

The METCO Documentary Film, “On the Line: Where Sacrifice Begins” on Sat, April 28, 2018 from 5:30 to 8:30 at First Parish Church, 7 Harrington Rd, on the Green in Lexington. Created by Mike Mascoll, a Lexington METCO graduate, this film documents the birth in 1966 of METCO, which is the oldest voluntary desegregation program. It highlights the METCO program through the experience of both METCO and Lexington families and discusses why METCO is still such an important and beneficial program in Lexington today.

“On the Line” is the fourth in a multicultural series of events hosted by LYFS, **METCO and the METCO Scholarship Committee** and funded by the Community Endowment of Lexington. “On the Line” takes a fresh look at the impact of busing on school integration, the historical and social conditions that launched the METCO program and the participants who continue to assess the benefits and hardships of crossing racial and class lines on their way to school. Barbara Hamilton, METCO Director at Lexington High School said, “Now more than ever our country is at risk of being divided again. This story stands as an example of how we can still come together.” The Civil Rights movement is often taught as a Southern phenomenon. Yet the struggle for racial justice occurred all over the country, especially in the Northern cities.

“On the Line” is a fascinating documentary that should become a part of every high school and university’s discussion of our country’s path to recovering from formalized racial segregation.” (Gulienne Rollins-Roshon, Racial Education Facilitator).

“The film depicts the work that’s been done and the opportunity for inclusion through education. A testament to the quality of educators who help close the achievement gap and never give up on a student regardless of color and class.” (Dr Mary Czajkowski, Superintendent Lexington Public Schools). The METCO experience is an introduction to a more complex world, and “On the Line” opens the discussion for further insight.

Following the film, there will be a panel of METCO parents, alumni, current students and educators. Light refreshments will be served. Please come and join the discussion.