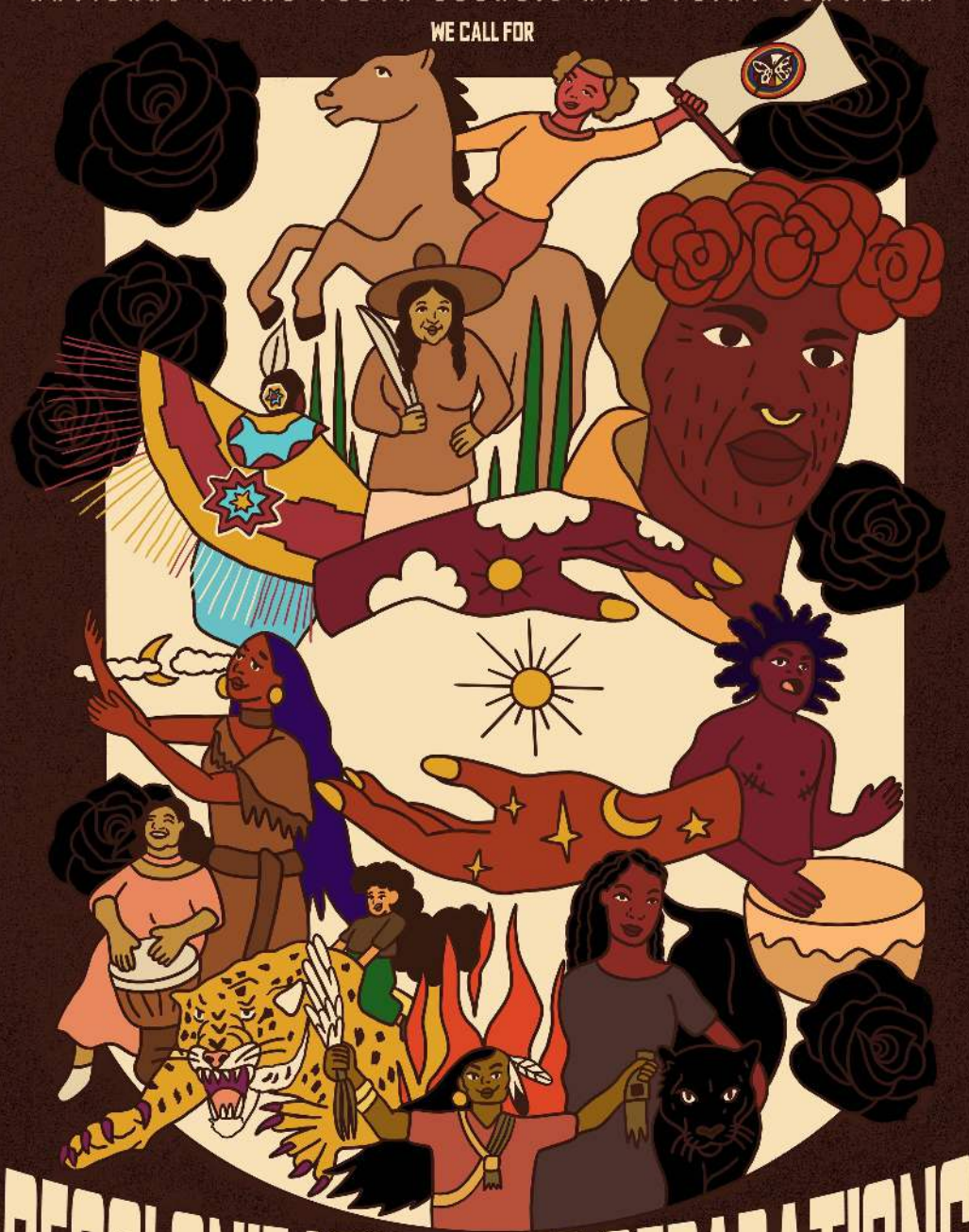


WE CALL FOR



DECOLONIZATION AND REPARATIONS

FOR ALL INDIGENOUS AND BLACK PEOPLES



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome Letter.....	3-4
Land Acknowledgment.....	5-6
Allyship.....	7-11
Youth Art.....	12
Discussion Questions.....	13
Youth Interview.....	14-17
Resources.....	18



