

RAW FILE
MAKING-VISIBLE
CAMILO MONTOYA
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7:00 P.M.

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>> HELLO. HI, WELCOME. HI, AMANDA, WELCOME. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING HERE. MARY, HI. WELCOME, WELCOME, EVERYONE.

>> ANNIE MAHON: SO AS PEOPLE ARE COMING IN IF YOU WANT TO PUT YOUR NAME WHERE YOU ARE CALLING IN FROM, INTO THE CHAT. THAT WOULD BE AWESOME. IF YOU FEEL INSPIREED TO DO THAT. THEN WE CAN WELCOME EACH OTHER.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: HI, WELCOME.

>> HELLO, THANK YOU.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU SO MUCH. AS ALWAYS WE HAVE LIVE TRANSCRIPTION, YOU CAN ALWAYS CHOOSE THE LIVE TRANSCRIPT AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR SCREEN IF YOU WOULD LOOK TO GET, LIVE TRANSCRIPTS BY DON OUR TRANSCRIPT CAPTIONER.

>> YOU NEED TO PRESS THE CC, LIVE TRANSCRIPTS, AND, SHOW SUBTITLES. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE THE CLOSED-CAPTIONING. HI, EVERYONE. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT.

>> ANNIE MAHON: WE HAVE SUSANNA, MAGDA, VIRGINIA. LANITA IN SILVER SPRING. AWESOME. (SPEAKING SPANISH)

>> ANNIE MAHON: WE ARE HAVING SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION. I DON'T KNOW IF OUR INTERPRETERS WANTED TO SHARE WHAT PEOPLE NEED TO BE DOING OR WOULD YOU RATHER US DO THAT? (SPEAKING SPANISH)

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: ANNIE, I DON'T SEE THE GLOBE.

>> ANNIE MAHON: I HAVEN'T SENT THEM TO THEIR ROOMS YET.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: PERFECT. THE GLOBE WILL APPEAR IN A COUPLE MOMENTS. SO, JUST FOR YOU TO KNOW WHEN THE GLOBE APPEARS, THEN YOU NEED TO -- PRESS THE, THE LANGUAGE THAT YOU WANTED TO, TO INTERPRETER, AND THEN THE LANGUAGE THAT YOU WANT TO BE HEARING THE, THE SESSION. (SPEAKING SPANISH)

>> ANNIE MAHON: I WILL GO AHEAD AND START THAT. SO PEOPLE CAN CHOOSE. NOW YOU MUST CHOOSE ONE OR THE OTHER. ING ENSHREURB OR SPANISH. I WILL PUT THAT IN THE CHAT AGAIN, SO YOU CAN SEE THE INSTRUCTIONS. ENGLISH OR SPANISH. I WILL

PUT THAT IN THE CHAT AGAIN. THE GLOBE, YOU CLICK THE GLOBE,
SO YOU SELECT, ENGLISH OR SPANISH.

>> WHERE IS THE GLOBE?

>> ANNIE MAHON: ALONG THE BOTTOM OF THE SCREEN. WHERE AWFUL
THE LITTLE THINGS, OPTIONS IN ZOOM ARE. WHERE ALL THE
LITTLE OPTIONS IN ZOOM ARE.

>> THANK YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES. RIGHT.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: WE ARE GOING TO GIVE A FEW
MINUTES MORE TO PEOPLE TO ARRIVE. THEN WE ARE GOING TO
START. THANK YOU SO MUCH, EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT.
WE ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE. YOU ARE THE -- YOU
MAKE POSSIBLE MAKING-VISIBLE, WE ARE SO GRATEFUL WITH YOU
TO HAVE THE CHANCE TO LEARN TOGETHER AND TO -- TO OPEN OUR
EYES TOGETHER. THANK YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THE WAY WE HAVE OUR FORMAT WHICH WILL BE
TONIGHT AS WELL. WE WILL IN A MINUTE OR SO, I WILL INVITE A
BELL. AND -- SHARE A LITTLE BIT ABOUT WHY WE HAVE THE BELL.
AND I WILL HAVE A QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH, THEN, ADRIANA
WILL INTRODUCE THE SPEAKER AND WE WILL GO RIGHT INTO IT.
AND THEN WE WILL HAVE TIME FOR QUESTION/ANSWER, SOMETIME
AROUND 8:00.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: YES, PLEASE, EVERYONE, JUST TO REMIND YOU, YOU HAVE TO SELECT A CHANNEL FOR THE INTERPRETATION, OR TO BE HEARING THE SESSION IN THE -- IN ENGLISH. SO YOU WILL HAVE -- A GLOBE IN, IN, IN YOUR, SCREEN BELOW. AND YOU NEED TO SELECT INTERPRETER, AND THEN, SPANISH OR ENGLISH. THANK YOU. AND WELCOME, EVERYONE AGAIN. AND, ANNIE, WHY DON'T YOU SHARE IT IN A LITTLE ABOUT THE FORMAT AND WHY, WHY, WE HAVE, DO YOU WANT TO -- TO START? RIGHT NOW?

