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Special Thank You's

about Summer Stories 2024

Summer Stories is all about embracing the power of storytelling, especially for those whose voices are often silenced. Throughout the summer, we explored different art forms like writing, collage, and comics, with an emphasis on each student's agency to share their experiences—whether light-hearted or heavy. We had everything from oil pastels to sticker machines, creating space to experiment and express ourselves!

But it wasn't just about the art. Social justice and community organizing were laced into everything we did. From daily invocations rooted in the words of powerful organizers to workshops that pushed us to think deeper about our world, we connected our stories to the bigger picture. And of course, we bonded over amazing food, supporting local BIPOC businesses and centering around the idea that food is a powerful glue across cultures, connecting us to one another and what matters most.

Who is FEEST?

FEEST trains youth of color and working-class youth to build collective power and organize for transformative and systemic change in their schools.

Our power comes from building a strong base, developing youth leaders, and running dynamic, radically joyful campaigns for systemic material change. Our work is both youth-led and multigenerational.



WHY STORYTELLING?

If we look back at history, many movements for justice, and social change had 2 major components...

Youth!



&



Art!

4

The power of storytelling is timeless. It's an art form that transcends generations, evolving across different mediums.



Art can spark awareness, stir rage and sadness, tell untold stories, and ultimately guide us back to peace.

Storytelling holds immense power because, too often, our narratives are stolen and retold by others. We've seen libraries burn and history rewritten by those who oppress us. That's why it's crucial—not just to tell our own stories—but to amplify and deeply listen to the voices of those around us.

This is how we reclaim our truth.

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Week 1

THE TREE OF OPPRESSION & INTRO TO ZINE MAKING

DAILY INVOCATION:

"We are in an imagination battle.

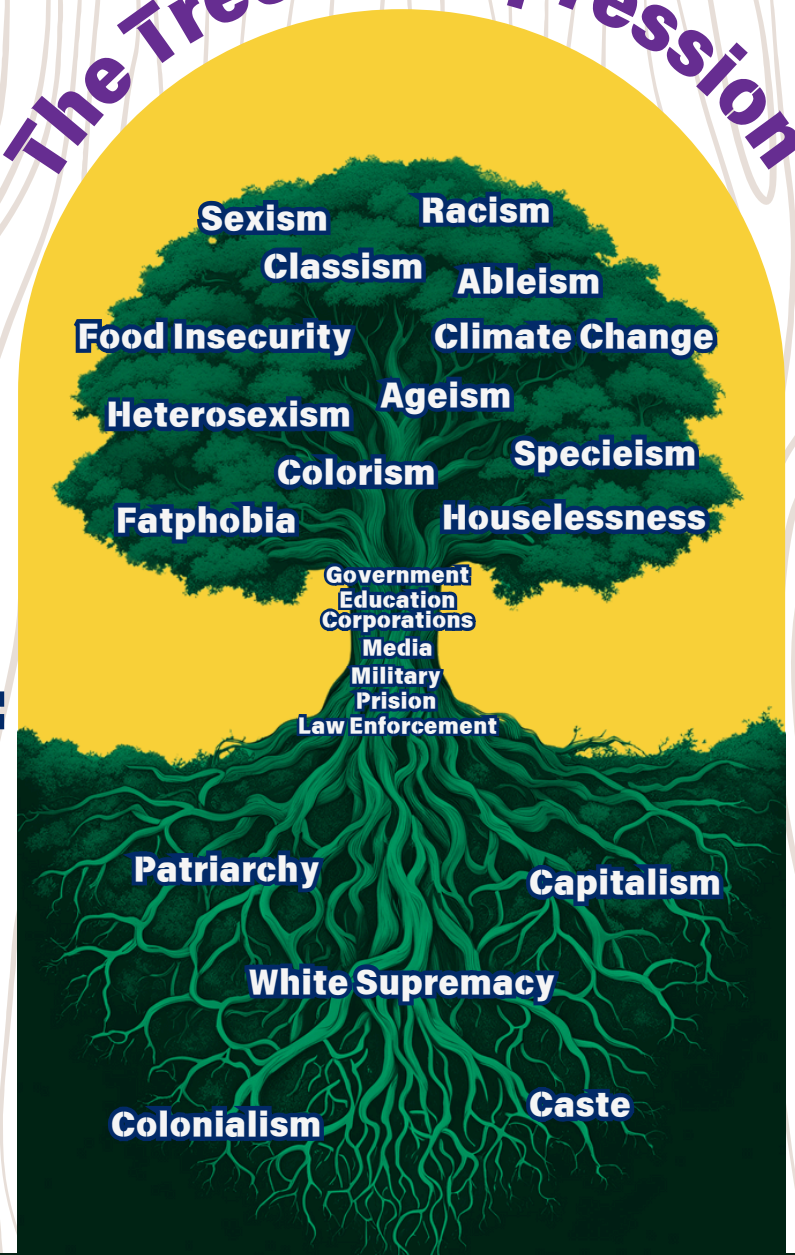
Trayvon Martin and Mike Brown and Renisha McBride and so many others are dead because, in some white imagination, they were dangerous. And that imagination is so respected that those who kill, based on an imagined, radicalized fear of Black people, are rarely held accountable.

