isms” through Personal Story
- Hidden Bias
- Cycle of Racism
- Ally Work

#### BUILDING CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

- Mindfulness
- Positive Interdependence
- Relationship Development

For more information contact Rachel Allen at 407-582-2709 or email [rallen39@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:rallen39@valenciacollege.edu).

# PJI STAFF



Rachel Allen  
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*Community Manager*



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*Academic Coordinator*



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*Staff Assisant II*

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*LEAP (Legal Education Action Project)  
Coordinator*

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Ramona Kalicharan  
*Osceola Campus Coordinators*

Jennifer Keefe  
*Lake Nona Campus Coordinator*

VALENCIA'S  
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JUSTICE INSTITUTE  
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70  
years

## FUND OUR WORK

With your generous help we continue to bring practices of respect and community building to Central Florida through community dialogue, workshops, speakers and peace education. Please give a tax-deductible gift today to support our work.

**GIVE**

Give online at [valenciacollege.edu/pji](http://valenciacollege.edu/pji)

If you prefer to give by check, please mail to:  
**Peace and Justice Institute**  
**C/O Valencia College**  
**MC 5-1**  
**850 West Morse Blvd**  
**Winter Park, Fl, 32789**

# NAVIGATING BIAS SERIES

## GET SMART AT LUNCHTIME

PEACE AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE  
LEGAL EDUCATION ACTION PROJECT



Aware of your biases? Learn strategies and tools to skillfully navigate Implicit Bias, Fundamental Attribution Error, and Confirmation Bias. Grow your toolkit and increase your efficacy when these prevalent biases arise in yourself, opposing counsel, and your clients.

**COURSE OFFERINGS: 75-minute classes offered at Valencia College, 850 W Morse Blvd, Winter Park, FL 32789 or at your place of business**

### Navigating Implicit Bias

- Gain understanding on how this unconscious bias develops
- Learn how it affects the judiciary and lawyers
- Discover effective tools to mitigate the effects of this bias
- Florida Bar CLE Credits: 1.0 Bias Elimination OR 1.5 General

### Navigating Fundamental Attribution Error

- Discover how this cognitive bias operates in every-day life
- Explore how it affects conflict in your law practice
- Learn effective tools to skillfully navigate this bias
- Florida Bar CLE Credits: 1.0 Bias Elimination OR 1.5 General

### Navigating Confirmation Bias

- Explore how this pervasive bias operates and manifests
- Discover how it affects your practice and your clients
- Learn precision tools to effectively navigate this bias
- Florida Bar CLE Credits: 1.0 Bias Elimination OR 1.5 General

### About LEAP

As helpers, legal professionals and those professionals working in legal-related processes are faced with situations that demand an ever-broadening scope of skills in order to facilitate civilized processes and successful outcomes. Increasing levels of dispute in society and within the professional community require conflict navigation expertise not only to support better experiences for clients, but also to support greater wellness and balance for the professional. LEAP serves legal professionals and those professionals working in legal-related processes such as collaborative divorce and mediation.

### For more information contact:

**Kiki Grossman, J.D., LL.M. at [kgrossman2@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:kgrossman2@valenciacollege.edu) or  
Will Jefferson at [wjefferson6@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:wjefferson6@valenciacollege.edu) to learn more about  
how LEAP may serve you or your organization.**



**VALENCIA COLLEGE**

Continuing Education

**PEACE AND  
JUSTICE INSTITUTE**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# FALL 2018-SPRING 2019

## JULY

WED, JULY 11

**1920 Ocoee and Beyond: Paths to Truth and Reconciliation Community Visioning**  
**West Campus**

1800 S Kirkman Road, Building 8, Orlando, FL 32811  
5:00 pm Doors Open and Light Dinner Served  
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Program

## SEPTEMBER

FRI, SEPT 14

**Global Peace Film Festival Community Screening**  
**Making a Killing: Guns, Greed, and the NRA**  
**Winter Park Campus**

850 W Morse Blvd, Room 225, Winter Park, FL 32789  
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

FRI, SEPT 21

**International Peace Day and Global Peace Film Festival Community Screening**

**Accidental Courtesy: Daryl Davis, Race & America**  
Film showing, Q&A with featured guest Daryl Davis followed by Candlelight Human Peace Sign at MLK Park.

