

Inclusion Awareness Programming

Workshop & Initiative Pricing Overview

Melissa DiVietri

Melissa DiVietri is an international abstract artist, author, and disability advocate delivering powerful lived-experience disability awareness programming for elementary, junior high, and high school students. Programs combine storytelling, service animal education, practical disability etiquette, and book-based learning tools designed to increase empathy, inclusion, and student engagement. <https://melissadivietri.com> Socials: @melissadivietri

Programs are scalable based on school size, grade level, goals, and audience reach.

Option 1: Classroom Programming

Best suited for individual classrooms, smaller student groups, or focused educational sessions.

Includes:

- One classroom visit
- Interactive disability awareness storytelling
- Service dog education
- Student engagement and guided discussion
- Optional Q&A session

Investment: \$100 per hour

Recommended book order: 10 copies +

Option 2: Full-Day School Storytelling Initiative

Ideal for schools seeking broader student engagement throughout the day across multiple classrooms or grade levels.

Includes:

- Five hours of storytelling programming
- Multiple classroom sessions throughout the school day
- Interactive Q&A opportunities
- Research and preparation time for grade-level alignment
- Service animal awareness education
- Flexible scheduling for multiple groups or classroom rotations

Investment: Starting at \$500

Recommended book order: 30 copies +

Option 3: Auditorium Assembly Programming

Designed for larger school-wide impact through a shared disability awareness and service dog education experience.

Includes:

- Auditorium-style presentation
- Speech length ranging from 30 minutes to 2 hours
- Disability awareness and lived-experience storytelling
- Service dog education and public etiquette guidance
- Student inspiration, empowerment, and inclusion-based discussion
- Optional audience Q&A depending on event length

Investment: Starting at \$800

Recommended book order: 100 copies or more

Additional Information

Books are available through Ingram distribution or can be purchased directly in bundled educational kits that may include signed copies, discussion materials, and programming enhancements.

**Travel, lodging, and customized programming may be quoted separately depending on location, schedule, and scope.

Disability Awareness School Programming

Outcomes & Learning Objectives

This initiative is designed to support schools in strengthening disability awareness, inclusive communication, empathy, and student belonging through lived-experience storytelling, age-appropriate discussion, and interactive learning.

- Participants will gain practical understanding and confidence in engaging with disability inclusion across classroom, social, and community environments.

Learning Outcomes

- Increase awareness and understanding of disability as a lived experience.**
Students develop a deeper understanding of visible and non-visible disabilities and learn that every person experiences the world in different ways.
- Build confidence in inclusive communication and disability etiquette.**
Students and educators learn respectful language, interaction approaches, and practical ways to create welcoming and supportive school environments.

- Strengthen school culture of belonging and representation.**
Programming supports goals related to empathy-building, student connection, accessibility awareness, and a stronger sense of inclusion throughout the school community.
- Improve understanding of service animal roles and public interaction expectations.**
Participants gain clarity on how service animals support independence, what respectful behavior looks like, and why awareness matters in shared public spaces.
- Encourage kindness, leadership, and allyship.**
Students are empowered to become more thoughtful peers, reduce stigma, and advocate for accessibility and inclusion in their everyday environments.
- Promote emotional intelligence and perspective-taking.**
Story-driven engagement encourages reflection, compassion, confidence, and stronger human connection through real-life experiences.
- Support educator awareness in creating inclusive learning spaces.**
Sessions offer insight into the lived experiences of individuals with disabilities and help educators foster classrooms that are supportive, respectful, and accessible.
- Enhance school visibility and commitment to inclusion.**
Programming creates meaningful opportunities for schools to demonstrate proactive disability awareness efforts through assemblies, classroom visits, literacy programming, and community engagement.



Media Links

<https://www.wgvunews.org/the-shelley-irwin-show/2026-01-13/a-tale-of-a-service-animal>
<https://jtv.tv/jackson-native-artist-author-melissa-divietri-shares-new-book-art-inspiration/>
https://www.ted.com/talks/melissa_divietri_using_eyes_as_opportunities_to_strengthen_emotional_intelligence

Fox17 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJNiuphA0AQ&t=1s>