Imagination has people thinking they can go from being poor to a millionaire as part of a shared American dream. Imagination turns Brown bombers into terrorists and white bombers into mentally ill victims. Imagination gives us borders, gives us superiority, gives us race as an indicator of ability. I often feel I am trapped inside someone else's capability. I often feel I am trapped inside someone's else's imagination, and I must engage my own imagination in order to break free."

– Adrienne Maree Brown, *Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds*

The Tree of Oppression

Institutions of
Oppression



Impact of
Oppression

Systems of Oppression

The Tree of Oppression is a visual tool that helps people understand the deeper, systemic causes of issues like racism, or inequality.

It shows how surface-level problems ("leaves") are connected to institutions ("trunk") and rooted in systems of oppression like White Supremacy or capitalism. By addressing these root causes, we can work toward real, lasting change rather than just temporary solutions.

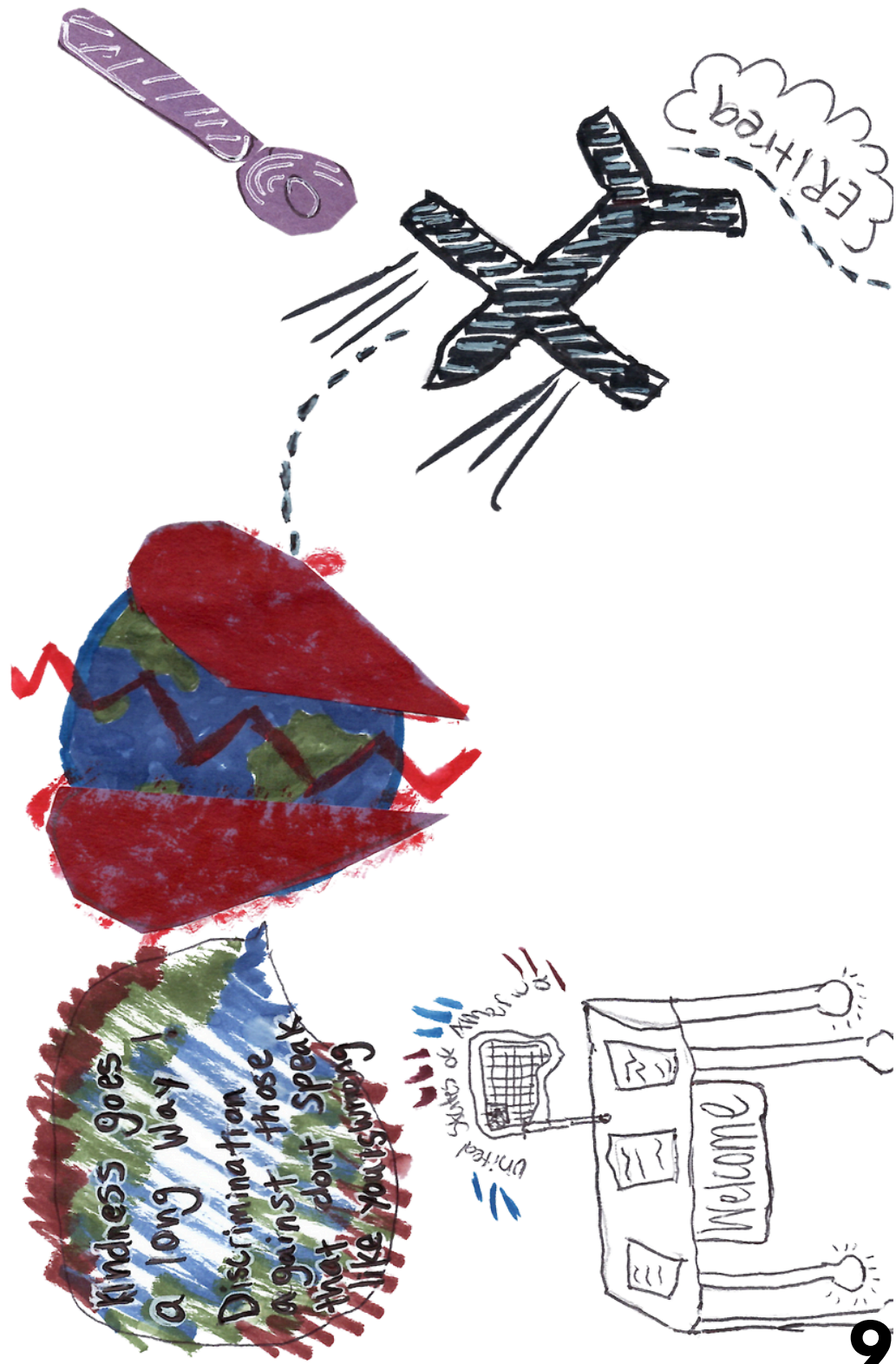
Week 2

INTRO TO COMIX & POLITICAL CARTOONS
DAILY INVOCATION:

"The Three Radical Truths of Community Organizing:

1. Heart work is hard work.
2. You have to keep dancing even when you can't hear the music.
3. The path that makes you afraid is the path to take."

