

## Summit on Human Dignity

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The Summit on Human Dignity enables NSU University School students to absorb various perspectives on the theme Crossing Borders: A conversation on Immigration, and openly formulate and discuss their views. Though the theme is chosen annually, the Summit always discusses a current topic relating to matters of human dignity. A valuable component of the Summit on Human Dignity is the passion that is unleashed to make the Summit come alive.

From student-led Ted Talks to student-created artworks and videos, every individual has a chance to contribute any way he or she sees fit. Fueled by the students themselves, the Summit contributes to a greater sense of unity and community within our school walls.

The first day of the Summit consisted of a panel of individuals with differing views on the topic of immigration. An economist, an immigration lawyer, an NSU University School student, and a teacher were invited to participate in a panel discussion to examine various diverse perspectives and educate students before they form opinions on the matter. In history and English classes, student led Harkness discussions were held to perceive varied views from their peers. Through this dialogue, students were also influenced by stories from their peers regarding immigration.

During the panel, NSU University School student and panelist, Mária Daniela Vadillo, who moved from Caracas to Miami, explained, "I have friends that have been through abductions. My parents were really afraid



that I was going to get abducted or even murdered." The stories of Daniela and numerous other students and faculty at NSU University School offer firsthand accounts of the pressures and influences immigrants must face.

After the panel, the students and teachers viewed a student produced show that blended Immigration with International Day. From a recited Chinese poem to a story of Mr. A's near impossible journey to escape Cuba, the presentation encompassed many talents that highlighted individual and cultural style.

In collaboration with The Summit on Human Dignity, members of the TedEd Club worked diligently to prepare Ted Talks, educating students and teachers on different aspects of immigration. One student who gave a Ted Talk on identification with a complex identity, Ruthy Micha, said, "As an immigrant myself, I try to educate myself as much as possible and this was a great opportunity to educate others as well." Along with Keila Saiegh and Daniel Beracha, the speakers humbled the crowd with an eloquently expressed speech.

All in all, without the diverse talents and perspectives of the students leading the Summit on Human Dignity, it would not have been such a cultural and educational success. Though set on a small scale, the Summit on Human Dignity helped our students understand the broad issues of today's society with respect to this complex topic.