

THE HITACHI FOUNDATION

TEN YEAR RETROSPECTIVE

1985—1995

The Hitachi Foundation is a nonprofit, philanthropic organization whose mission is to promote social responsibility through effective participation in a global society. The Foundation seeks to build the capacity of all Americans, particularly those underserved by traditional institutions, to address the multicultural, community, and global issues facing them. The Foundation also seeks to engage Hitachi companies in addressing critical social issues. Program actions emphasize issues of diversity, multiculturalism, community development and reinvestment, youth service, collaboration, and corporate responsibility.

With an endowment of \$28 million, the Foundation maintains a \$2.3 million annual giving program, making grants nationally to U.S. nonprofit organizations for projects in education, community development, and global citizenship. Typically, the Foundation issues 20 to 30 grants annually, ranging in size from \$15,000 to \$300,000. Since the Foundation's establishment in 1985, over 500 grants totalling more than \$15 million have been awarded.

The Foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals. The Foundation issues requests for proposals (RFPs), develops collaborative projects, convenes grantees, undertakes program related investments (PRIs), and disseminates program results. These initiatives are announced publicly through the Foundation's "Fax-On-Demand System."

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*The Hitachi
Foundation
was established by
Hitachi, Ltd. in 1985
in commemoration
of the corporation's
75th anniversary.
In the Fall of 1995,
The Hitachi
Foundation
celebrates its 10th
anniversary along
with the 85th
anniversary of
Hitachi, Ltd.*

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1985-1995

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In 1989, the Foundation approved a grant of \$120,000 to support the “Americans All” demonstration project in San Diego. A year later, a grant of \$150,000 was approved to support implementation of “Americans All” in the Washington, DC, public schools. These actions signalled the Foundation’s growing commitment to addressing multicultural diversity in schools and communities through teacher training, resource materials, and outreach programs. Through actions such as these, the Foundation has extensively explored the link between global and multicultural education in both education and community development programming. Support for replication also illustrates the Foundation’s commitment to disseminate programs that address issues effectively.

Americans All

Washington, DC

Gail Christopher and Allan Kullen,

Co-Directors

The United States has been considered a “nation of immigrants,” a place where diverse people could work together to build a strong, prosperous nation. As immigration patterns and profiles have changed — from predominantly white Europeans through the 1960s to predominantly people of color from throughout Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa today — the U.S. educational system has failed to build bridges of understanding, experience, and respect between new immigrant groups and more established populations. It was to meet this critical, growing need that “Americans All” was developed to respond



The Statue of Liberty. The Americans

All Photograph Collection. Americans

All: A National Education Program,

Portfolio Project, from the collection

of The First Experience, Inc.

to the country’s increasing pluralism by exposing students, teachers, and administrators to the history and culture of all Americans.

The product of two programs, the “Images of Ellis Island” curriculum program and the Appreciative Learning Motivational Support Program for Urban Education, “Americans All” delivers training and resources to

schools and communities to help teachers meet the needs of all students, regardless of the range of cultural diversity. The program, designed for use in both elementary and secondary schools, uses immigration and migration experiences — whether forced or voluntary — as the context through which to teach the history and contributions of various ethnic groups. The program provides teachers, students, and parents with learning experiences that build capacities in three basic areas: critical thinking skills; appreciation for self and people of different racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds; and basic skills in subjects such as history, geography, and civics.

“Americans All” has been adopted in several school systems across the country, and there is great demand for the curriculum materials and teacher training services. Partnerships to achieve broad-based national dissemination are being explored.



(TOP) The Statue of Liberty. The Americans All Photograph Collection. *Americans All: A National Education Program*, from the collections of the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Visual Horizons.

(BOTTOM) The Statue of Liberty. The Americans All Photograph Collection. *Americans All: A National Education Program*, Portfolio Project, from the collection of The First Experience, Inc.