## Cultural Conversations invites you to explore:

# Beyond What We See

### Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7-9 p.m. Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Ave NE

Join with your family, friends and neighbors for this year's annual Cultural Conversations evening forum of storytelling and community conversation. Hear the stories of Bellevue residents who inspire others to move beyond the assumptions we make at first glance. Their stories remind us about the gifts revealed when we inquire about others from a place of sincere curiosity, move past initial reactions, and share our own stories.

# The Storytellers:

#### **Experiment in Progress**

Prashant grew up in India and has lived in the Pacific Northwest for more than a decade. It was here that his profound transformation choosing experiences to grow beyond his comfort zone began after a series of conversations with an Indian colleague of a different social status, one that he might never have had a personal conversation with in India, let alone be friends.

#### That's Funny...You Don't Look Jewish

Ngina, life coach, spouse, and mother moved to Bellevue four years ago expecting that the city's reputation as a diverse community would include families like hers. She'll share her experience as an African-American living in a city where changing demographics challenge us to move past initial assumptions about race and ethnicity.

#### **Getting Past the First Glance**

Karen born and raised in Jamaica, is a former journalist and technical editor whose reality is often misinterpreted by people at first glance. Her strength, zest for life, and unique perspective given vision loss, help us to see relationships and the world around us more clearly.

#### A Different Lens

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Ben is best known for his work behind the camera and now it's time for him to share his story of coming to the U.S. from Iran, making a new life here, giving back and paying forward the help he received along his journey.

This event, free and open to the public is recommended for individuals age 13 and up. Parking is available in the P2 Level of the city's parking garage on a first-come basis.

For more information and accommodation needs, please contact **NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov, 425-452-6836; RSVP appreciated.** 

■ Real-time captioning (CART) will be provided. Meetings are wheelchair accessible. Captioning, American Sign Language (ASL), or language interpreters are available upon request. Please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-5379 (Voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711 (TR). Assisted listening device is available upon request.