- FACE LA.



"Kindness goes a long way!"

That's words that I stand by,
especially in a world that can
sometimes be full of hate
and evil!

So many people that come to
the U.S.A. came for the
opportunities that you & I
have.

So why treat them
differently?

Let's be kind.



ALL THINGS CREATIVE WRITING
DAILY INVOCATION:

"Forget talent. If you have it, fine. Use it.

**If you don't have it, it doesn't matter. As
habit is more dependable than inspiration,
continued learning is more dependable
than talent.**

**Never let pride or laziness prevent you
from learning, improving your work, and
changing its direction when necessary.
Persistence is essential to any writer – the
persistence to finish your work, to keep
writing in spite of rejection, to keep
reading, studying, submitting work for
sale."**

-Step 7 of Octavia Butler's Writing Advice.



ALL ABOUT Mariama



Mariama is a unique FEEST student organizer from here in Seattle, her hobbies when she was younger included playing roblox, hanging with friends, and going to an Islamic school. While being contacted in an interview, Mariama says she's the type of friend to never give up on you, and to always back you up wherever you need support! Which can be seen even today at FEEST showing support for her friends and having fun! (Look under!!*)

But not everything was sunshine + rainbows, life was somewhat tough with living with her hardworking single mom + the constant racial battles/injustices she faced back as a child! With this frequent little Mariama began closing herself off, and started gaining trust issues...

With other Peers that didn't share the same Background/Story. But this struggle wasn't the end! even after the Pain, Mariama still kept her belief to keep going + Believes in standing up for herself + others! "Never let anyone put you down. it's like, dumb. don't let people do that to you."

Along with this, Mariama still thinks about constant battles that others are facing till this day. Including the Palestine-Israel conflict, and even different issues within Africa, with child labor, rape, and other abuse. knowing that her own country is going through an immense ^(somalia) amount of pain, she still pays respects in acknowledging it, and worries for the people living there.



ALL ABOUT AVA!!!






Ava had a pretty hard childhood to think, she says it kinda hard to think about because her memories are a bit ~~hard~~ bad but she does remember hanging out with her family members alot more than her friends, also mostly just keeping to herself and hanging out alone. During her childhood, she tried to really keep herself busy. Growing up she loved playing games and drawing. She played Doney long returns she has and older brother who's older than her by five years he likes playing soccer and she used to be dragged there to watch it and she hated it. One childhood memory she had was when her older ~~her~~ brother would use her as a goalie or kick the ball at her lol!! She used to use this bond with her brother and now she realized that she was lonely being used by him.

Ikram story:

She herself hasn't faced many injustices but remembers seeing on the news about the Palestinian conflict that was happening.

She's very passionate about spreading awareness to this issue and was sad when seeing it on the news.



The moment I realized the sun was a star
was the first time i remember science feeling
cool. Then I made a decision to listen and
learn more about astronomy. Which exploded my
mind like a supernova  now i look up to
sky and I feel so inspired. And also small,
like a little baby ant on a big ol rock
zoomin down the gully of life. 

THE CATALYST



CAT had always found solace in the quiet corners of Evergreen High School. Her favorite spot was the old oak tree at the edge of the schoolyard, where she could escape into the pages of her books. But today, even the comforting rustle of leaves couldn't drown out the commotion she heard.



WALKING towards the cafeteria, CAT noticed a group of students near the lockers. Her friend Hugo was standing in the middle, looking down, his shoulders hunched. The air was thick with laughter, but not the kind that brought joy. It was harsh, filled with malice.

HAHAHA

CAT'S heart sank. Selene, a girl cat had once trusted, was leading the group in taunting Hugo. They hurled insults, including & transphobic remarks, each one like a dagger. Hugo, usually so cheerful, looked crushed.

FOR a moment, Cat felt frozen. She had been in similar situations before and regretted not speaking up. But this time, something shifted inside of her. A surge of courage. An inner strength she didn't know she possessed. She imagined herself as the superheroes she admired in her comic books, standing tall and strong against injustice.