**Winter Park Campus**  
850 W Morse Blvd, Room 225, Winter Park, FL 32789  
6:30 pm

MON, SEPT 24 – THUR, SEPT 27

**Global Peace Week**

Join us for a week of peace-related workshops, labyrinth walks, documentaries and our featured guest Daryl Davis.

**Collegewide: Check online for events schedule.**



TUE, SEPT 25

**An Evening with Daryl Davis**

Daryl Davis is an American R&B and blues musician, author, actor and bandleader. For the past 30 years, Davis, a black man, has spent time befriending members of the Ku Klux Klan.

**East Campus**

701 N. Econlockhatchee Trail, School of Arts and Entertainment, Screening Theatre, Orlando, FL 32825  
6:00 pm Reception  
7:00 pm Program

## OCTOBER

FRI, OCT 5

**Valencia Night at the Islamic Society of Central Florida**

Please join us for a tour of the mosque, free Middle Eastern meal and presentation about the fundamentals of Islam.

Register at: [valencianight2018.eventbrite.com](http://valencianight2018.eventbrite.com)

1021 N Goldenrod Road, Orlando, FL 32807  
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

SUN, OCT 21

**Valencia Day at the Central Florida Freethought Community**

Would you like to learn more about Secular Humanism and the work done by the Central Florida Freethought Community? Join us for lunch, a sample of the monthly educational events, and a Q&A forum about all things related to freethought.

**The University Club of Winter Park**

841 N Park Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789  
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

SAT, OCT 27

**Fall Fest Service Project**

Join Valencia clubs and organizations as we come together to bring a day of fun and fall festivities to the children and families in residency at the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida.

**Coalition for the Homeless**

8:30 am – 1:30 pm

## NOVEMBER

SAT, NOV 3

### Orlando Youth Empowerment Summit (OYES)

Join us for the annual free event presented by the City of Orlando in collaboration with PJI, local governments and LGBTQ+ community organizations to empower LGBTQ+ youth, community members and allies with resources and education to bring about understanding, acceptance, and inclusion.

#### West Campus

1800 Kirkman Road, Building 8, Orlando, FL 32811  
9:00 am - 10:00 am Registration/Breakfast  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm Workshops

WED, NOV 14

### Peace Breakfast: An Interfaith Gathering

Join us for an interfaith gathering and discussion with religious leaders and humanists from across Central Florida. A free breakfast is served. All are welcome!

#### East Campus

701 N Econlockhatchee Trail, Rm 8-101, Orlando 32825  
8:00 am Doors Open for Breakfast  
8:30 am - 9:45 am Program

SAT, NOV 17

### Healing Retreat with Iron Eagle for Valencia Students, Faculty and Staff

Join PJI for a retreat with Chiricahua Apache Medicine Man Iron Eagle in Ocala.  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

## JANUARY

MON, JAN 28 - THUR, JAN 31

### Conversation on Justice

Covering today's hot-button issues ranging from gun violence, immigration, economic inequality, food insecurity, gender and sexual orientation - each event, through the power of transformative stories, facilitated dialogue, award-winning films, art and more, will delve into critical conversations whose ultimate goal is to promote a culture of peace and mend the fabric of our humanity.

**Collegewide: Check online for events schedule.**

THU, JAN 31

### Black History Celebration Breakfast

Come together to celebrate the voices of courage, strength and passion from some of our African Heritage leaders within the community. Learn about their pathways to success and guiding mantras that encourage and sustain them. A free breakfast is served. All are welcome!

