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Racial Justice Educational Resources from UW–Madison’s Real Talk for Real Change Series Available for Free Online

The School of Education Offices of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (OEDI) and Professional Learning and Community Education (PLACE) hosted the seven-part webinar series which highlights scholars of color and community members.

Madison, WI: In a school year unlike any other, educators were confronted with the challenging and critical work of teaching remotely and addressing movements in support of racial justice. The [Real Talk for Real Change Series](#) connected the work of schools and communities with the research of more than 30 educational scholars of color from around the country who served as panelists. Even though the pandemic is winding down and most schools are returning to in-person instruction, the anti-racist topics addressed in the series will remain relevant in the years ahead.

“We know that many educators and other folks avoid talking about race and racism. Why? It’s uncomfortable, it may lead to conflict, or call for skills that few of us possess. Often this avoidance comes down to a fear of misspeaking, a fear of sounding racist, or unintentionally doing harm,” says Dr. LaVar Charleston, Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at the UW–Madison School of Education and the host of the symposium series. “Part of getting folks ready to talk about race and engage in antiracist work is to first deal with our own fears. So as we think about engaging in this conversation, as we reflect on our own comfort level, we’ve got to think about how we will stay engaged even when the topic of race arises and even when we’re feeling uncomfortable.”

Recordings of the seven-part Real Talk for Real Change Series are available for free online. The series was open to the public and focused on the critical issues of racial justice in education by centering the voices of UW–Madison scholars of color and community members. By offering the series for free on our website, our hope is to share knowledge and facilitate conversations that encourage the wider education community to focus on equity in policies, curriculum, and practices of teaching and learning.

We invite school communities to interact with these video recordings as texts to anchor conversations. [All seven events in the Real Talk for Real Change Series](#) are available on the PLACE website. Session topics and links to recordings are included below:

- [Leading Antiracist School Communities](#)
- [Advancing Health Equity in the Era of COVID-19](#)
- [Addressing Inequities in School Policies, Policing, and Discipline Practices](#)
- [Advancing Hip Hop as a Path Toward Equity](#)
- [The Power of Real Talk to Make Real Change](#)
- [Centering the Whole Child in Teaching and Learning](#)
- [Rethinking Schools, Rethinking Learning](#)

This event was hosted by OEDI and PLACE. This partnership was made possible by the generosity of the Wisconsin Center for Education Products and Services (WCEPS) and the School of Education's Impact 2030 Initiative.

About PLACE: The office of [Professional Learning and Community Education \(PLACE\)](#) draws on the best ideas and people in the UW–Madison School of Education to provide transformational learning experiences for artists, educators, leaders, and lifelong learners around the world.

Sincerely,

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