LETTER TO YOUTH

To our powerful TQ2S+ movement
leaders,

GSA Day for Gender Justice is an
annual day of action to uplift and support
trans, non-binary, Two-Spirit, and
gender-nonconforming youth as they lead
us toward a liberated future free from
gender-based violence and oppression.
#GSADay4GJ is hosted this year by the
National TQ2S+ Youth Council! GSA
Day 4 GJ has followed the Nine-Point
Platform from the TRUTH council since
2018.



LETTER TO YOUTH

This year, we focus on Point 5: "We call for Decolonization and Reparations for all Indigenous and Black Peoples." We call for the payment of reparations that are owed and the reclamation of cultural practices by the communities from which they originated. We call for the active and complacent perpetrators of cultural appropriation and colonization to be held accountable and to recognize the privilege they maintain through the oppression of others.

Written By: Leo, He/Him, Kaskaskia
Land in Ohio

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A land acknowledgment is a statement that recognizes Indigenous communities' rights to territories seized by colonial power.

Here at the TQ2S+ Council, we introduce ourselves with land acknowledgments. Typically, this looks like: "Hi, I'm _____ and I reside on _____ land."

It should be noted that land acknowledgments are controversial in Native American communities with some like the practice and others feeling it can be performative.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It is important to recognize the territory you reside on and put effort into learning the histories of the tribes around you as well as listening to local Indigenous voices to learn more about their struggles.

If you want to find out what Indigenous territories are near you, native-land.ca is a good resource to start!

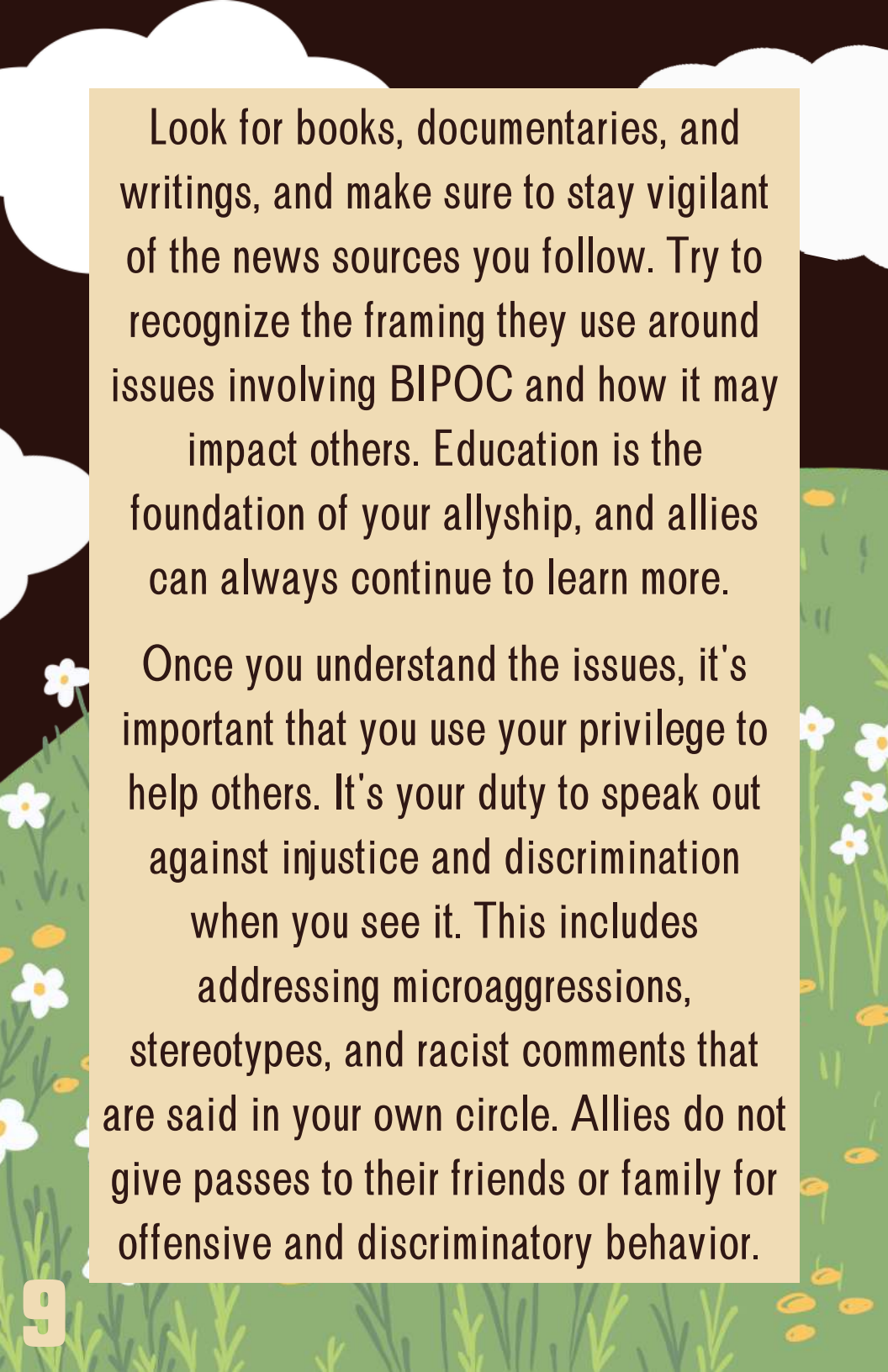
Written By: Scar, They/Them, Shoshone-Bannock Land in Idaho

