**Proposal for MIT- ESP Spring HSSP Academic Program**

To:

PreMIT Educational Studies Program

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From:

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**Becoming a Global Citizen**

This seven week (70 minute class x 7) academic class for children, ages 12 to 15 years old (7th to 9th grade), will prepare students to better understand human diversity from a personal and interpersonal perspective. Essential skills discussed will include, skin color awareness, biology of race, understanding identity and individuality, learning appropriate language around how to be inclusive with one another, looking at differences and similarities through the lens of the many areas of human diversity, history of race in America, understanding cultural patterns vs. stereotypes, discussing fairness, peace, injustice and the term “changemakers”, in the context of Civil Rights and American history. Students will explore these many important topics utilizing conversation, books, media, art, poetry and other engaging activities.

Teachers: Michelle Chalmers, MSW and Izumi Ludgate, MA

**Becoming a Global Citizen**

2/21 Lesson 1: Skin Color Awareness/biology of race

Where do we get our skin color?

What is the biology of race?

2/28 Lesson 2: Identity and Individuality

How do you identify?

3/7 Lesson 3: Exploring Human Diversity

How are we different and how are we the same?

3/21 Lesson 4: Understanding Cultural Patterns vs. Stereotypes

How do I understand the difference and be mindful?

3/28 Lesson 5: History of Race in America

Where did the term race come from?

How did policies and systems in place affect people by race?

4/4 Lesson 6: The Language of Friendship

How can being more mindful of the world around me make me a better friend?

4/11 Lesson 7: Becoming a Global Citizen through being a “changemaker”

How can I be a “changemaker in my community?

**Learning Objectives**

Students will learn essential skills in becoming a global citizen. Student will begin to understand the complexity of their own identity, individuality and human diversity. Each lesson will introduce students to specific concepts, language and understanding about the world in which they live, in a safe and respectful environment.

**About Michelle Chalmers, MSW**

Michelle Chalmers, lives in Wellesley, Massachusetts with her husband and two sons.

Michelle received a BSW from Wheelock College in Boston, an MSW from San Diego State University and is currently completing a graduate certificate in Diversity, Social Justice and Inclusion, at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. Michelle is the author of the children’s book, “The Skin on My Chin.” She is an anti-racist educator and facilitates difficult conversations with parents, school faculty and communities. In Wellesley, Michelle is currently a board member of The Friends of Wellesley METCO and the World of Wellesley. For more information please review her website at [www.theskinonmychin.com](http://www.theskinonmychin.com)

**About Izumi Ludgate**

Izumi Ludgate, lives in Northborough, Massachusetts with her husband, youngest son out of three sons and a foreign exchange student from Denmark for 2014-2015 academic year.

Izumi received a BA in Sociology from Boston University, an MA in Sociology and Education from Columbia University in New York City, and completed a LEND(Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities) Fellowship Program 2010-2011 as a family member fellow. She has been an active community outreach member in marginalized population (women, minorities, people with disabilities, etc.) locally and globally. She was a member of the executive board for NSPAC/Northborough Southborough Parent Advisory Council for Special Education from 2007-2014.

*In the 21st century, the ability to communicate and work with people from different racial and ethnic groups will be as essential as computer skills.   
- Leadership Conference Education Fund*