

Would you like to be unjudged? Become a human book and share your story.

In partnership with the Office of Equity and Diversity and other departments on campus, the Smith Library is organizing a *Human Library* event.

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 1 - 5 pm at the Library

What is the *Human Library*? This event aims to promote dialogue and a deeper understanding among people. Students, faculty, and staff volunteer as *Human Books* representing individuals who have experienced discrimination based on race, religion, sexual orientation, class, gender, identity, lifestyle choices, disability, and other aspects of their life.

At the event, participants can 'read' the book – meaning they would have a one-on-one conversation and ask questions about these experiences around judgement. The *Human Library* provides the opportunity for the Eastern campus community to share and understand the experiences of others and break down barriers.

Our <u>Human Library Guide</u> explains more about the event and includes the <u>Human Book</u> <u>Application Form</u>. Please join us and spread the word!





The Human Library @ Eastern

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Thu 4/14/2022 11:24 AM

To: Faculty Distribution List <faculty@easternct.edu>;Admin Distribution List <admin@easternct.edu>



Dear all,

Our first annual Human Library event was a great success!

We had **thirteen** *Books* to offer: *Metamorphosis, Police Officer, Woman as Boy Scouts Leader, Immigrant, Woman in Tech, Sexual Assault Survivor, Queer & Disabled, Child of Immigrants, Coming Out in the 80s, Activist, Jewish, Schizoaffective Disorder, and Transgender.*

We had **at least 56 conversations**! Both, readers and books, commented on how powerful these conversations were.

Our survey results:

100% of the readers would attend this event again next year.

Most found that through their conversations, they changed an idea they had about a group of people, and they agreed that they now better understand their own experiences.

Some comments from readers:

"I tried to talk to people who also had similar issues to me to explore more than before".

"It helped me realize that some people take what they have for granted. I was able to relate very much with one of the human books with how much we had in common. It truly is a small world and it's amazing how one conversation can make a difference".

"Learning other perspectives and others experiences always enhances a deeper connection to a community in this case colleagues and students".

"My most important take away was activism is the true form of power that the People have outside of the politics of the government".

"Like an onion, peel away the layers to get the essence/ truth of each individuals truth. Listen, use empathy and be an ally".

We hope you will join us next year!

A special **THANK YOU** to our first *Human Books*!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event happen!

Angela & The *Human Library* Planning Team Human Library @ Eastern



Don't judge a book by its cover.

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