THE GET STARTED GUIDE

If you are here, it means you have decided to join thousands of others across the country who will come together to watch the America To Me Series, host discussions, and take action on local race and equity issues. This quick guide is designed to help you get started.

On August 23, you will be able to access the America to Me: Real Talk digital experience, which will provide conversation guides, exclusive information, and highlights for each episode. In the meantime, here is a quick Get Started Guide for you.

Welcome to the Conversation

1. Let your community know about your event.
2. Get people excited! Share the trailer!
3. Organize and register your watch group
4. Confirm the start time and location of your watch group. Set up a group to watch each episode and go through the digital experience together. Reconfirm attendance before each episode airs.
5. Access Starz. Don’t have a subscription? Sign-up at Starz.
6. Make some noise! Post to social media using the hashtag #americatome and tag @Participant and @Starz.

Organizing Your Watch Group

• Who should be in the room? A group organizer and up to 10 participants
• Where should you meet? An open comfortable space with media capabilities
• When/how long should you meet? 1.5 hours at a minimum to watch the episode and go through the episode guide

Structuring the Discussion

Here is an idea of how to structure a group conversation:

• Screen the episode.
• Ask participants to face each other for the discussion (ideally in a circle).
• Introduce yourself and your role as the organizer.
• Discuss the Group Norms (respectfulness and productive interaction)
• Have each person introduce themselves by name and self-identify their race, ethnicity, and gender pronouns.
• Read aloud the definition of “Race” as it pertains to this discussion:
  o Race is a social construct based on perceptions of a person’s skin color, hair texture and other physical characteristics

Here are some essential questions about race for group discussion in addition to the digital experience:
• Why do we need to talk about Race? Why does Race matter?
• Which person from the series struck a chord with you/ why?
• Who benefits from an environment of equity and inclusion?
• How is Oak Park and River Forest High School a microcosm of communities around America?
• How can one support a healthy development of self and diffuse the impact of bias and stereotypes?
• Why is it important to understand the cycle of oppression?
• Where and when in society do we see that the color of your skin is valued?

Where are the conversations happening?
Conversations are nationwide, but the launch of each episode screening will kick off in ten cities with a screening event, a panel discussion, and a spoken word competition. Follow along with each city through the campaign updates.

Using the Episode Guides: Each episode has been paired with a digital experience that features:
  • Episode Guides
  • Analysis/Reflection questions
  • Experiments
  • A learning component in preparation for the next episode

Share Your Stories and Group Activities
After each episode guide, you and your participants can share your creations, ideas, experiments, and stories. We would love to share these with the greater audience and for an overall end-of-campaign national story of how communities, including you, take action.

America to Me will serve to initiate important discussions about race and racism in America. Have you have ever wondered if there was something you could do to advocate for equity in your community? Here’s your chance! A conversation can change minds, change lives, and change the world.

Get friends to sign-up  Gather/ discuss  Follow the movement