ALLYSHIP

- ☐ Listen to BIPOC communities
- ☐ Educate yourself
- ☐ Speak out against injustice and discrimination
- ☐ Engage in self-reflection
- ☐ Recognize your privilege
- ☐ Uplift BIPOC voices
- ☐ Sign petitions and support initiatives created by people of color
- ☐ Celebrate the achievements of the BIPOC community
- ☐ Support BIPOC businesses
- ☐ Apologize when mistakes are made and commit to being better


There are three things all white allies need to remember while supporting the issues of BIPOC individuals: Listen, learn, and uplift.

Listening is the foundation for being an ally. Actively listening to the history and experiences of others can help in educating oneself and recognizing any biases and misconceptions you may hold. But at the same time, it is not the duty of members of the BIPOC community to be an educational source. There are so many resources allies can use to learn about the history of racial discrimination, the experiences of BIPOC individuals, and the social issues they face.



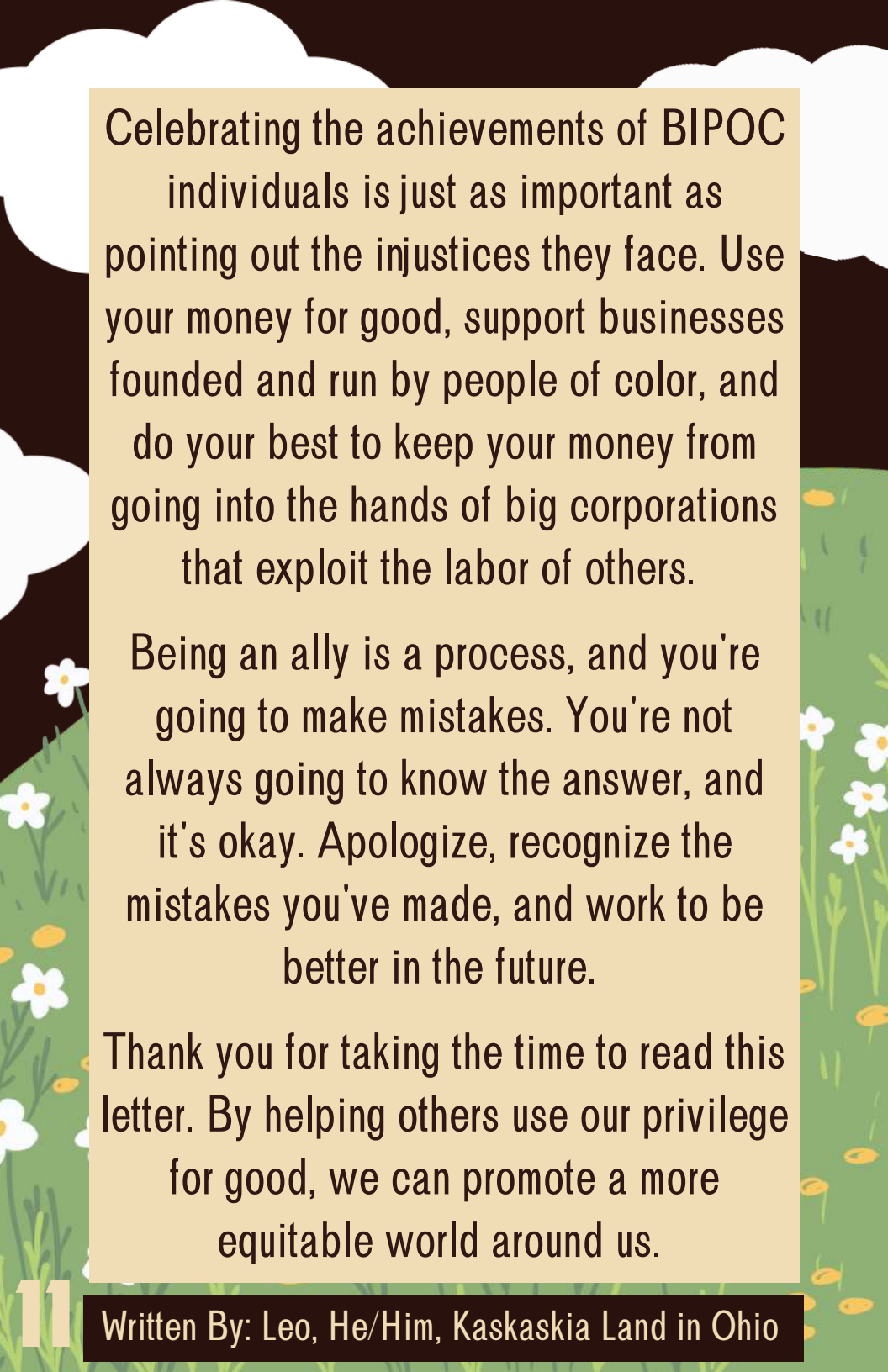
Look for books, documentaries, and writings, and make sure to stay vigilant of the news sources you follow. Try to recognize the framing they use around issues involving BIPOC and how it may impact others. Education is the foundation of your allyship, and allies can always continue to learn more.

Once you understand the issues, it's important that you use your privilege to help others. It's your duty to speak out against injustice and discrimination when you see it. This includes addressing microaggressions, stereotypes, and racist comments that are said in your own circle. Allies do not give passes to their friends or family for offensive and discriminatory behavior.



While holding others accountable for their actions, you must also engage in self-reflection, recognizing prejudices you may hold. Whether unconsciously or not, we all hold biases and must work to unlearn that behavior. Reflecting and recognizing the privilege you hold can help those around you. Allies never use their privilege against members of the community or to speak over them. But they can use their privilege to help uplift the voices of BIPOC individuals and protect them during protests and other political engagements.

