From Socializing to Social Justice:
Connecting teens to community through social narratives
Who we are...

Gabbie Barnes,
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Who’s in the room?

Bueller? Bueller?
Outcomes

- Understand the role & importance of mentorship and active listening in program planning
- Identify potential social justice outcomes of library programs
- Meet our teens and get some (hopefully) new program ideas!
Objectives

- Overview of YOUmedia Hartford
- Fun activity!
- Discussion
- Storytelling Project Model
- Programming examples
- Group activity (if time allows)
- Upside down & inside out Q & A
VALUES are like fingerprints.

Nobody's are the same, but you leave 'em all over everything you do.

- Elvis Presley
Listen Up.
And...We’re Back!
Storytelling Project Model

- **Concealed Stories**: Contradict the status quo but do not push to be heard by the mainstream.
- **Resistance Stories**: Stories about resistance, “sheroes” and heroes.
- **Stock Stories**: Mainstream ideas about “urban youth”.
- **Emerging & Transforming Stories**: Deliberately constructed to challenge the stock stories.

Social Justice?

What is it?

Oxford Pocket Dictionary definition as expressed by Google:

**social justice**

*noun*

justice in terms of the distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society. "individuality gives way to the struggle for social justice"
Social Justice?

Does it belong in the library?

StorytimeUnderground
@StorytimeU · Jul 12

LIBRARIANS ARE NOT NEUTRAL AND LIBRARIES ARE NOT NEUTRAL SPACES.
Social Justice.

What are some resources for getting started or digging deeper into this work?

Social Justice and Libraries UnConference in Seattle & DERAIL in Boston (student-led and -centered)

Progressive Librarians Guild open access publication

Library Juice Press (some behind pay walls, some free content)

Social Justice Guidebook developed by Cydney Gray at DreamYard New York

Anti-Oppression Lib Guide @ Simmons & Allyship and Anti-oppression research guide from Tri-College
Self Expression - Art Exhibit
Big READ
Best of Hartford
Hip Hop Album
Open Mic
Community Conversations

Past topics:
- Stealing & theft
- Police brutality
- Fighting & getting jumped
- Voting

Unplanned:
- Anti-valentine’s day

Future:
- Upcoming: teen-led conference 2017
Intensives - Film Analysis

Congress says pizza is a vegetable.

FED UP

Zootopia

Do The Right Thing
Strong Girls Camp
Tuesday, 10/11, 5-7PM: Orientation & Types of Oppression

**We will have more opportunities for orientation each day in YOUmedia until 10/25, see Gabbie for details.

Monday, 10/17 and 10/24, 4-6PM: Graffiti & Social Justice with local artists

Tuesday, 10/25, 3:30-5:30: Pop Culture & Representation

Tuesday, 11/8, 1-3PM (HPS schools closed): Voting & Race

Monday, Nov. 14 4-6PM: Education & School-to-Prison Pipeline

Monday, Nov. 21 5:30 – 9:30: Housing & Race (5:30-7), Plus a Field Trip! (7:30-9:30)

Monday, Dec. 5, 4-6PM: Food & Race

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 1-3PM (Half Day): War on Drugs: Weed & Race

Monday, Dec. 12, 4-6PM: Mass Incarceration

Monday, Dec. 19 4-6PM: Healing, Reflecting, Inspiring, Education: Where do we go from here?

#WTF

- 5-minute writing prompt: How I woke up?
- Modern media commentary
- OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR WTF?
Advisory Council

- 7 nominated young people
- Meet twice a month, 2 hours each
- Plan events, provide teen perspective, attend leadership field trips

Day one, midpoint, and final meeting writing exercise: “Hopes, Goals, Fears”
Advisory Council

Community Park Clean-Up

- Prepared trails for spring hiking
- replanted garden
- cleaned perimeter of waterfront of litter
Advisory Council

FOOD DRIVE

NOV. 1 THRU NOV. 17

Donations can be made at any YO Um media location.

Yes we can! STOP HUNGER

143 lbs of food!
Advisory Council

Year One

Hi my name is Angel. I was born at Fort Myers, Florida in the year 1998. I’ve moved from all around the east side of the U.S. numerous times. I have now been in Hartford for the past three years. I’ve been going to High School Inc. for three as well. I’m a senior right now and doing well in school. I’m Puerto Rican and a Sagittarius. I love to play video games, read, sports, and hangout with friends. I’m part of several clubs and different organizations and love to volunteer my time. I joined the YOUmedia advisory council because I love going to the library and want to keep it fun and awesome. I know this group is going to be a lot of fun and accomplish some good things, I hope I can keep on doing it.

Year Two

Hi, My name is Angel. I'm 17 years old and I got to High school Inc. I love to be very involved in the community. I play an active role in Compass Junior Peacebuilders, YOUmedia advisory council, the Youth Action Hub, and much more. I aim to go to college and get a career in something where I can help people.
Community Partnerships

- Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, Inc.
- 1 WORD VOICE LIFE
- Hartford Decides
- Connecticut YOUTH Forum
Ideas for Listening
Best Practices

- Youth first, always.
  - Long-term mentorship is key
  - Be responsive to needs, issue spot

- Engage specialized anti-oppression organizations
  - Connect youth directly, where appropriate
  - Schedule PD for staff (invite other youth-servicing organizations, to be cool!)
  - Vet your presenters; one meeting could save a lot of cringing!
  - If it doesn’t work, stop it.

- Do the work.

- Know your wheelhouses and stay within them.
Questions

http://woovakoova.deviantart.com/art/There-is-currently-a-question-mark-above-my-head-300299201
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