## WELCOME

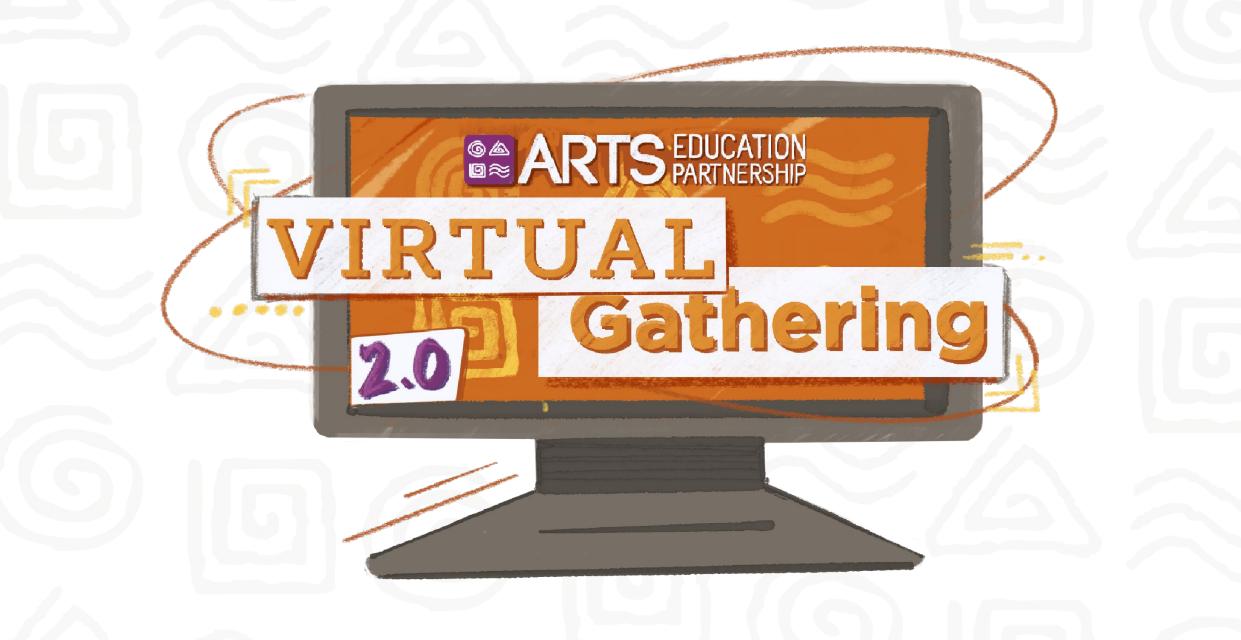
## Our session is about to begin ...





Your education policy team.







## **Icebreaker**

- When you walk into a school building what do you see, taste, touch, smell, hear?
- Please drop your responses chat





# Hip Hop Education as an Abolitionist Praxis

## September 15th, 2021



ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

aep-arts.org | @AEP\_Arts

# SPEAKER



Cultural Innovation Group, LLC



# SPEAKER

### James Miles Executive Director

**MENTOR** Washington



# SPEAKER

### Sheikia "Purple" Norris

**Director of Hip Hop Education** 

New Jersey Performing Arts Center



## Land Acknowledgement



#### https://native-land.ca

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## Agenda

- Welcome
- Setting the Stage
- Learning Experience 1
- Learning Experience 2
- Closing



## **Group Invitations**

- Be present in the space
- Listen with intention
- Make space/take space
- Brave space

## **Setting the Stage**

## What we know: Statistics Show

- People of color, especially Black and Latinx people, are not only more likely to contract COVID-19 and die from it, but they are also disproportionately affected by its economic consequences.
- CDC reported that 73% of all children in the United States who DIED from covid 19 were Black or Latinx
- CNN reported recently, that during February 21 to March 20, of this year, the mean weekly number of [hospital] visits for suspected suicide attempts were 50.6% higher among girls ages 12 to 17 than they were during the same time period in 2019.



## Notes on the future

Getting back to normal won't magically make anxiety and depression go away

According to research led by EdWeek, the median forecast was a 30 percent increase in the math achievement gap between students from the richest and the poorest families over the year ending this spring. For reading it was 25 percent.

Also according to EdWeek, suburban schools are now majority youth of color with white students accounting for 48 percent of total enrollment in the suburbs of the nation's 25 largest metropolitan areas

#### WE WILL NEED TO SHIFT THE WAY WE TEACH AND THE WAY YOUTH LEARN



## **Characterization and storytelling**

(Lesson by Eboni Hogan. Remixed by James Miles)

Essential Question: How do emcees and lyricists use characterization in their songs to increase their listeners' understanding of their identity?