#### East Campus

701 N Econlockhatchee Trail, Rm. 8-101, Orlando, 32825  
8:00 am Doors Open for Breakfast  
8:30 am - 9:45 am Program

## FEBRUARY

FRI, FEB 22 - SAT, FEB 23

### Faculty and Staff Peace and Justice Spring Retreat

Nationally acclaimed speaker and facilitator, Elaine Sullivan, from the Center for Renewal and Wholeness in Higher Education returns for a multi-day retreat to explore mindfulness, emotional intelligence, social justice and the *Principles for How We Treat Each Other*.

#### Venue on the Lake, Maitland

641 Maitland Ave S, Maitland, FL 32751  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

## MARCH

TUE, MAR 5

### Women's Celebration Breakfast

Join us for a celebration of women, their courage and determination that make a difference in our local community. A free breakfast is served. All are welcome!

#### West Campus

1800 S Kirkman Road, Room TBA, Orlando, FL 32811  
8:00 am Doors Open for Breakfast  
8:30 am - 9:45 am Program

SAT, MAR 24

### Spring Fling Service Project

Join Valencia clubs and organizations as we come together to bring a day of fun and spring festivities to the children and families in residency at the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida.

#### Coalition for the Homeless

8:30 am - 1:30 pm

# PRINCIPLES FOR HOW WE TREAT EACH OTHER

## Our Practice of Respect and Community Building

1. **Create a hospitable and accountable community.** We all arrive in isolation and need the generosity of friendly welcomes. Bring all of yourself to the work in this community. Welcome others to this place and this work, and presume that you are welcomed as well. Hospitality is the essence of restoring community.
2. **Listen deeply.** Listen intently to what is said; listen to the feelings beneath the words. Strive to achieve a balance between listening and reflecting, speaking and acting.
3. **Create an advice free zone.** Replace advice with curiosity as we work together for peace and justice. Each of us is here to discover our own truths. We are not here to set someone else straight, to “fix” what we perceive as broken in another member of the group.
4. **Practice asking honest and open questions.** A great question is ambiguous, personal and provokes anxiety.
5. **Give space for unpopular answers.** Answer questions honestly even if the answer seems unpopular. Be present to listen not debate, correct or interpret.
6. **Respect silence.** Silence is a rare gift in our busy world. After someone has spoken, take time to reflect without immediately filling the space with words. This applies to the speaker, as well - be comfortable leaving your words to resound in the silence, without refining or elaborating on what you have said.
7. **Suspend judgment.** Set aside your judgments. By creating a space between judgments and reactions, we can listen to the other, and to ourselves, more fully.
8. **Identify assumptions.** Our assumptions are usually invisible to us, yet they undergird our worldview. By identifying our assumptions, we can then set them aside and open our viewpoints to greater possibilities.
9. **Speak your truth.** You are invited to say what is in your heart, trusting that your voice will be heard and your contribution respected. Own your truth by remembering to speak only for yourself. Using the first person “I” rather than “you” or “everyone” clearly communicates the personal nature of your expression.
10. **When things get difficult, turn to wonder.** If you find yourself disagreeing with another, becoming judgmental, or shutting down in defense, try turning to wonder: “I wonder what brought her to this place?” “I wonder what my reaction teaches me?” “I wonder what he’s feeling right now?”
11. **Practice slowing down.** Simply the speed of modern life can cause violent damage to the soul. By intentionally practicing slowing down we strengthen our ability to extend nonviolence to others—and to ourselves.
12. **All voices have value.** Hold these moments when a person speaks as precious because these are the moments when a person is willing to stand for something, trust the group and offer something they see as valuable.
13. **Maintain confidentiality.** Create a safe space by respecting the confidential nature and content of discussions held in the group. Allow what is said in the group to remain there.