>> ANNIE MAHON: YEAH, GO AHEAD AND START. I WILL TURN ON THE RECORDING. OKAY, YEAH, WELCOME EVERYONE. OUR FORMAT TONIGHT WILL BE AS USUAL FOR MAKING-VISIBLE. WE WILL START WITH THE BELL, WE WILL HAVE A FEW MOMENTS TO SETTLE IN. AND, WE USE THIS BELL, IN THE TRADITION OF OUR PRACTICE, OUR PRACTICE WITH THICH NHAT HANH, WHO IS A BUDDHIST MONK FROM VIETNAM. AND ADRIANA AND I PRACTICE IN THIS TRADITION. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PRACTITIONER IN THIS TRADITION TO BE HERE. BUT WE, WE RESPECT THIS TRADITION AS A WAY TO HOLD SPACE. FOR THE CONVERSATIONS THAT WE ARE HAVING. AND, THICH NHAT HANH HAS, HAS BEEN A MONK FOR DECADES AND ACTUALLY, WAS A -- WAS A YOUNG PERSON AND ACTIVIST IN VIETNAM DURING THE WAR. SO THE TRADITION THAT THICH NHAT HANH TEACHES IS

ALL ABOUT ENGAGED MINDFULNESS, ENGAGED BUDDHISM, NOT JUST ABOUT MEDITATING FOR OUR OWN SAKE, IT IS, PRACTICING MEDITATION FOR THE SAKE OF ALL BEINGS. AND FOR, FOR MAKING CHANGE IN THE WORLD. SO, THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS THAT WE -- THAT WE PRACTICE IN THIS TRADITION. SO, WITH THE BELL THAT WE WILL USE TONIGHT WE WILL JUST INVITE, INVITE IT THREE TIMES. IT WILL BE A CHANCE FOR US TO SETTLE OUR BODIES, AND OUR HEARTS AND OUR MINDS. AND IN ORDER TO LISTEN MORE DEEPLY TO WHAT WE WILL BE HEARING TONIGHT. SO WITH THAT I WILL INVITE THE BELL, THREE TIMES. AND THEN I WILL READ A QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH. SO WHILE WE ARE LISTENING, YOU CAN JUST RELAX AND ENJOY THE SOUND OF THE BELL. AND BEING HERE IN THIS COMMUNITY TOGETHER.

(BELL TOLLS) (BELL TOLLS) SO, THE QUOTE I LIKE TO READ TONIGHT IS FROM THE BOOK "LOVE IN ACTION" BY THICH NHAT HANH. AND IT'S, IN THE CHAPTER ON THE HUMAN FAMILY. AND WE'LL ALSO PUT THIS INTO THE CHAT AFTER I READ IT. THE FATE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IS LINKED TO THE FATE OF THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE. WE MUST LET OTHERS LIVE IF WE OURSELVES WANT TO LIVE. THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO COEXISTENCE IS CO-NONEXISTENCE. A CIVILIZATION IN WHICH WE KILL AND EXPLOIT OTHERS FOR OUR OWN AGGRANDIZEMENT IS SICK. FOR US TO HAVE A HEALTHY

CIVILIZATION, EVERYONE MUST BE BORN WITH AN EQUAL RIGHT TO EDUCATION, WORK, FOOD, SHELTER, WORLD CITIZENSHIP, AND THE ABILITY TO CIRCULATE FREELY AND SETTLE ON ANY PART OF THE EARTH. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS THAT DENY ONE PERSON THESE RIGHTS HARM THE WHOLE HUMAN FAMILY. WE MUST BEGIN BY BECOMING AWARE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE HUMAN FAMILY. IF WE WANT TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE ALREADY DONE. AND THAT'S WHY WE ARE HERE TOGETHER TONIGHT TO, TO LISTEN AND TO BEGIN TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE AND, AND -- BECOME MORE AWARE OF OUR INTERBEING. I'LL TURN IT OVER TO ADRIANA AND POST THE CHAT IN -- QUOTE IN THE CHAT.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, ANNIE, AND EVERYONE. I WILL READ A QUOTE THAT I LIKE. I FEEL IT IS RELATED WITH CAMILO, WHAT IS CAMILO THEN I WILL INTRODUCE CAMILO. SO EVERY MOMENT IS AN ORGANIZING OPPORTUNITY. EVERY PERSON A POTENTIAL ACTIVIST. EVERY MINUTE A CHANCE TO CHANGE THE WORLD. THIS IS A QUOTE BY DOLORES SUARTE. AND I HAVE THE HONOR TO INTRODUCE TONIGHT TO YOU, CAMILO MONTOYA, AND, A MULTIMEDIA STORYTELLER FROM NICARAGUA AND CAME TO SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND WITH HIS FAMILY IN 2013, WHEN HE WAS 12 YEARS OLD. HE IS BEST KNOWN IN THE AREA FOR HIS ORIGINAL SPOKEN WORD PERFORMANCES, PRESENTED AT THE

