

News Release

From: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
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Or
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Facing History Community Night Class Wyoming Indian High School
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Facing History Class from the Wyoming Indian High School Presentation at Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center

Colleen Whalen has been teaching Wyoming Facing History classes for several years. The community night class involves 9th through 12th grade students in the study of culture and group interaction. They study case histories of past injustice and hope to inspire students to be “upstanders”, never allowing social injustice to happen again. This last semester, the students who are taking the class as an elective credit, are studying the history of the internment of over 110,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II. Colleen stated that, “The kids were struck with the similarities of the relocation of their ancestors and the Japanese Americans. They noticed the strength of the parents and grandparents to hold the families together, making a bleak place seem like home while trying to protect the children from feeling the tragedy of their situation.”

On November 4, 2011, the Wyoming Facing History class will be at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center. To complete the semester’s studies, the class will tour the facilities and at 11 am will present a short program they have prepared as a class project.

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation has decided to make November 4, 2011, a free day in honor of the Veterans who have selflessly served our country and invite the public to join us in welcoming the Wyoming Indian High School Students. The Wyoming Indian High School Students presentation will begin at 11 am and will include an Arapaho Flag Ceremony and a short presentation honoring those Japanese Americans who served in the military.

For more information, please contact Christy Fleming at 307-754-8000 or by email at flemingchristy@heartmountain.org. The Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center hours are 10 to 5 Wednesday through Saturday.