Sign petitions and support initiatives created by people of color. Challenge systemic racism, and question the world around you.



Celebrating the achievements of BIPOC individuals is just as important as pointing out the injustices they face. Use your money for good, support businesses founded and run by people of color, and do your best to keep your money from going into the hands of big corporations that exploit the labor of others.

Being an ally is a process, and you're going to make mistakes. You're not always going to know the answer, and it's okay. Apologize, recognize the mistakes you've made, and work to be better in the future.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. By helping others use our privilege for good, we can promote a more equitable world around us.

11
Written By: Leo, He/Him, Kaskaskia Land in Ohio

YOUTH ART



Created By: Gabriele Jones, They/He,
Kusso-Natchez Land

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What is the origin of your identity or allyship?

How have western ideologies shaped your view on gender and your own personal gender identity and expression?

How has gender been colonized? How can it be decolonized?

How can people be an ally to Indigenous and Black folks?

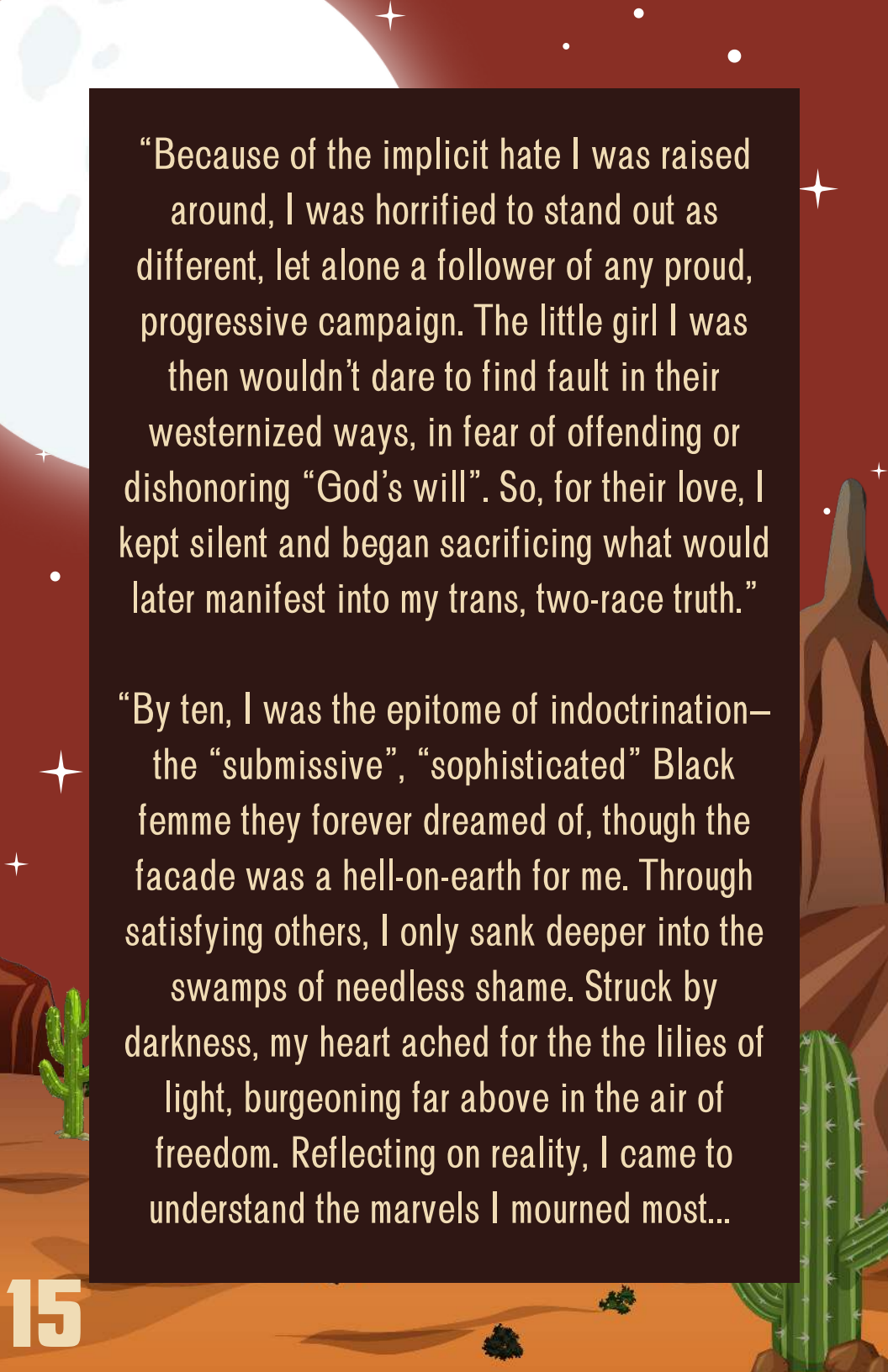
What comes to mind when you think about reparations?



