

# Teaching for Change Highlights

## January - April, 2007

Greetings!

Thanks to your collaboration and support, we have been able to achieve the accomplishments described briefly in this newsletter, and more. Our work is presented in three major program areas: parent organizing, professional development, and publications.

### PARENT POWER: TELLIN' STORIES

#### National News

Tellin' Stories was featured on the cover story of the Center for Community Change newsletter.

#### Tellin' Stories Selected for PIRC Grant Partnership

The Mid-Atlantic Equity Center was awarded the USDE Parent Information Resource Grant for Maryland and has selected Tellin' Stories as one of the lead partners for a 3-year contract. Work has begun in both Prince George's County and Baltimore.



#### Whole Foods 5% Day a Big Success

Tellin' Stories was selected among many applicants to receive 5% of the Tenley store proceeds on March 27. Thanks to everyone who helped with outreach and shopping, we made \$4,555 for the day. We also gained visibility with a color full page spread in the store's newsletter, on a banner hanging all month, and through an outreach table on the 27th.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### McComb, Mississippi

The first stage of our work with the McComb Public School District will be completed by the end of spring when we deliver the lessons for grades K-7 and the 8th grade course on the Civil Rights Movement and labor history of McComb. In June we will begin professional development so that the new curriculum can be launched in the 07-08 school year.

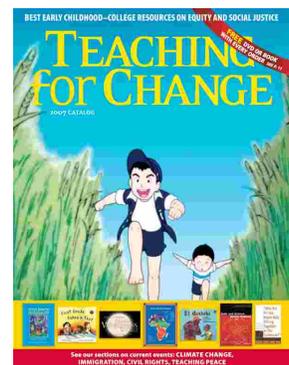
## Early Childhood Equity Initiative

Joining the Teaching for Change work that has been ongoing in McComb, Mississippi for two years, Cecelia Alvarado conducted a workshop for 20 public school early childhood educators on How to Talk to Young Children about Skin Color. Participants read and discussed children's literature and created self-portraits on a paper plate. They said this was the first time the issue of addressing race with young children had been discussed professionally and was badly needed.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Catalog

The 2007 catalog is hot off the press and in full color with 26 new titles including the new edition of Teaching Economics as if People Mattered, the ground-breaking film Making Whiteness Visible and more children's books. In order to sustain the catalog we need to boost our sales by 60%. So, we need your help. Please ask your friends and colleagues to make their book and DVD purchases through the Teaching for Change catalog and bookstore at Busboys and Poets (14th and V Streets NW).



### Customer Service

We have launched new mail order management software which will allow more opportunities to support and communicate with catalog customers.

### Bookstore

We have hosted appearances by Peniel E. Joseph (Waiting 'til the Midnight Hour), Dave Zirin (The Muhammad Ali Handbook), Congressman John Lewis (John Lewis in the Lead), Gary Howard (We Can't Teach What We Don't Know), and many more. Thanks to intern Nuala Cabral we are uploading these presentations to YouTube.

### Conferences

We were the lead vendor at NCCREST, MAEC, and the NWP Urban Sites Conference with book signings for Sonia Nieto (right), Beth Harry, Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, Bob Moses, Gloria Ladson-Billings and more.



## ORGANIZATION

### Staff Transitions

Doris Watkins, longtime and award-winning Citywide Senior Coordinator with the Tellin' Stories Project, is relocating to Richmond, Virginia to be closer to her family. She will return periodically to mentor our two new staff for Tellin' Stories, Dyana Forester and Catalina Talero. Lauren Cooper and Osmin Canales have joined the Publications Department.



### Board Transitions

Long-time Board members Heleny Cook and Nizam Ali are departing their formal roles on the board, but both have promised to continue to be involved with the organization. Heleny has provided invaluable support with board development, organizational development and fundraising. Nizam played an active role on the Communications Committee, secured our logo, and advised on the opening of the bookstore.

### Fundraising

Our focus now is on raising funds for our organizational core so that we can provide the support needed for our programs. The end-of-the-year campaign raised \$5,075 -- with double the individual contributions from last year. On our website we recognize all the donors who have contributed in 2006 and 2007 and those who have contributed for multiple years. We are very grateful to everyone who contributes to Teaching for Change so that we can build social justice, starting in the classroom. See full list.

The Wendling Foundation has provided a critically needed grant of \$50,000 for general support. To sustain our work, we still need to raise an additional \$62,000. You can help, donate now!

### Audit

The 05-06 financial audit has been completed and is available on request.

We ask that you encourage your colleagues to join you in supporting Teaching for Change. Ask them to patronize our catalog and bookstore. Or consider hosting a gathering at your home or workplace to introduce the work of Teaching for Change. We can provide a presenter and materials for a 30 minute to 2 hour session.

### Sincerely,

Deborah Menkart  
Teaching for Change