

The Ville & The Hill

EMBRACING DIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS



Bobby and Beverly share stories about growing up in St. Louis from two different perspectives... a Black Man from The Ville and a White Woman from The Hill. The

goal of the program is to open dialogue and reduce our unique problem with racism in our city. This engaging performance discusses and answers questions such as: What is redlining? What are restrictive covenants? What is institutionalized racism? How has that divided our city?

In St. Louis, the popular question always asked is “Where did you go to high school?”

Does that innocent question deep inside promote stereotyping, and how does it feed into prejudice?



Why are our city and counties separate? What has been the outcome of desegregation? What brings people together? What is going on with the police and young black males? How can we get rid of drugs and gangs? Communication enables healing and can overcome adversity.



With personal stories, poetry, humor and music, Bobby and Beverly engage and motivate their audience to discuss important and even tragic issues regarding race in St. Louis. Selections include James Patrick Kinney’s insightful poem “The Cold Within,” along with original poetry written by local teenagers, “Fire and Ice,” by Robert Frost, rap, songs by the Temptations, stories from local news reports, as well as humorous and poignant personal stories. The show asserts that in spite of all our differences, as people we all have a lot in common.

The performers are happy to host a post show discussion. Hand-outs are also available upon request. This 60 minute performance is adaptable for ages 12 to adult.

Bobby Norfolk & Beverly Brennan



For more information, contact:

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