STRATMORE AND KENNEDY CENTER. BACK HOME IN NICARAGUA, HE HAS MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF WORKING WITH THE NICARAGUAN FREEDOM COALITION AND ALLIANCE OF NICARAGUA, ADN, SHORTLY AFTER HIS NOMINATION FOR BEST DIRECTOR AT THE NATIONAL STUDENT PRODUCTION, EMMYS IN 2020, CAMILO FOUNDED THE SLICE FOR LIFE PRODUCTIONS, A VIDEO PRODUCTION COMPANY COMMITTED TO RACIAL JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY BUILDING. HE PARTNERS WITH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES THAT DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE LATINO, THE LATINX COMMUNITY. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO LEARN MUCH MORE ABOUT CAMILO'S EXPERIENCE AND HOW HE HAS FOUND, COMMUNITY, THROUGH ACTIVISM. CAMILO, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT WITH US. WE ARE SO GLAD TO HAVE YOU. HERE. AND THE SPACE IS FOR YOU NOW. PLEASE WELCOME, CAMILO.

>> CAMILO MONTTOYA: CAN YOU ALL HEAR ME? OKAY. HELLO, EVERYONE. IT IS A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE. I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE A REALLY, REALLY SMALL GROUP. AND -- IT'S HARD FOR ME, SO, I APPRECIATE YOU ALL BEING HERE, IT IS REALLY HARD FOR ME TO TALK ABOUT MYSELF. AFTER HEARING THAT INTRODUCTION WHICH I WROTE, LIKE I TYPED THAT INTRODUCTION, I DON'T BELIEVE IT, IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE -- LIKE ME, JUST BECAUSE IT'S, IT'S SUCH A WEIRD THING FOR ME

TO -- TO JUST TALK ABOUT THE STUFF THAT I HAVE DONE AND,
ESPECIALLY, IN, IN A SPACE LIKE THIS ONE WHERE, YOU HAVE
ALL OF THESE COOL, GREAT, PEOPLE, OR THESE GREAT ACTIVISTS.
LIKE, STOP BY AND SHARE THEIR, THEIR WORK, THEIR
EXPERIENCES. IT'S, IT FEELS LIKE I'M NOT REALLY SUPPOSED TO
BE HERE. SO, THANK YOU ALL FOR MAKING ME FEEL COMFORTABLE
AND FOR, FOR, YOU KNOW, JUST -- JUST TAKING TIME OUT OF
YOUR DAY TO LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY. I DON'T EVEN KNOW
WHAT I AM GOING TO SAY. I ATTEMPTED TO PUT TOGETHER A -- A
COUPLE SLIDE PRESENTATION, AND I REALIZED EARLY ON THAT I'M
NOT GOOD AT THAT. I, THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT, THE SLIDES
AND ALL THAT, THAT DOESN'T WORK FOR ME. I CAN EDIT IN ANY
VIDEO PROGRAM. I CAN DESIGN FLIERS AND COMMUNICATION, BUT I
COULDN'T PUT TOGETHER A PRESENTATION, WORTH -- LIKE AS GOOD
AS THE OTHER ONES THAT HAVE BEEN SHOWN HERE. I WATCHED THE
OTHER PEOPLE THAT SPOKE. I DO HAVE ONE, NOT AS GOOD AGAIN,
BUT, IT, IT -- I GUESS, WHAT GUIDED ME IN MY SPEECH TODAY.
EVERYTHING I WILL SAY TODAY. AND THEN, HOPEFULLY, GIVE SOME
VISUALS, THAT, THAT --
THAT HELP YOU ALL UNDERSTAND SOME MORE LIKE THE WORDS THAT
I AM GOING TO SAY. I AM GOING TO BE MINDFUL OF THE
INTERPRETERS, I WILL TALK A LOT SLOWER THAN I USUALLY

WOULD. I AM A FAST PACED SPEAKER, TRIP MYSELF UP TALKING FAST. I WILL TRY MY BEST TO SLOW DOWN AND LET THEM, DO THEIR, DO THEIR JOB. PROPERLY. SO, LET ME SHARE MY SCREEN. I CAN'T SEE YOU ALL, BUT, CAN SOMEBODY CONFIRM THE SCREEN IS SHOWING, THE PRESENTATION IS SHOWING.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: YES, THANK YOU.

