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**The Rainbow Fund**

Diversity is being invited to the party; inclusion is being asked to dance. ~Verna Myers

The Storyteller Foundation is committed to awarding scholarships to wonderful writers of all hues under the rainbow because we know to dialogue with myriad cultures, orientations, and beliefs we can empower a more harmonious world. To paraphrase Joseph Campbell - it’s not the politicians who lead the people, but the storytellers, and we believe with more diverse representation among our storytellers, we have the brightest tinder for greater global compassion and unity.

Created in 2022, the Rainbow Fund is an essential need-based award to support, elevate, and amplify exceptional storytellers far too long underrepresented in the authentic and inclusive beauty of humanity’s diversity. With our supportive kindred souls like you we are building scholarship resources for five full scholarships and 15 partial scholarships for Story Summit at The Kauai Writers Conference in November 2022 and for 20 women of diversity to attend the Her Spirit Story Summit in December 2022.

For those who would like to help with our Rainbow Fund Raising Initiative and open the door to greater understanding, please read on to see a few important points on diversity. Links are also added below if you wish to read the included articles or see the latest. Data is constantly shifting and not always for the better in the most recent climate, so we thank you for your heart to help.

Please peruse our pages for toolkits and links how you can join our community of game-changers at any level. Together, we are rewriting the narrative for a happier and healthier world. Welcome!

Sincerely,

Jane Sibbett, Chair Storyteller Foundation

Candace Green Blust, Chief of Diversity, Storyteller Foundation

“To help bridge the gaps between where we are and where we should be, Think Tank for Inclusion & Equity and Storyline Partners have developed the **#WriteInclusion: Tips for Accurate Representation** project. These heavily researched and vetted factsheets are designed as a tool to guide storytellers through a number of mis- and underrepresented communities and issues. If you have questions of what diversity might mean or how we can help, please read: <https://www.writeinclusion.org/factsheets>

**Why is diversity so important?**

“We are striving to forge our union with purpose. To compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters, and conditions of man. And so, we lift our gaze, not to what stands between us, but what stands before us.”

~Amanda Gorman, National Youth Poet Laureate

When we gather with greater heart and diversity, we …

# Reduce Discriminations and Racism

When you experience or see more of something, it will become normal. Putting biology aside and have an example. When you first see a polar bear in Africa, you may find it strange because it is out of your typical experience. However, once you see more polar bears in Africa you will start to believe it is normal.

The same ideas apply to discrimination. If you are introduced to or become more aware of a different culture, race, or [gender](https://diversity.social/gender-bias/) in a diverse environment or society.

You tend to become less discriminating because of your new world experience.

# Create a More Colorful life experience

Our worldview changes the way we experience our lives, as we describe above. When you interact, socialize, and work with people from different experiences, you can hear and learn from people. Not many people are fortunate enough to be able to travel the world or work as an ex-pat in many different counties.

Alternatively, we can learn from people coming from different backgrounds.

# Build a more balanced world

Extremists usually have extreme views because they do not have the opportunity to understand the other side’s arguments. Having diversity and inclusion will improve the balance of opinions, and views in any setting. A well-balanced world will accept different opinions and reduce fears of differences. A well-balanced [world can also improve the average cultural competency in society](https://diversity.social/cultural-competence/).

“It’s just common sense…when you put individuals with different worldviews together, you’re going to get a wide variety of ideas for solving problems or finding new, more efficient ways of doing things.”

([Read more…)](https://diversity.social/why-is-diversity-important/)

“Diversity and inclusion boosts innovation and creativity and helps to build resilience.” ([The](https://sustainabilitymag.com/diversity-and-inclusion-dandi/the-state-of-diversity-and-inclusion-in-2022)

[State of Diversity & Inclusion in 2022](https://sustainabilitymag.com/diversity-and-inclusion-dandi/the-state-of-diversity-and-inclusion-in-2022))

“The Academy explained its initiative to push the studios to embrace greater diversity in the next few years with this statement: “Our values at the Academy are based on the belief that arts and sciences, including the arts and sciences of filmmaking, thrive from diversity. This belief, coupled with our mission to recognize and uphold excellence in the motion picture arts and sciences, inspire imagination, and connect the world through the medium of motion pictures, requires a commitment to representation, inclusion and equity. There are so many stories that need to be told and have not yet been told – we want to encourage this across the industry.” ([make](https://www.cnbc.com/2022/03/24/ucla-hollywood-diversity-report-shows-women-and-people-of-colors-film-industry-progress.html) [it](https://www.cnbc.com/2022/03/24/ucla-hollywood-diversity-report-shows-women-and-people-of-colors-film-industry-progress.html))

Even fiscally, in all walks of business, diversity is essential. [Financial import of diversity.](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/09/how-diverse-is-media-and-entertainment/)

**We will all profit from a more diverse, inclusive society, understanding, accommodating, even celebrating our differences, while pulling together for the common good.**

**~ Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

Thank you again for supporting our work by donating to the Rainbow Fund or volunteering to help us help a more colorful world of hope.

**Quotes on Diversity**

Diversity is about all of us and about us having to figure out how to walk through this world together.

~ Jacqueline Woodson

Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization. ~ Mahatma Gandhi

It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.

~ Audre Lorde

Diversity: the art of thinking independently together. ~ Malcolm Forbes

INCLUSION—It's amazing what happens when we allow the flower that is us, the flower that is them, to become part of the bouquet. ~ Laurie Buchanan

Strength lies in differences, not in similarities. ~ Stephen R. Covey

Tolerance is not creating characters to suit a particular audience. It’s about inclusion of characters representing our societies. ~ Gloria D. Gonsalves

Inclusion is not a matter of political correctness. It is the key to growth.

~ Jesse Jackson

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| Diversity doesn't look like anyone. it looks like everyone. | |
| ~ Karen Draper | |
| Urging people to be inclusive is not an attack. It is progress. |  |

~ DaShanne Stokes

I think... if it is true that there are as many minds as there are heads, then there are as many kinds of love as there are hearts.

~ Leo Tolstoy