

Engagement

- POCC/SDLC

The annual NAIS People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference took place in National Harbor, MD. The theme of this year's conference was *Capital's Mosaic: independent school leaders building an interconnected world*. The HM delegation included nine adults and five UD students. We travelled by bus with representatives from Riverdale Country Day School.

In April, we gathered together students and faculty who have attended POCC/SDLC during the past five years for a five-year reunion. The students were asked to share reflections on what they took away from the SDLC experience and how it has impacted their lives at HM. Common themes were the personally transformative nature of SDLC, the deep experience of feeling safe to share personal stories with peers, and the raised awareness and understanding of the potential for change that they all brought back to their lives in school. Students also reflected on the important role adults play in a school community in supporting and advocating for student activism.

- Parent and faculty discussion

In February, the Hispanic/Latino Family Network, hosted a discussion on bilingualism. Thirty parents, students and teachers were present. The question posed by the event's organizers was: How do bilingual people dream, think, develop and learn? Ms. Luana Ferreira, HM math teacher and Ph.D. candidate in linguistics, started the evening with comments and shared research on bilingualism to inform the round-table discussion. One question on the mind of many parents was whether or not raising children in their native language had significant impact on their children's ability to learn and perform well in English. The discussion revealed the complexity of the answer to this question as the participants shared stories of their children's experiences in school, the advice they had received from experts, and the personal choices and decisions they have made within their families.

- Other opportunities in 2013-14 for community engagement

- Fall and Spring Family Gatherings

- Faculty of Color Dinner

- Collaboration between HM Music Department Steel Drum students and Jose Obando and musicians

- Community to Diversity: socio-economic diversity, POD conference at Dalton School

- Professional Development

In 2013-14 the Office of Diversity staff participated in several NYSAIS conferences including *Social Justice Collaborators Conference* and *Diversity Practitioners Conference*. Other conferences included *Multicultural Resource Center, Middle Division Diversity Conference* at Haverford School, *Think Tank on Global Education* at Harvard School of Education and *Global Connections*, an international seminar for school administrators. The staff also presented at several conferences including the *NYSAIS Diversity Conference*, *Young Men of Color Symposium* at Riverdale Country Day School and *Brooklyn Heights Montessori Early Childhood Diversity Conference*.