*Prepared by the Peace and Justice Institute with considerable help from the works of Peter Block, Parker Palmer, the Dialogue Group and the Center for Renewal and Wholeness in Higher Education*





CENTRAL FLORIDA  
FREETHOUGHT COMMUNITY



VALENCIA DAY AT THE

# Central Florida Freethought Community

**Sunday, October 21, 2018 | 12:00pm – 2:00pm**  
**The University Club of Winter Park 841 N Park Ave,**  
**Winter Park, FL 32789**

Would you like to learn more about Secular Humanism and the work done by the Central Florida Freethought Community to preserve the separation between church and state?

Please join the Valencia College Peace and Justice Institute for our FIRST EVER Valencia Day at the Central Florida Freethought Community. Join us for lunch, a sample of the monthly educational events, and Q&A forum about all things related to freethought.

For more information please contact Elizabeth Falcon [emiksa@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:emiksa@valenciacollege.edu) (407) 582-6022

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CENTRAL FLORIDA  
FREETHOUGHT  
COMMUNITY

# A Conversation with Dr. Beverly Tatum

By **Dani Moritz Long**, Valencia College Senior News Writer | Photography by **Willie J. Allen Jr.**



**R**ounding out this year's Black History Month and our Inclusive Excellence Series, Beverly Tatum, president emerita of Spelman College and

author of the book, "Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria," addressed and engaged audiences from Valencia's campuses and the community.

On Tuesday, February 27, 2018, more than 150 people packed the Winter Park Community Center for a community conversation with Beverly Tatum on race,

inclusion and social change. Valencia President Sandy Shugart and Winter Park Campus Executive Dean Terri Daniels welcomed the attendees and set the stage for the community conversation.

In an interview style discussion, East and Winter Park Campus President Stacey Johnson engaged Dr. Tatum in a discussion with a series of questions about her background, inspiration for writing the book and what led her to do a 20th anniversary edition. With her warm and welcoming smile, Dr. Tatum explained that the world was a very different place when she was born.

Born in Tallahassee, Florida, her family moved to Massachusetts when she was a young child, due to Florida's refusal to desegregate and accept her father into a doctoral program at Florida State University (FSU) — the only university in the area that had the program. In fact, she shared that her father took the matter to court, and the state still refused him admittance to FSU, but ultimately, in an effort to comply with federal law, paid for him to attend a school out of state. This landed her family in Boston, where her father was able to attend college and earn his doctorate degree.

By the time her brother was of age to begin school, Beverly's parents made the decision not to move back to Florida in an effort to shield her and her brother from the harsh realities of Florida's segregated educational system. This set in motion a series of events that would shape her life and lead her into education, to study psychology, and ultimately begin teaching Black Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

After sharing her story, she engaged the audience by asking attendees to think of their personal experience with race. "How old were you," she asked when you first remembered being aware of and thinking about your race?

Many cited early experiences, as early as three or four years old, and, when asked to choose a word or emotion to describe those experiences, the words, the sentiments, weren't positive — not the kind that elicit



happiness, joy or acceptance. And when asked if those experiences were shared with parents, attendees said, "no."

"Somewhere along the way," she said, "we have gotten the message from a very early age not to discuss race." This does a disservice to positive social change, building empathy and inclusion.

People want three things, said Dr. Tatum. "All people want to be seen, heard and understood." As leaders, she explained, "you can create opportunities to share narratives."

In her conversation the next day, Wednesday, February 28, 2018, on the West Campus, Dr. Tatum continued the discussion on inclusion, access and opportunity with the "ABCs of Inclusion."

### **ABCs of Inclusion**

- A – Affirming Identity
- B – Building Community
- C – Cultivating Leadership for the 21st Century

#### **Affirming Identity**

If I took a picture of this room and I gave it to you, what is the first thing that each person would do, Dr. Tatum asked. "Look for yourself. That's the only acceptable answer," she chuckled. "And why is that important? Everyone wants to see themselves in the picture."

This holds true for our organization as well. We are looking for ourselves, who looks like us, and also, who else is included. It's important to see yourself to build positive self-image and affirm identity.

#### **Building Community**

How does this happen? Once identity is affirmed, we should look at the picture, and then ask, who is missing. Then engage those who are. Building community is critical to inclusion and issues of access and opportunity.

