NEC Diversity Resources and Initiatives Workshop
Conceptual Lenses: healing, joy, empowerment, visibility/representation, action, belonging, social justice, allyship, and community-building.

III. Preparation Assignment:

▪ **Read** Pharr, *In the Time of the Right,* "Building Community, Making Connections" (97-99).

▪ **Explore** local University Diversity Groups or Resources (possibilities linked here). **Paste in the comment box a link to** information on a group, resource, or event that interests you (have it handy to discuss in class). **Take notes** so you're prepared to discuss the following questions:
  1. What's interesting to you about this group/resource/event?
  2. Could a similar group/resource/event be organized at NEC? Is it something you'd like to see at NEC?
  3. If not, what other kind of diversity-related group/resource/event would you like to have at NEC?

▪ **Conduct a brief interview** (in person or over Zoom/chat) on the topic of diversity with at least one NEC sophomore, junior, or senior.
▪ **Put** the name of the person you interviewed in **the comment box**. Then **paste their responses**, without their names, to the following questions **in the "Diversity at NEC: Interviews" Forum** I set up ("Forums" in lefthand sidebar menu. Click "Reply" to my post for questions 1-3 and "Post" (with a clear title) for the question you asked for #4:
  1. What are your thoughts about diversity at NEC?
  2. Name something positive about diversity at NEC (if not answered in #1).
  3. Name a problem with diversity at NEC or something you'd like to change or see happen regarding diversity at NEC (if not answered in #1).
  4. (*Ask another diversity-related question of your choice*). Type your question and the interviewee's response.

II. In-Class Group Workshop:

1. **What kind of diversity resource/event/activity/group would be useful at NEC?** (Related to the other university diversity resources you looked at for your Preparation assignment, or something different).

2. **Which categories of University Diversity Organizations would your resource/event/activity/group fit into?**
-celebratory   -educational   -support   -advocacy

3. **What problems would your resource/event/activity/group address and/or what possibilities would it provide, and how?**

4. **How would your resource/event/activity/group connect to ideas (problems, possibilities, etc) from the Interview Responses on our forum?**

5. How would your resource/event/activity/group connect to ideas from our Community Collaborative Notes and/or from the Pharr reading?

6. Additional considerations to deepen your ideas. Respond to some of these questions, as time allows (move on to "Present," below, when we have just a few minutes left):
-What social justice issues might your resource/event/activity/group address (if not already covered in #3)?

-If the resource/event/activity/group seeks to remedy a problem or improve something, what are the different aspects of the problem at NEC and in society more broadly?
What's at stake? Who's involved (as victims, oppressors, stakeholders, advocates, etc.)?

-Who could/should be involved with this resource/event/activity/group and why, and who could/should be involved with the issue you're addressing on a larger societal scale and why?

-Not only at NEC but also on a larger societal scale, what are the problem's causes? What needs to change to resolve the issue? How would your resource/event/activity/group fit into a larger quest for social justice?

-What would you like to communicate to others about this issue you're addressing?

-What has prevented action on this issue and/or what is preventing understanding of this issue or empathy for those it affects? Think of institutional/educational, social, emotional, philosophical, ideological, political, and ethical barriers.
-Considering these barriers and the ways others' views have been shaped, how might you communicate your message about this issue most effectively and begin to convince others of its importance? Or, how would you motivate others to get involved?

-What kinds of community spaces would you like to create?

-What are some ideas for expanding your resource/event/activity/group?

-How do your ideas relate to a quotation from one of our readings this semester?

Reflect (if time): If undertaking a project like this isn't realistic for you, what kinds of social justice activism would you be likely to engage in? Least likely? What would motivate you or, conversely, prevent your involvement?

III. Present:
Imagine you are seeking funding from a donor for your resource/event/activity/group. Prepare to present a **1-2 minute pitch for your idea** covering Questions 1-5 and at least one idea from #6.