“My Freedom Dream” Capstone Project

Prompt

Understand: Use your “Freedom Dreams” journal to keep track of freedom dreams of individuals and groups you have encountered in your US history class, and to reflect on the lessons they offer as you think about the world you dream of and would like to create.

Assess: Come up with one freedom dream for a community you belong to—your school, neighborhood, or another community that matters to you. Then, identify how your freedom dream can be achieved:

- What small, everyday steps would be required to achieve it?
- Who would you enlist (policy or grassroots organizations, community leaders, artists, etc.) to help you enact your freedom dream?
- How would you include them?

Act: Using the style of Langston Hughes’ poem “I Dream a World,” which repeats the phrase “I dream a world . . .,” write a poem or spoken word piece that shares your freedom dream with a wider audience. You can choose to publish your poem in a variety of places, including but not limited to: on a social media page, on a blog such as medium.com, or on a poster that you display in your school, a business, or other community institution.

Note: Before publishing student materials, be sure to follow school or district policies regarding the sharing of student work online or in public spaces.

The poem must also be accompanied by a reflection (see Handout: “My Freedom Dream” Capstone Project Reflection) that explains the artistic choices you made and what you have learned from the project.