#### **Cultivating Leadership**

Have conversations about race. "The country is changing," she shared. In the 1950s, the U.S. population was 90 percent white. Today, 50 percent of school age children are people of color. How are we preparing our students for the future, Dr. Tatum asked, "for a future that we didn't grow up in?"

Equipping ourselves with the tools to facilitate effective, interactive conversations is important and takes practice. She encouraged us to continue to have conversations and to create safe spaces for dialogue. "Part of our challenge as leaders is bringing people together with a shared sense of belonging, and that only happens through dialogue."

# PEACE NEWS

Celebrating peace news locally, nationally, and internationally



## **Cities are letting drivers pay their parking tickets with nonperishable food**

Cities across the country are letting drivers pay their parking tickets with nonperishable food. Drivers in Lexington, Kentucky; Tallahassee, Florida; Albany, New York, and on a few college campuses, can reduce their fines or pay them off completely by donating nonperishable food items, which are then donated to a food bank or shelter in the area. *Upworthy*



## **Enzyme That Eats Plastic Accidentally Found in Lab**

It's a potential breakthrough in the fight against plastic pollution—an enzyme that can digest plastic that is commonly found polluting our environment. The discovery could one day result in a recycling solution that can process millions of tons of plastic, made from polyethylene terephthalate (also known as PET), which currently persists in the environment for hundreds of years. *National Geographic*



### Chile's Oscar for 'A Fantastic Woman' Bolsters Gender Identity Bill

Last year, the acclaimed performance in the film "A Fantastic Woman" by Ms. Vega, a transgender Chilean actress, gave a face and a voice to the plight of a largely invisible and stigmatized community. On Monday, she was celebrated as a national hero after the movie won the Academy Award for best foreign language film, a first for Chile. *New York Times*



### US sees surge in women interested in running for office

Although women are more than half the American population, they account for just a fifth of all U.S. representatives and senators, and one in four state lawmakers. After the 2016 election, 1,000 women visited the website EMILY's list to learn about running for office. That number has now surpassed 26,000. Previously, the group was in contact with 960 women. *USA Today*



### Alliance of nature, art groups launching 'Monarch Initiative'

The Nature Conservancy is establishing a unique program alongside Full Sail University, based in Winter Park, to increase awareness of the value of nature in our lives and encourage conservation action. The Monarch Initiative is a multifaceted campaign of digital and social media engagement, on the ground activities, compelling outdoor art, and community partnerships. *Okeechobee News*



### These 3D-printed homes could provide shelter to the world's most vulnerable people

A San Francisco-based nonprofit set out to tackle global homelessness in a new way: by 3-D printing homes. Their goals are ambitious, and their focus—for now—is on building houses in the Caribbean and Central and South America. "We want to build about 10 homes in El Salvador and an entire village of over 100 homes by early 2019." *PBS*



As PJI recognizes its ten years of service, I am honored to complete my fourth year as chair of the PJI Advisory Council. The Council has been integral to furthering PJI's mission, vision and values. Members serve as advocates, consultants in their areas of expertise, community connectors and generous supporters.

Rachel and I are guided by their wisdom and experience. They are nurturers and doers. And they have their own unique reflections on PJI's impact personally, at Valencia and in the community. Here are some of their voices:

**Dr. Stacey Johnson:** "If you think about the evolution of the Peace and Justice Institute, you could say we are about this work from within and from without. Like breathing, each one of us who inhales deeply the learnings and experiences of PJI, it deepens our understandings within Valencia College, and now even more deeply, within our community.

## Peace and Justice Institute Celebrates Ten Years of Service

**Allie Braswell:** PJI has provided an opportunity for our community to come together to make an impact throughout our region. It started as a vision, and today it is a reality - encouraging Global Thinking, Impacting Local Thought Leaders and Empowering Generations to come together to realize the true ideal of Peace and Justice for All.