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: GREAT. MY NAME IS THE FIRST SLIDE. THE REASON THAT I CHOSE THAT, AS THE FIRST SLIDE WAS, BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH I HAVE STRUGGLED WITH THAT NAME. I HAVE FOUR MORE LIKE MY MIDDLE NAME, MY MOM'S LAST NAME. CAMPOS.

CAMILO

MONTOYA IS THE WAY THAT I MOVE THROUGH THE WORLD. I CHOSE THAT NAME BECAUSE -- I HAVEN'T ALWAYS BEEN PROUD OF SAYING THE NAME OUTLOUD OF BEING UNAPOLOGETICALLY LATINO WHICH IS I GUESS HOW I WOULD DESCRIBE MYSELF NOW. IT'S CLEARLY LIKE, LIKE NOT A U.S. NAME OR, A WHITE, WHATEVER NAME, IT'S -- IT'S VERY, VERY MUCH HISPANIC, VERY LATINO. AND HAS A THE LOW OF HISTORY. HAS A THE LOT OF -- LIKE FAMILY HISTORY. MY COUNTRY'S HISTORY. MY PEOPLE'S HISTORY. AND SO -- THAT'S WHAT, LIKE SEEING MY NAME IS WEIRD TO ME. BECAUSE I, I HAVE ALWAYS STRUGGLED WITH IT. I WILL GO INTO IT SOME MORE. BEFORE I DO THAT. I JUST -- I WANTED TO SHOW THIS

TIME OF THE YEAR IS TOUGH FOR ME. NOT BECAUSE IT IS TAX SEASON. BECAUSE TAXES ARE PRETTY GOOD FOR ME THIS YEAR. IT WAS, MY RETURNS TALKING ABOUT. IT IS JUST THIS TIME FROM THE 18th OF APRIL TO, LIKE AROUND THIS TIME IS, IS A VERY SYMBOLIC TIME FOR ME IN MY LIFE. BECAUSE TWO YEARS AGO, THREE YEARS AGO, IN 2018 WAS WHEN THE UPRISINGS BEGAN IN MY HOME IN NICARAGUA AGAINST THE ORTEGA REGIME, DICTATORSHIP THAT HOLDS MY COUNTRY. AND IT -- THREE YEARS AGO, THE UPRISING BEGAN, PROTESTS, POLICE BRUTALITY WAS, WAS OUT, OUT THERE WITH, WITH NO FILTER, AT ALL, NO SHAME, NO NOTHING. IT WAS MURDERING AND KIDNAPPING AND HARASSING, IT ALL BEGAN THREE YEARS AGO. ON THE, BETWEEN THE 18th AND 19th. THE VERY IMPORTANT DATE. FOR NICARAGUANS. FOR ME IT REPRESENTS MY FIRST AWAKENING I WOULD CALL IT. MY FIRST TIME, SORT OF -- UNDERSTANDING FINALLY WHO I WAS -- GETTING A SENSE OF WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO DO. STARTED ME OUT IN THE JOURNEY I AM IN NOW (SPEAKING SPANISH) MY FIGHT, MY STRUGGLE, THAT HAS -- SHAPED, SHAPED ME INTO WHO I AM NOW. SO MY NEXT SLIDE IS SOME PICTURES OF ME. WITH MY CAMERA. IT KIND OF SYMBOLIZES WHEN THE TWO JOURNEYS THAT -- THAT'S EVENTUALLY COLLIDED AND MADE, MADE ME WHO I AM NOW. YOU KNOW, VIDEOS, CAMERAS KIND OF, WAS THE STRUGGLE FOR ME.

WASN'T GIVEN TO ME. IT WAS SOMETHING THAT I REALLY HAD TO WORK FOR. REALLY HAD TO -- ONE UP MYSELF EVERY TIME TO GET TO THE POINT WHERE I COULD -- PULL THE CAMERA -- HOLD THE CAMERA IN MY HAND. I, IT TAUGHT ME -- SO -- YOU KNOW MY PARENTS COULDN'T GET ME THE CAMERA, THAT I NEEDED TO GET STARTED. SO -- THAT'S WHEN I STARTED WORKING. SO I STARTED WORKING AT, AT A CHINESE RESTAURANT IN BETHESDA. BACK THEN IT WAS, MY FIRST JOB, EVER. SO IT TAUGHT ME A LOT, TAUGHT ME THE VALUE, VALUE, VALUE ANYTHING, ANY MATERIAL POSSESSIONS IN ANY WAY HELPED ME IN MY JOURNEY. THE CAMERA I AM HOLDING RIGHT THERE, IS MY FIRST CAM REFER. I WORKED SO HARD TO GET. I WORKED, LIKE, LIKE -- OVER THE SUMMER. GOING INTO MY SOPHOMORE YEAR, WORKING DOUBLE SHIFTS. I WOULD COME IN AT 7:00 IN THE MORNING TO DO THE BREAKFAST, MORNING SHIFT. I WOULD LEAVE AT 11:00 AT NIGHT TO DO THE NIGHT SHIFT. SO I COULD BUILD LIKE, SAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY THE CAMERA THAT I WANTED SO I COULD -- DO MY VIDEOS, THIS PASSION OF MINE, HAS TAKEN ME VERY FAR IN MY LIFE. WAS SOMETHING THAT I REALLY HAD TO WORK FOR. IT WASN'T SOMETHING THAT LIKE I SAID BEFORE, THAT WAS GIVEN TO ME. THAT'S ONE PART OF MY JOURNEY. MY OTHER PART OF THE SKWURPBY WHICH IS THIS. REALLY FUNNY SLIDE. (JOURNEY) AND

