



“Hometown Stories” was imagined as a podcast mini-series about religious diversity, interfaith relations, and pluralism: our starting points are the multi-dimensional, multi-sensory landscapes of student hometowns. “Hometown Stories” was developed in partnership with the [Pluralism Project](#) and [Lived Religion in the Digital Age](#).

Students were invited to write and record stand-alone stories of roughly 1,500 words/10 minutes on the themes of religious diversity, pluralism, and interfaith relations. These thematic and well-crafted stories are inspired by [The Moth](#), but scripted. [Read](#) and [listen](#) to sample materials from Khadija, or explore [more stories](#).

To Create Your Own “Hometown Stories” Series

Step 1: Brainstorm & Pitch

If you’re not familiar with the genre, review [Podcasts on Pluralism](#). Please read [A Place-Based Approach](#) and [Other Inspirations](#). Then, develop a one-paragraph pitch for your Hometown Story.

Step 2: Hometown Research & Proposal

Write a one-page proposal for your podcast. Please read: [Hometown Research and Reflection](#) and [Notes on Script Writing](#).

Step 3: Peer Feedback

Schedule peer feedback sessions. Please refer to the [Peer Feedback Guide](#). Continue revising and writing.

Step 4: Revisions and Moving Into Production

Continue revising and integrate script suggestions. Refer to [Vocal Performance](#) and practice reading aloud.

Step 5: Revisions and Practice Recording

Refer to [Recording and Exporting](#). Practice recording and revise as needed.

Step 6: Recording and Transcript

Record your story. After you have a final version, check your recording against your script, and share!

This brief guide was developed by Ellie Pierce with assistance from Lucy Soucek and Bilal Rehman. Thank you to the many students who participated in this pilot project. “Hometown Stories” art by Kristie Welsh.