

The 2011-2012 Xenia Dialogue Fellows Program

About the Xenia Institute.

The Xenia Institute—a not-for-profit, community engagement organization based in Norman, Oklahoma—is a place where deep, meaningful dialogue is taught and encouraged. Through this ongoing dialogue, we train people to listen to each other and to share their opinions about specific issues in ways that respect those with whom they disagree. Then we seek ways, large and small, in our community and beyond to address these important issues. We believe that action in its best form is a function of dialogue and careful consideration, which is why our three-sentence mission is at the heart of everything we do: bringing people together. creating a safe space for dialogue. transforming dialogue into action.

The Dialogue Fellows Program: Small Groups. Big Ideas.

Each year, The Xenia Institute selects thirty individuals from Norman, the university community and the surrounding area to participate in Xenia's Dialogue Fellows Program. Fellows meet in small groups to learn the tools of dialogue: how to listen more effectively to others; how to share opinions about specific issues in ways that respect those with whom we disagree; and how to generate action on these important issues.

The process of dialogue groups is threefold and takes place over a year and a half. In the first six months, the group is introduced to the tools of dialogue. In the middle section, the tools are put to use dialoguing about social issues, particularly those affecting the local community. In the third section, the groups take the experiences of the first year and turn dialogue into action as they facilitate a project in the community.

For more information please go online or call:

The Xenia Institute • 405-321-8682 • xeniainstitute.org

The Xenia Institute's mission is bringing people together, creating a safe space for dialogue and transforming dialogue into action. Our name comes from the Greek term for hospitality, courtesy and generosity.