THAT IS GOING FROM CAM TO MILO, HAVING MY TWO SORT OF NICKNAMES THAT I HAVE, GROUPED AROUND MY LIFE WITH. CAM WAS THAT, WAS THAT, ASSIMILATED, THAT, THAT WHITE PASSING, LIKE VERSION OF MYSELF. THAT, I STRUGGLED WITH FOR MANY YEARS. THAT WAS -- HOW I MOVED AROUND MY HIGH SCHOOL. BCC, PREDOMINANTLY WHITE, PREDOMINANTLY WEALTHY, WHITE PEOPLE. IN MY AREA. SO THE WAY, YOU KNOW -- THAT IS MY EXPERIENCE OF WHITE MAN IN THE BETHESDA AREA, MOVES, WHITE KID IN BETHESDA, MALE IN BETHESDA AREA MOVES IS VERY, JUST, JUST, STROLLING BY, NOT REALLY CARING, JUST, LIKE MAKING FUN OF THINGS, AND, VERY RELAXED. IS SORT OF HOW, HOW, I WAS TAUGHT THAT, THAT GUYS MOVE. THAT'S HOW, THAT'S HOW THE BOYS MOVE. IN OUR AREA. IN OUR SCHOOL. I EMBODIED THAT COMPLETELY. CUT MY HAIR SHORT. I WEAR MY WHITE VANS. MY, MY, NIKE SOCKS. AND JUST -- WEARING A HAT BACKWARDS ALWAYS. IT WAS ALWAYS -- THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT AT THE TIME I HAD TO DO TO FIT IN. AND IN A WAY I WAS ACCEPTED BY MANY FOR DOING SO. WHICH, WHICH WAS -- PART OF THE STRUGGLE. HOW, HOW I WAS, PRETENDING TO BE SOMEBODY I WASN'T. SOMEBODY SO FAR FROM WHO I REALLY AM, BUT THAT PERSON, THAT CAM, THAT BOY WAS ACCEPTED BY MANY. ACCEPTED BY, BY THE WHITE MEN AT THE SCHOOL. HE WAS ACCEPTED BY THE SPORTS TEAM AT THE SCHOOL. I

COULD BE IN THE WEIGHT ROOM. WITH GUYS, WITH BOYS. AND THAT MALE ENVIRONMENT THAT I CRAVED FOR SO LONG. BECAUSE I NEVER REALLY HAD FRIENDS. WHEN I MOVED HERE. A PICTURE FROM MY SOPHOMORE YEAR. UP UNTIL THAT POINT I CAME HERE. END OF SIXTH GRADE. FROM SIXTH GRADE TO MY SOPHOMORE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, I WOULD CALL IT THE CAM PHASE, THE PHASE OF, THE ERA OF MINE, WHERE I WAS JUST TRYING TO FIT IN. ALL I WANTED WAS TO HAVE FRIENDS. TO HAVE A COMMUNITY. TO BE ACCEPTED. TO HAVE A PLACE WHERE I COULD BE MYSELF. YOU KNOW? THAT CAME WITH A LOT OF, YOU KNOW, UPS AND DOWNS, AND I WOULD SAY, THERE WERE, I NEVER REALLY -- HAD ANY SORT OF --

OF, OF --

HOW WOULD I CALL IT? NEVER HAD ANY SORT OF CONSCIOUSNESS AT THE TIME. I WAS -- I WAS SO -- SO YOUNG. SO, FOCUSED ON THE SUPERFICIAL. FOCUSED ON THE LOOKS. FOCUSED ON, ON, HOW OTHERS PERCEIVED ME THAT I NEVER REALLY GOT TO DO ANY INTERNAL WORK AND LOOK AT THE STUFF THAT I HAD LIVED SO FAR. UP UNTIL THE POINT MY SOPHOMORE YEAR, I HAD BEEN THROUGH A REALLY TOUGH TIME IN MY LIFE. CAME FROM NICARAGUA HERE, STARTED LIFE OVER COMPLETELY. LOST ALL OF THE CONNECTIONS THAT I HAD, MY FRIENDS, FAMILY. THE CULTURE

