



## Voice of Witness Services

### **For Schools and Districts: Professional Development, Curriculum Writing, Consulting, and In-classroom Support**

Voice of Witness (VOW) is a human rights oral history nonprofit that offers expert curricular design and professional development support to schools, districts, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and more. We design customized classroom projects, professional development workshops, curricular activities, and community events that center student engagement, deepen educator professional development, and enhance learning opportunities for whole communities.

For students, oral history-based education fosters:

- Social-Emotional Learning
- Critical Thinking
- Literacy (Reading and Writing)
- Communication
- Empathy & Belonging
- Community Engagement & Participation

More findings about the impact of oral history education are on [our website](#) and [in our case study](#).

For educators, oral history pedagogy enhances:

- Interdisciplinary and multimedia approaches to classroom projects
- Ethics-driven, trauma-informed classroom practices
- Strategies for collaboration, partnership, and community engagement
- Social and cultural awareness and empathy

**We operate on a sliding scale to accommodate a wide range of schools and organizations. Each budget is developed in response to the partner's profile, the scope of the project, and timeline.**

Every engagement is designed to meet the specific needs of the classroom, school, or district. While all services are built upon our ethical storytelling values and oral history methodology, there is a wide range of flexibility on the objective, topic, theme, outcome, product, and experience. Sample past partnerships have included in-depth classroom support at multiple sites in the San Francisco Unified School District, [curricular design](#) for the New York City Department of Education, workshops with the University of San Francisco School of Education, and an [intergenerational storytelling project](#) between schools and the retirement community Sequoia Living.

Below are a few versions of the services we offer.

## Professional Development

Ranging from one-hour sessions to multi-day trainings, our professional development workshops are designed to introduce oral history pedagogy directly to educators with concrete curricular examples. These include project planning units as well as individual activities that can be brought directly to the classroom. All workshops will be tailored specifically to meet the needs of the participants and can be adapted for grade levels ranging from 3rd grade through graduate school. The workshops can also be designed for specific departments or subjects, as well as inclusive of administrative staff. These can be conducted in person at a school site or virtually on Zoom.

Sample sessions can focus on:

- Oral history pedagogy founded in empathy, active listening, and critical thinking
- Community-building practices used within the classroom and with external partners
- Curriculum writing support that centers student voice and community engagement
- Project planning that amplifies student, family, and community stories
- Activities that strengthen Social Emotional Learning skills
- Scaffolding projects and activities for multilingual learners

The number of facilitators is dependent on the size of the group and needs of the programming. We strive to create an environment where participants will feel brave enough to share openly as well as have time for personal reflection with support from our facilitators. **We operate on a sliding scale outside of the listed range dependent on school or organizational size, workshop scope, and other factors.** Prices do not include travel outside of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Example estimated costs, including administrative fees:

- One-hour session: 1 facilitator for 30 participants is \$800-2,000
- Two-hour session: 1 facilitator for 30 participants is \$1,400-2,800
- Full-day session: 1 facilitator for 20 participants is \$4,000-7,000
- Full-day session: 2 facilitators for 50 participants is \$6,000-10,000

Follow-up support for participating educators is always included. Sample agendas for individual sessions can be shared upon request. Reach out for more information.

## Curriculum Writing

Our curricular services create highly detailed units for your school or district that can be used for a variety of subjects, including Ethnic Studies, Social Studies, English (language and literature), and interdisciplinary programs. These units feature in-depth lessons that can span single classes or full semesters and adhere to Common Core standards as well as Social Emotional Learning practices. Units can also be tailored to state- and district-specific standards.

Depending on the scope of the project, these units range from \$1,000-20,000.

## In-Classroom Support

Our education team provides in-classroom support to educators (teachers and teacher-librarians) who are pursuing oral history projects or utilizing first-person narratives in their curriculum. These services usually follow a professional development session that orients the educators to oral history pedagogy while providing day-to-day planning and implementation support. Our staff are trained to work directly with students from 3rd grade through graduate school, tailoring our approaches to the appropriate audience.

These range from a single guest workshop to unit-long, semester-long, or year-long support.

Sample workshop sessions can include:

- Interview practices and creating open-ended questions
- Editing collected narratives (written, audio, or visual)
- Applying first-person narratives to wider themes and topics
- Guest interviews to dive deeper into a specific theme or topic

A few examples of oral history projects include:

- [Oral History Cookbook](#)
- [Ethnic Studies podcasts](#)
- [Photography and oral history](#)
- [Video Interviews Exploring Immigration](#)

Each session and/or support programs are designed to meet the needs of the specific classrooms.

**We operate on a sliding scale dependent on school or organizational size, project scope, and other factors.** This in-person support is available at sites within the San Francisco Bay Area.

Single workshop sessions range from \$100-700 and full-length projects range from \$1,000-5,000 depending on the length, depth, and scope of each session and/or project.

Dedicated support throughout a district to multiple sites is available upon request and a budget will be determined based on the needs of the program.

**Curious to learn more and explore a collaboration? Don't hesitate to reach out! Contact our Education Program Director, Erin Vong Limoges, at: [edu@voiceofwitness.org](mailto:edu@voiceofwitness.org)**