

What is a Human Library? How do I Prepare to Participate?

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Community members and various professionals will volunteer their time as “Human Books” in an effort to “help dispel myths and stereotypes by creating an opportunity for one-on-one conversations between people who may never have met otherwise.” Colonel By and Sir Wil students will have the opportunity to “sign-up for a Book” and ask questions to learn about their Human Books and their extraordinary lives”. (Human Library Organization, 2012)

Our students will have an opportunity to “check out” people with very unique perspectives and experiences and provide insight into various topics of interest, not readily accessible to students’ daily lives. In groups of 6, they will sit and chat with their human book for approximately 30 minutes, before proceeding to their next Human Book. Each student gets to meet a total of 6 Human Books during the day on **Wednesday, April 12th, 2023**. This is an on-going collaboration between Sir Wil & Colonel By Secondary Schools - this will be our 5th high school Human Library event.

*Please note that there will be **over 70 Human Books participating** and **only 300 students from Sir Wil and Colonel By attending** in the gymnasium. This is a first come, first serve event - **Sir Wil has room for 150 students only to attend, Colonel By has only 150 student who can attend!**

Step 1: Fill in your Student Sign-Up sheet!

- 1) Please go to swlcbhumanlibrary.ca for all Human Book Biographies.
- 2) Pick up your sign-up sheet in the Library or print it from the website, clearly write your Top 10 Human Book choices.
- 3) The Library will collate all the student choices on a first come, first serve basis, so get your sign-up sheet to the Library by early in the morning on Friday, March 10th before March Break!
- 4) You will receive a Human Book **confirmation list** and contract to attend.
This serves as your passport to miss your classes and speak with your books.

**Student Sign-Up sheets are DUE:
Friday, March 10th to the Library!**

Step 2: Preparation to meet your Human Books!

Once you receive your Human Library contract (bright green page distributed from the Library in early April) **please read the biographies of your “Books” carefully and feel free to research on the internet for more information regarding your Human Book**, the occupation or profession, and any companies and organizations with which they are affiliated. You should prepare relevant questions ahead of time.

Sample Question Ideas for Students

- What experiences have had the most impact on making you the person you are today?
- What is a typical day like for you?
- Do you wish you could go back in time to change a decision you made? Any regrets?
- How have you changed over time – are you a completely different person from when you were in High School?
- What is a good thing happening in your life right now? What makes it good?
- What were some of the more difficult aspects of your life? What made it difficult?
- Do you have any advice for someone aspiring to overcome challenges like you have done or carve out a path / career/ passion similar to your own?
- Who are your role models? What qualities in people do you look for?
- Describe the perfect partner for you?
- What have you done that makes you most proud (aside from children if you have them)?

Website : swlcbhumanlib.ca

Twitter: @swlcbhumanlib

Instagram: @swlcbhumanlibrary

***Each Human Book will have a list of all his/her assigned readers/students and will be expecting you on April 12th, 2023 at the designated time, so you must respectfully attend your assigned sessions.**