THAT HAD RAISED ME. AND, STARTED FROM ZERO. I WAS NOBODY.
NOBODY KNEW ME. SO IN A WAY, I GOT TO, SORT OF REBRAND
MYSELF. AND, AND, AND FIGURE OUT. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN
VERY --

I ANALYZE THINGS A LOT. SO, I WOULD -- WHEN I FIRST CAME
HERE I WAS, NOTICING, THE PATTERNS, THE GUYS, HOW THE BOYS
MOVED, HOW THE GUYS, HAD THEIR FRIEND GROUPS, GIRLS HAD
THEIR FRIEND GROUPS. BUT GIRLS ARE NICER. SO THE GIRLS WERE
BEING NICER TO ME BECAUSE I WAS, THE NEW GUY, SO THEY
WOULD, THEY WOULD GO OUT WITH ME. THEY WOULD, TAKE ME TO
THEIR, THEIR HOUSES. I WOULD HANG OUT WITH THEM. WE WOULD
GO OUT. THAT WAS MY FRIEND GROUP. IT WAS MAINLY GIRLS. WHAT
I WANTED WAS TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE GUYS. GUYS AGAIN ARE
VERY CLIQUEY WITH THEMSELVES, ESPECIALLY THE WHITE MEN,
MAJORITY OF MY SCHOOL. THAT'S WHEN THIS QUOTE FIRST CAME TO
ME. WHICH I THINK WOULD MARK MY, MY, BEGINNINGS INTO THE
CAM ERA. I REMEMBER -- IN SEVENTH GRADE --

A GIRL, A VENEZUELAN GIRL, WEALTHY GIRL, SO, IT IS VERY
DIFFERENT SITUATION. SHE CAME HERE. I CAME. IN HERE. SHE
WAS LIKE --

JUST, SHE WAS BEING NICE TO ME.

BEING MY FRIEND. TELLING ME, CAMMILO, YOU ARE TOO WHITE TO

BE LATINO, BUT TOO LATINO TO BE WHITE. THAT AS A 7th
GRADER, A YEAR INTO, INTO BEING IN THIS COUNTRY, REALLY --
IT STRUCK ME. I HAD NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT. NEVER THOUGHT
WHAT THAT MEANT. FOR ME THAT MEANT, I GET NOTHING FROM
BEING LATINO. THE OTHER LATINOS AREN'T REALLY INTERACTING
WITH ME. NOT REALLY GIVING ME A POLICE TO CALL HOME. SO,
AND THEY'RE THE MINORITY, I COULD TELL AT THE TIME, 7th
GRADER THERE IS LESS OF US. OR SEEMS LIKE THERE IS LESS OF
US. WE ARE ALL KIND OF GROUPEd TOGETHER. SO I WAS LIKE, WOW
I WANT TO BE WITH THIS TEAM. THAT TEAM, THE WINNING TEAM.
SO THAT'S WHAT THAT QUOTE, THAT MEANS A LOT TO ME -- KIND
OF, KIND OF --

SYMBOLIZED FOR ME. IF I WANT TO FIT IN. MAKE A CLEAR
DECISION TO BE WHITE, TO BE, TO TAP INTO THE WHITE SIDE. I
CAN BENEFIT FROM. I AM WHITE PASSING. WHEN IT IS HOT MY
SKIN GETS PINK. IT'S NOT, IT'S SOMETHING THAT IF I REALLY,
TRY TO, AND I DID FOR MANY YEARS, I COULD LOOK WHITE.
THAT'S THE LEFT. CAM. ON THE 19th OF APRIL. THAT'S WHAT I
MEAN MY FIRST AWAKENING. CAM UNTIL THE 19th OF APRIL, 2018.
ALL OF A SUDDEN, I -- I WAS FORCED OUT OF THAT, SLAPPED OUT
OF THAT, THE CHARACTER THAT I WAS PLAYING FOR MANY YEARS IN
FRONT OF THE PEOPLE. ALL OF A SUDDEN I NOW HAD TO --