### Anchor Standards Addressed Characterization Activity

#### Writing Anchor Standards 2:

• Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

#### **SEL Standard 1:**

• SELF-AWARENESS – Individuals have the ability to identify their emotions, personal assets, areas for growth, and potential external resources and supports.



### Characterization (Hook)



First verse from Jay-Z' 4:44

Look, I apologize, often womanize Took for my child to be born, see through a woman's eyes

Took for these natural twins to believe in miracles Took me too long for this song, I don't deserve you I harassed you out in Paris "Please come back to Rome, " you make it home We talked for hours when you were on tour "Please pick up the phone, pick up the phone!" I said: "Don't embarrass me, " instead of "Be mine" That was my proposal for us to go steady That was your 21st birthday You matured faster than me, I wasn't ready So I apologize I seen the innocence leave your eyes I still mourn this death and I apologize for all the stillborns cause I wasn't present Your body wouldn't accept it I apologize to all the women whom I toyed with your emotions 'Cause I was emotionless



#### **Questions for Reflection**

- Who does Jay-Z describe in this song? To whom is he speaking? What has he done? What things does he say? What are their personal truths?
- After listening to this verse, were you able to picture the situation described?
- Can you relate to this situation, in any way? In what ways are you alike or different?
- What do we know about this character?



## Characterization(Chorus) Analyzing Lyrics

#### **Emcee Amnesia**

1. Assume the role of a doctor and read the following script:

"Hello, doctors. We have some very unique patients in our hospital today. As you know by now, there was a tragic accident at the Grammy Awards last night that left a very famous artist with a case of amnesia. Amnesia is a medical condition in which a patient's memory is wiped away, much like when a computer crashes and all of its data is lost. This artist can't remember who he is and we need to find ways to remind him."



#### **Emcee Amnesia**

2. Select one student who will leave the classroom. Distribute the song lyrics you have selected to each of the remaining students. They will have 3 minutes to study their assigned lyric and come up with a question, inspired by that lyric, that could be used to remind the amnesiac emcee of who they are.

Example: A student receives the Drake lyric, "I'm not even Christian/I still went to church that year/ Guess I just had to pretend that year." A great question for that student to ask would be, "How did it feel to be in love so deeply that you pretended to be a Christian and went to church even though you're Jewish?"



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#### **Emcee Amnesia**

3. Student-in-Role as "Amnesiac Emcee" is led back into the classroom. Based on the questions they are asked, they will attempt to guess who they think they are. Reveal the identity of the emcee by showing the music video or playing the song that accompanies the lyrics.

#### DRAKE HOW ABOUT NOW





## Characterization(Bridge) Analyzing Lyrics

#### **Hot Seat**

1. Place a chair in front of the class and select a student sit in the "hot seat" and act in role as one of the main characters from whatever book, play or poem the class has been reading.

2. Using the A Yo! Graphic Organizer as a guide, the rest of the class will have 5 minutes to come up with questions to ask that person about how they are characterized or how they view different moments in the text. The student-in-role as the character must attempt to answer every question using information from the text, as well as drawing from their own imaginations to make educated guesses.





### Anchor Standards Addressed Storyboarding Activity

#### Writing Anchor Standards 2: EMCEEING, GRAFITTI, DEEJAYING

• Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

#### SEL Standard 1: KNOWLEDGE OF SELF

• SELF-AWARENESS – Individuals have the ability to identify their emotions, personal assets, areas for growth, and potential external resources and supports.



# Reflections

- What are interested in trying out, in your classroom?
- What questions do you still have about arts integration?
- What content areas would you like to see further explored through arts integration?
- What questions/wonders do you still have?
- What units are you excited to use arts integration with?



## Knowledge, Wisdom, & Understanding

Emcee'in/Rap	Authenticity	Breaking
DJ'ing	Power Resnect	Beatboxing
Graffiti	Expression	Beatmaking



## Peace, Love, & Unity in Community



Looking forward to being able to contribute to others. Be able to give cherished things to others.

#### Independence

Making one's own decisions and being responsible for failure and success, setting one's own goals, disciplining one's self

#### Mastery Competence in many areas Cognitive, Physical, Social and Spiritual.

A sense of Community,

loving others, and being.

Having self- control, striving to achieve personal goals rather than superiority.

*Circle of Courage* Based on First Nation Philosophy & Principles **Toni Blackman** Artist, Educator, Cultural Ambassador



"Allow me to reintroduce myself, my name is..." Lyric from Jay Z's PSA

### **FLIP THE SCRIPT**

- What do you love?
- What do you stand for?
- What's the **opposite** of something you've been called/labeled, which caused hurt or harm?



## Letter to Your Younger Self



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# THANK YOU!

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**Contact:** 



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### Thank you for attending!