

LARRY BISSONETTE & TRACY THRESHER

iSUMMIT19
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LARRY: artist, writer, & teacher

TRACY: writer, teacher & activist

GLAD TO BE HERE!
WE HOPE YOU HAVE GREAT QUESTIONS FOR **LARRY & MOVIE STAR TRACY!**

ALL VOICES SHOULD BE **HEARD**

INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE ABLE TO **CHOOSE** HOW TO communicate

TRACY:

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME, I KNOW **MORE** THAN I speak.

WE ARE **INSIDE** OUR MINDS BUT HAVE LOTS TO say.

I COULD ONLY **ACT OUT** TO COMMUNICATE.

STARTED TYPING AT 23.

FRUSTRATED HELPLESSNESS

SILENCE ≠ **NOT** HAVING anything TO SAY.

JOINING OTHER ACTIVISTS HAS GIVEN ME purpose.

SEEK INTELLIGENCE IN ALL OF US.

I AM **FIRE** UP WITH **POSSIBILITY!**

LARRY:
I AM ON A MISSION...

I USE MY PAINTINGS TO EXPRESS IDEAS OF A PERSON WITH **AUTISM**

PEOPLE ARE **PEOPLE** FIRST

TYPING
LET THE PERSON WHO I REALLY, REALLY WAS **OUT**.

unlock door TO **POTENTIAL**

I AM FREE OF THE walls OF THE institution, BUT THERE IS **WORK** TO DO.

I MY ART HAS HELPED ME GROW & advocate FOR MYSELF AS AN **ARTIST**

NOT THIS! **PEER**

PEOPLE NEED 4 purpose IN **LIFE** BEYOND YOUR **LABEL**

MORE LIKE YOU THAN **NOT**

INCLUSION IN SCHOOLS ALLOWS FOR connection

DEAR LARRY: LABELS DON'T matter... c. RELATIONSHIPS DO.

DID YOU **CHOOSE** locations FOR MOVIE?

• KNEW CHAMI IN *Sri Lanka*
• DEAN AT SYRACUSE KNEW OTHERS THROUGH SUPPORTED TYPING

HAD YOU BEEN introduced TO TYPING BEFORE **STUDY?**

NO...
I WASN'T ABLE TO COMMUNICATE BEFORE TYPING. -TRACY

DOES THE TERM **AUTISTIC** GIVE YOU empowerment?

DISABILITY IS NOT MY TITLE... **ARTIST** IS MY TITLE. -LARRY

MY USE OF **AUTISTIC** HAD TO DO WITH **STEREOTYPES**. -TRACY

REMEMBER OUR STORIES & CREATE A MUCH BETTER **FUTURE** FOR YOUR STUDENTS. -TRACY

GO OUT IN SUNSHINE & **CAPTURE** PRETTY BEES OF CONFIDENCE FOR YOUR STUDENTS. -LARRY

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATORS ON **INCLUSION?**

• BRING KIDS together FOR **FUN** ACTIVITIES
• BEGIN WITH **PARENTS** OF YOUNG childrens
• PARTIES SHOULD INCLUDE **ALL** STUDENTS
• **INCLUSION** IS A COMMUNITY process

HOW CAN WE SUPPORT STUDENTS USING communication **DEVICES?**

• WORK WITH **PEERS** TO BE STRONG communication **PARTNERS**
• PRACTICE **ACTIVE** listening
• LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES LIKE MOVIE conversations
• **WANTS & NEED** is Progress!

DID YOU THINK IN WORDS OR **PICTURES** BEFORE typing?

ALL OF THOSE... LETTERS, NUMBERS, WORDS, VISUALS & IMAGES
IT'S THE FULL MONTY!

• PICTURES ARE MY WAY OF SEEING beauty.
• WORD ARE BILLBOARDS TO TALK ABOUT ART...
(LIKE THE PRESIDENT TRYING TO SOUND SMART USING A TELEPROMPTER?) -LARRY