

On Tuesday December 12, the Second Tuesday attendees heard from the co-founders of the Oak Park Our Whole Lives (OP-OWL) program. The program, founded this year by Nara Nayar and Nina Brewer-Davis, provides comprehensive, holistic sexuality education to elementary and middle-school students. Our Whole Lives is a national curriculum, from kindergarten to older adulthood, and was previously available in Oak Park only to members of the Unity Temple or First United Church congregations. OP-OWL is a voluntary weekend/after-school program that uses the secular version of the curriculum. The program will serve 50-60 students from the wider Oak Park area this fall and winter.

The Second Tuesday group held a lively and wide-ranging discussion about the program. Attendees asked questions about the developmental appropriateness of the curriculum, how it handled accurate language about bodies for younger children, and how its messages about consent were framed. The need for the program in the community - and how it might expand and diversify to serve more students, were also topics of conversation.

Information about OP-OWL is available at the program's web site (<http://www.opowl.org>), its Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/opowl>) or questions can be emailed to oakparkowl@gmail.com.