



ADL's Mountain States Region *No Place for Hate*® Newsletter



The Anti-Defamation League Launches No Place for Hate®

On March 13, 2008, Denver Mayor **John Hickenlooper** and ADL's **Regional Director Bruce H. DeBoskey** launched ADL's new education program for Colorado and Wyoming schools, No



Manhattan Middle School ADL leaders with Jerry Pinsker, No Place for Hate® Volunteer School Liaison and Jeff Arbuckle, teacher

Place for Hate®, and its companion guide, the 2008-2009 edition of *Positive Impact! Tools for Respecting differences*.

On May 5, 2008, Boulder's Manhattan Middle School of Arts and Academics became the first school in Colorado to earn their No Place for Hate® designation.

At the designation ceremony, 20 seventh-grade students, who led the charge at the school and named themselves ADL Leaders, unveiled Manhattan's 2007-2008 No Place for Hate® banner.

Manhattan Middle School has returned for the 2008-2009 school year to once again be designated a No Place for Hate® school.

"Middle school kids are the answer," Manhattan Middle School Principal Martha Gustafson said. *"They are all about changing the world and they want to do the right thing. We need to give them opportunities like the No Place for Hate® program which has enough structure and content to empower the kids."*

"I feel good about being a part of ADL's program because we, the students, are changing the culture at our school."

"The No Place for Hate® activities have really gotten us to talk to our fellow students."

"We can do it! We can make our school better by being kinder to each other."

ADL is excited to announce these participating schools:

- Cherry Creek High School, Englewood
- Congregation Beth Evergreen, Evergreen
- Durango High School, Durango
- Eaglecrest High School, Centennial
- East High School, Denver
- Greeley West High School, Greeley
- Manhattan Middle School, Boulder
- Miller Middle School, Durango
- Nevin Platt Middle School, Boulder
- North Valley Middle School, La Salle
- Pine Creek High School, Colorado Springs
- Rangeview High School, Aurora
- Sand Creek High School, Colorado Springs
- South Valley Middle School, Platteville
- Southern Hills Middle School, Boulder
- University Schools, Greeley
- West Middle School, Aurora
- Wheatland High School, Wheatland, WY
- Whiting High School, Laramie, WY

Kudos Korner

Jerry Pinsker, retired middle school counselor, has been an A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute facilitator with ADL for more than three years. Jerry was our first volunteer school liaison and currently works with Manhattan Middle School. His involvement was critical in launching our No Place for Hate® Campaign.

It is through Jerry's tireless work and dedication to our programs that this endeavor has been a huge success. Thanks Jerry!

Sponsors and Supporters

ADL would like to thank our generous sponsors: Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation, LLC, the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado and the David and Laura Merage Foundation, and our supporters: The Chotin Foundation, Polk Majestic Travel Group, Wells Fargo and The Melvin & Elaine Wolf Foundation. Due to their generosity, ADL can provide the No Place for Hate® campaign free to 20-25 Colorado and Wyoming schools for the 2008-2009 school year.

“Research shows that when there are programs like this in

schools, kids attend more and perform better because there is less harassment and less hate speech,” said Mary Lou Makepeace, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Colorado.

“It is through diversity awareness and cultural education that we can equip children with the power to create a culture of acceptance,” said Sue Renner, Foundation Manager of the David and Laura Merage Foundation.



Highlights from the Field

Rangeview High School in Aurora began their No Place for Hate® designation process before students arrived for start of the 2008-2009 school year. On August 1st, 100 faculty and staff participated in an ADL workshop that asked participants to engage with each other about their views, opinions and personal histories as it related to prejudice and discrimination. Over the years, the faculty and staff have reviewed data regarding achievement gap issues, and discussed instruction techniques as well as other issues related to anti-bias education. This year, the ADL workshop provided a catalyst for ongoing professional development meetings particularly about culture and race, which are planned throughout the year for faculty and staff.

Also this fall at Rangeview High School, the student production of RENT was a great success, not only for its staging, but also for the discussion groups that were formed to examine the numerous issues brought to life within the play. Students engaged in conversations with each other about race, sexual orientation, homelessness, and the discrimination that still abounds in society today.

Currently, Art Teacher Vicki Vitatoo, with the assistance of students, is creating an enormous (19 ft long by 10 ft high) canvas No Place for Hate® banner, which is expected to be unveiled in early November. It will have elements of the Resolution of Respect on it and students will be asked to sign the banner which will hang in Rangeview High School's commons as a permanent fixture.

Each No Place for Hate® school is creating something unique and different, bringing together all parts of their community to create a safe and inclusive school. If you want your school's efforts to be highlighted in our next newsletter, please send your stories, pictures, etc. to Denver@adl.org.

How to Become Designated a No Place for Hate® School

There are five simple steps to follow in order to become designated a No Place for Hate® school:

1. Create a coalition to oversee the implementation of No Place for Hate®.
2. Sign ADL's *Resolution of Respect*.
3. Complete three or more activities listed in ADL's *Positive Impact! Resource Guides' 101 Ways to Make a Positive Impact!*
4. Participate in A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute training program.
5. Complete and submit documentation to ADL.

Go to www.adl.org/mountain-states, click on the No Place for Hate® logo, for all necessary No Place for Hate® forms and additional information. You can also call 303-830-7177 ext. 212 or email Denver@adl.org.