**Judge Robert LeBlanc:** PJI and the ideals espoused have impacted my interaction with litigants and lawyers in the courtroom. Mindfulness with respect to everyone creates a healthier environment in the courtroom, despite the drama of the legal action being litigated.

**Anna Eskamani:** PJI is truly a Central Florida gem that shines through every person it touches. Through intentional dialogue and courageous conversations, we are creating a more united community that tackles the unknown, versus ignoring or running away from it.

**Krystal Pherai:** It was with the help of PJI that I found my voice and strength to make a positive difference in our community. Through peaceful practices like the Principles for How We Treat Each Other and crucial conversations on social justice issues, my life has been forever changed - all for the better.

**Dr. Debidatta Aurobinda Mahapatra:** PJI provides an innovative platform to deliberate and build peace at the grassroots level. As members, we share our experience in various fields of community engagement and learn from each other. The events on empowering the voiceless are transformational.

**Dr. Yasmeen Qadri:** PJI is powerful and helps me to be the change I wish to see! As a Muslim woman I am continuously surrounded by prejudices and stereotypes and I find peace and strength in PJI which has impacted me personally in my efforts to work for peace and justice in my family, classrooms, college, community and the global village.

**Nina Streich:** PJI provides visionary leadership to not just Valencia College but to the entire Central Florida community. I'm proud to be on the Advisory Council and

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honored to be part of such an inspiring group of community leaders, faculty and students. I look forward to the next ten years and the promise that it holds.

**Sue Foreman:** PJI brings a powerful answer to the question: “How do we stop this senseless violence?” It is the most hopeful movement for our time. PJI’s core group inspires our expanding community with a deep and courageous understanding of our history, engages all people in effective and healing dialogue, and gives us a vivid shared vision of a peaceful and just future.

**Greg Higginson:** My time with PJI has exposed me to countless new insights about social justice, and strengthened my resolve to help make a difference in this community. I am especially filled with hope for the future when I know that Valencia students and other young people are beginning their adult lives with such an enriched, enlightened perspective on right versus wrong in our society.

**Kristin Grossman:** PJI has provided me, above all, really cool friends! To be able to have those in your life who speak your “language” and who are able to empathize with your journey, is invaluable. PJI brings positive change to lives by helping build relationships and community.

**Subhas Rampersaud:** On a personal level I have become a better listener, and I imbibe and practice our principles more readily. I find that I quickly “turn to wonder” when I find myself in situations that I would normally react harshly, or make judgments of others. I am also more welcoming of ideas different from my own whether in the classroom or in my personal circles.

**Marcia Hope Goodwin:** The Valencia Peace and Justice Institute is a valuable, unique resource that Orlando offers Central Florida and our nation. PJI’s ten year history of reducing bias and encouraging inclusion is an extraordinary asset for our region.

**Dr. M.C. Santana:** PJI reminds me of my humanity and how we need to be connected more through love than through hate.

**Pam Kancher:** As the Executive Director of the Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center, I am honored to be a member of PJI’s Advisory Council. PJI is one of our Center’s most valued partners; inspiring us all to actively “nurture an inclusive, caring and respectful” community.

**Lauri Lott:** I teach future teachers, and they will have such impact on the minds of our future generation. Thank you PJI for leading this work and giving me the tools I need to create future teachers who will guide our youth with a compassionate heart.

Rachel joins me in thanking the members of the Advisory Council for their passion for peace and justice and dedication to building a community of inclusive excellence where All People. All Voices. All Matter.

Patricia Ambinder  
Peace and Justice Institute Advisory Council Chair

# PEACE AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE

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**Be a part of the Peace and Justice Institute, visit us online at**

[facebook.com/valenciapeaceandjustice](https://facebook.com/valenciapeaceandjustice)  
[valenciacollege.edu/pji](http://valenciacollege.edu/pji)

*Kiki Grossman engaging in dialogue with an officer at the 6th Orlando Speaks on June 4, 2018 at Lake Nona High School.*