I NOW -- SAW PAIN, I SAW SUFFERING, I SAW KILLINGS IN MY HOME. I SAW -- I SAW BLOOD BEING SPILLED IN THE STREETS THAT I WALKED WHEN I WAS A KID. I SAW MY ELEMENTARY, KINDERGARTEN, IN MANAGUA THAT I WENT TO THAT MY COUSINS WENT TO, MY PARENTS REALLY CARED ABOUT, BURN. AND BECAUSE, THERE WERE PROTESTERS HIDING IN THE CAMPUS. SO THIS CHILDHOOD, PLACE, HOLDS A LOT OF MEMORIES FOR ME WAS DESTROYED, LITERALLY. SO THAT KIND OF PUSHED ME -- OUT OF -- OUT OF THAT, THAT CHARACTER. AND LIKE, LITERALLY A DAY. BY THE 20th, BY, BY NOW, YOU KNOW, 21ST, I BECAME -- MIL OPEN, NOT, NOT YET EXACTLY. BUT I HAD, I WAS FORCED OUT OF IT. BECAUSE THEN I, I CAN'T -- I SORT OF GET LIKE A NEW SET OF EYES. AND SEEING MY PHONE, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, SOCIAL MEDIA, USE ALL OF THESE TERRIBLE THINGS THAT ARE GOING ON BACK HOME FOR ME. YET THE WORLD AROUND ME IS GOING ON. NOTHING IS HAPPENING. MY TEACHERS DIDN'T REALLY CARE. MY, MY, FRIENDS, MY CLOSE FRIENDS, THAT I, THAT I TRUSTED THAT I CARED A LOT ABOUT. DID NOT CARE AT ALL. I WONDERED AT THE TIME. WHY DON'T THEY CARE? WHY DENT THEY MAKE AN EFFORT TO, TO, ASK ME ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON? TO, TO LOOK AT THE NEWS. AND THEN, AND THEN -- CATCH UP WITH ME LIKE HEY I SAW, THIS HAPPEN. LIKE, WHAT

DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU? WELL, YEAH, EVERYTHING THAT IS GOING ON -- SOME SORT OF --

YOU KNOW, EMOTIONAL -- ATTACHMENT TO ME. AND SO THAT'S WHEN I, I HAD THIS REALLY TOUGH PART FOR ME WHERE -- I COULDN'T, IT WASN'T DITCHING MY, MY, THE LIFE I HAD UP UNTIL THAT POINT. FRIENDS TO THAT POINT. I WAS DRAGGED OUT OF IT. I WAS OVERTAKEN BY THIS, THIS GREAT PAIN THAT WAS GOING ON AROUND ME. I FOCUSED ON WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN NICARAGUA. THAT BECAME MY FIGHT. WHAT SHAPED ME INTO WHO I AM NOW. I WILL GO INTO THE NEXT SLIDE. AGAIN, THESE ARE SOME OF THE VISUALS, NICER VISUALS I COULD FIND. THAT WEREN'T TOO, JUST, TRIGGERING FOR PEOPLE, AND BLOODY, BUT FOR ME IT WAS EVERY DAY, IT WAS THIS. HOW, HOW COULD YOU EXPECT, I LOOK AT IT NOW. YOU KNOW, 19 NOW. LOOK AT IT NOW AS, LOOKING BACK AT THE 16, 17-YEAR-OLD AT THE TIME. I WAS LIKE HOW IS IT THAT ALL OF THESE ADULTS AROUND ME, THESE TEACHERS AROUND ME, ALL OF THESE, ALL OF THE STAFF AROUND ME, SAW A KID, 16, 17-YEAR-OLD IN SO MUCH PAIN, SO MUCH DISTRESS. AND, AND, DIDN'T REACH OUT TO ME. DIDN'T MAKE AN EFFORT TO SAY, HEY, I KNOW WE HAVE THIS BIG ASSIGNMENT. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT'S JUST A FREAKING GRADE. IT'S JUST CHEMISTRY CLASS. WHO CARES? YOU HAVE A LOT GOING ON. FOCUS ON THAT.

AND NOBODY DID. NOBODY DID. THE OHM ONES THAT DID, WERE, AT THE TIME, I HAD ONE BLACK TEACHER. AND I HAD ONE LATINA TEACHER. WHO WAS MY MENTOR. WHO IS NOT HERE, SADLY. THOSE ARE THE ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN THE ENTIRE SCHOOL WHO WERE CONNECTED WITH ME WHO MADE AN EFFORT TO ASK ME, WHAT WAS GOING ON. TO, TO, LEARN, NOT ONLY, ASK, LEARN. IT BECAME A THING WHERE WE COULD DISCUSS WHAT WAS GOING ON. BECAUSE THEY HAD, THEY HAD EDUCATED THEMSELVES, ON, ON, WHAT HAPPENED. THEY COULD RELATE THEIR PERSONAL STRUGGLES. PUERTO RICAN. AND, AND, I FORGET HER NAME. AFRICAN-AMERICAN. SO WE COULD, THAT, THEN IT BECAME AN EXCHANGE FOR US. I FIRST FOUND THE SPACE OF QUOTE, UNQUOTE, OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE STRUGGLED WHO HAVE A BIG, YOU KNOW -- GENERATIONAL AND, STRUCTURAL STRUGGLE TO BE ABLE TO CARRY EVERY DAY. THAT EXCHANGE BECAME FAMILIAR AT TH* THAT POINT. I CAN HAVE A LOT GOING ON. I CAN RELATE TO OTHERS THEY HAVE A LOT GOING ON TO DEAL WITH IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. SO IT AWAKENED ME. LIKE I SAID BEFORE, IT FORCED ME OUT OF CAM TO MILO, MILO IS, IS, FOR ME, REPRESENTS THAT, THAT THE NEW CELTICS OF EYES, THAT I, ROLL WITH, THAT KEEP CHANGING. NOT THE SAME AS THEY WERE THREE YEARS AGO. BUT IT WAS DEFINITELY, A NEW WAY OF LOOKING AT