MEET GABRIELE

TQ2S+ Council Member Gabriele Jones thrives best when farming, foraging to cook tasty foods, and figuring out ways to make the world a kinder place. But before they could fully enjoy such pleasant moments, the two-spirited teen first had to find peace within themselves – and as a biracial “bumpkin”, gaining strength to accept their color and queerness down South did not come easily.

To them, this year’s theme brings “angelic troublemaking” to mind – the righteous act of stirring change against the oppressors ruining the roots of culture, creativity, and change. By sharing passages of their poignant tale, they hope to stir you into progressive action so we may all preserve the labor of every ally, ancestor, and advocate today.



“Because of the implicit hate I was raised around, I was horrified to stand out as different, let alone a follower of any proud, progressive campaign. The little girl I was then wouldn’t dare to find fault in their westernized ways, in fear of offending or dishonoring “God’s will”. So, for their love, I kept silent and began sacrificing what would later manifest into my trans, two-race truth.”

“By ten, I was the epitome of indoctrination—the “submissive”, “sophisticated” Black femme they forever dreamed of, though the facade was a hell-on-earth for me. Through satisfying others, I only sank deeper into the swamps of needless shame. Struck by darkness, my heart ached for the the lilies of light, burgeoning far above in the air of freedom. Reflecting on reality, I came to understand the marvels I mourned most...



Courage, comfort in my skin, and the culture of my people far richer than what westernization created. Every loss I cried for, I realized that there was too a day where my ancestors and ambitious advocates like me shared my pain. I was never alone.”

“As I healed from suffering to avenge my spirit, one action that helped me change was embracing independent thought and having courage to explore cultural or personal experiences outside your perspective, even if they’re uncomfortable or may be considered taboo. Every pursuit of self-determination will yield painful truths about your past or perspective; I knew this sorrow most when I broke myself for others. But, with my fear of offending and being unloved, I lost sight of how important it was to value myself as a person despite the judgement of others.”

“If a journey like mine can teach you to love—to honor the good that made you and exists around you—in the face of hate, it’s not fair to declare that you deserve it as damnation.

Instead, see it a challenge you, like your ancestors and fellow advocates, can overcome to further foster your greatness.

When elated in the elements of your character, remember to relish your life and lineage as pieces of cultural history, then offer space to the individuality of others. Intersectionality forever holds importance in the fight for Black-Indigenous freedom, and the rebirth of cultures is strongest when we unite against westernization.”



Written By: Gabriele Jones, They/He, Kusso-Natchez Land



RESOURCES

Two-Spirit Initiative: GSAN's initiative to bridge the gap between Native and LGBTQ+ youth organizing.

Honoring the Land: Educate yourself about the origin of the land you inhabit.

Movement for Black Lives-Reparations Now Tool Kit: Learn about reparations, explore different narratives, and engage in activities and discussion questions.

WeRNative: Comprehensive health resource for Native youth, by Native youth.