

Dear Select Board,

True Story Theater is applying for an "Our Town" grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Would the Select Board be willing to be named as one of our organizational partners in the grant? As a partner, we would need a letter of support, which Joe Curro already has offered to write.

If awarded, the funds will enable our interactive theatre to support the town in its diversity, inclusion and equity goals during 2021-22. This builds on four years of previous NEA funding we have received to do similar work.

The town's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion has already agreed to be our primary partner in the grant. The Human Rights Commission and the APD are likely to be two of several secondary partners. If you would agree to be named as another secondary partner in the proposal, it would mean True Story would offer one or two events (performances and/or workshops) on your behalf, to further goals you determine at the time. The events could be for the general public or it could just be for the Select Board and others you specifically invite.

For those of you who have not yet seen our work, especially how it has translated to online, [here is a 5 minute sample](#) where we interviewed a member of the Human Rights Commission.

Thank you so much for your consideration, and for all the work you do on behalf of Arlington.

Anne and Christopher Ellinger  
(Arlington residents for 35 years, and founders of Arlington's True Story Theater 19 years ago)

p.s. True Story Theater is performing as part of the town's Community Conversations: Racism and Reforms series.

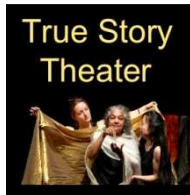
We hope you will attend one or more of our events, described below. [Register here](#).

#### **True Story Theater Dialogue**

***Watch, listen, or share personal experiences.***

Paralleling the Town hosted conversations, you are invited to attend an online "story theatre dialogue" to reflect on the issues discussed, put on by True Story Theater. All are welcome to watch and listen, or share personal experiences that will then be respectfully and creatively reflected by Arlington's improvisational improv group. The purpose of these True Story events is to help all of us in town more deeply understand each other in an honest, human way, from the heart. These sessions will be held every other week and information regarding registering

for the events will be made available shortly. But please [visit their website](#) for more information.



[True Story Theater](#)

Creating a culture of empathy, respect and creativity

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