AS she took a deep breath, something incredible happened. The world around her seemed to slow down, and Cat felt a strange energy coursing through her veins. Her everyday clothes transformed into a sleek, colorful costume. The material was black with subtle silver stripes, reminiscent of a panther's sleek fur, complete with a cape that fluttered into the wind like a cat's tail. She felt a mask form over her face, its shape resembling a cat's eyes sharp and vigilant, hiding her identity but revealing her true self, a superhero.

WITH newfound confidence, CAT leaped into the air, landing gracefully between Hugo and the bullies. "ENOUGH!" she declared, her voice booming.

The bullies including Selene, stepped back in shock. "WHO ARE you?" Selene stammered.

I'm THE

[CATALYST Cat said, improvising a name. "And I won't stand by while you hurt others!"

WITH a wave of her hand, Cat created a protective shield around Hugo, blocking out the cruel words and giving him a moment to breathe. She then turned to Selene and the others.

"SELENE, your transphobia is unacceptable. Transphobia has no place here. We all deserve to be treated with dignity."

SELENE'S bravado crumbled under CAT'S unwavering gaze. "I... I didn't mean to..." she stuttered, but Cat cut her off.

"Words can hurt more than you know." Cat said firmly, "It's time to think about the impact of your actions!"

THE students murmured among themselves, unsure how to react to the unexpected superhero intervention. Selene, looking genuinely

remorseful, muttered an apology and walked away, followed by her friends.

As the school bell rang again, Cat's costume faded, and she returned to her normal self. She realized that being a superhero wasn't about having powers or a costume - it was about standing up for what was right, no matter the cost.

Milo approached her, his eyes with gratitude.

"THANK YOU, CAT. YOU KEALLY
AKE A SUPERHERO!"

Cat smiled, feeling a sense of fulfillment ~~when~~ she had never known before. She had found her voice, her inner superhero, and she knew that this strength would stay with her, costume or not. In that moment, Cat realized that everyone has the power to be a hero in their own way. It's not about the costume or the powers; ~~it's~~ ~~it's~~ it's about the courage to stand up and speak out against ~~the~~ injustice.



IMAN A.

Iman remembers being very bubbly as a child, which may be surprising to people who meet her more recently.



She was raised with ten siblings, which she believes played an instrumental role in building up her sense of self and preparing her for future challenges. In elementary school,



Iman was one of a few Black or Muslim students. She learned early on that some would not accept

her because of her identity. She also learned from her siblings and early friendships that instead of seeking acceptance from people who excluded her, she would

"FIND PEOPLE WHO DO ACCEPT YOU, AND SURROUND YOURSELF WITH PEOPLE WHO CARE."



Week 4

ZINE CREATION & CELEBRATION DAY
DAILY INVOCATION:

"When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."

– Audre Lorde

Storytellers



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Summer Stories



2024



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2024



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Special thank you

to all of the amazing local businesses that
provided our lunches for Summer Stories!

Salima's Specialties

Sma5h Burger

Supreme Wings



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Thank
you 2
Our amazing
facilitators!

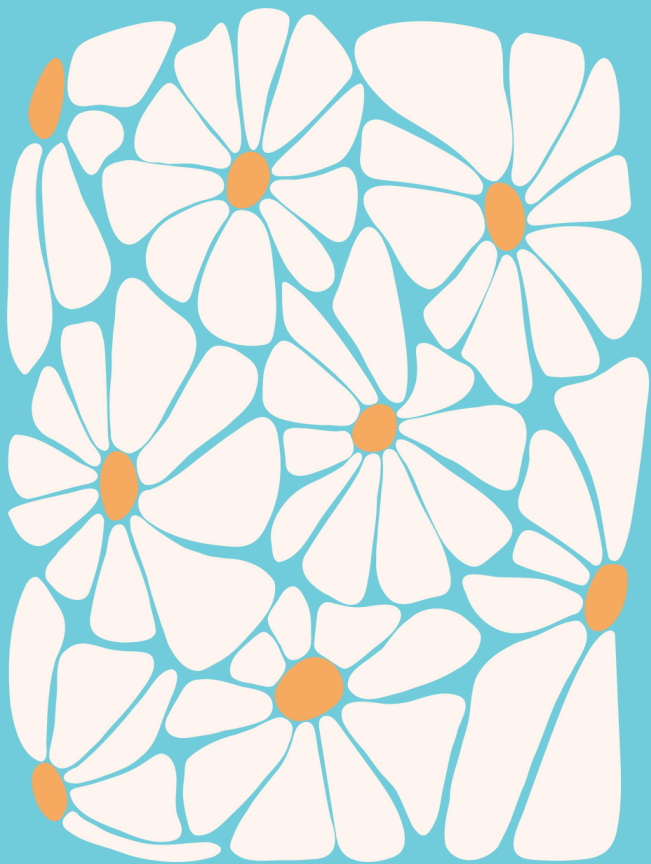


collect
BEAUTIFUL
moments



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THANKS



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Reading!