THE WORLD. FOR ME. AND THAT, LEADS ME TO THE NEXT PART WHICH IS THE -- HOW, HOW LIKE I SAID BEFORE, THAT -- THAT JOURNEY OF -- OF THE VIDEOS THAT I WAS MAKING. FILMING SPORTS, EVENT. WORKING FOR THE SCHOOL TV SHOW, WHILE I WAS, GROWING IN THAT, SUDDENLY THAT SUDDEN, YOU KNOW, CHANGE THAT I HAD FROM -- FROM CAM TO MILO, INTERSECTED REALLY, REALLY WELL. HERE I AM, I HAVE NO FRIENDS. I DITCH ALL MY FRIENDS. I COULDN'T GO TO CLASP I COULDN'T SIT IN CLASS STILL KNOWING THAT ALL OF THIS STUFF WAS GOING ON BACK HOME. SO ALL OF A SUDDEN I HAVE A LOT A FREE TIME. AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYBODY. BECAUSE I HAVE A LOT OF HATE IN MY HEART ALSO, FOR, FOR AWFUL THE KIDS AROUND ME. THE STAFF MEMBERS AROUND ME. THAT I NOW FULLY COMMIT MYSELF. AND, SINCE THEN IT HAS BEEN THAT WAY, FULLY COMMIT MYSELF TO THE COMMUNITY. I SUDDENLY FOUND ONE. I SUDDENLY FOUND, NICARAGUANS HERE IN THE U.S., IN THE D.C. AREA. THAT WERE FEELING THE FEELINGS I FELT. A LOT OF THEM WERE OLDER. I WAS ON THE YOUNGER SIDE OF THOSE GROUPS. I HAVE A VOICE, SKILL, THAT CAN HELP ME SERVE MY COMMUNITY. AND I WILL BREAK DOWN EACH OF THE IMAGES I ATTACHED ON HERE. SUDDENLY, I CAN HELP, BESIDES JUST CRYING ABOUT IT IN MY ROOM. AND, IN WRITING ABOUT IT. AND, AND, COMPLAINTS TO PEOPLE ABOUT

IT. I CAN TAKE ACTION. I ACTUALLY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
AND, THAT LEADS ME TO ONE OF THE FIRST VIDEO I WANT TO SHOW
YOU ALL, WHICH WAS, THE INDIVIDUALLY I LITERALLY MADE. I
THINK ON THE 20TH, APRIL, THREE YEARS AGO. WHICH JUST, YOU
KNOW, LIKE ALL OF THIS IS GOING ON. NOBODY CARES. MEDIA IS
NOT COVERING. I WANT TO MAKE A VIDEO. AND I GOT TO PUT IT
OUT. I PUT THIS VIDEO, WHICH I WILL SHOW YOU IN A SECOND,
ON YOUTUBE, WITHIN 24 HOURS, ON FACEBOOK. AND BECAUSE
THAT'S HOW, MOST OF THE INFORMATION GOT, GOT SPREAD, WITH
NICARAGUANS. PUT IT ON FACEBOOK. WITHIN 24 HOURS, 20,000
VIEWS WHICH IS NOT A LOT IN, IN THE MEDIA WORLD, BUT, FOR
24 HOURS FOR JUST A KID, THAT'S SHARING A VIDEO THAT HE
MADE. ALL IN NICARAGUA, SHARING IT BACK AND FORTH. MEANT A
LOT. I DO HAVE A VOICE.

I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN MY COMMUNITY. AND I CAN, I CAN,
I DON'T HAVE TO JUST SIT DOWN AND WATCH IT ALL GO DOWN. I
CAN ACTUALLY INFORM PEOPLE. I CAN INFORM MYSELF. I CAN
SHARE, SHARE, MY FEELINGS ABOUT IT I WANT TO SHOW YOU ALL
OF THIS VIDEO. IT IS A BUT ONE MINUTE. LET ME JUST SWITCH
MY SCREEN.

>> I CAN SEE.

>> GOOD SO FAR WITH TIME AND ALL OF THAT.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: PERFECT. THANK YOU.

>> THIS VIDEO IS TWO MINUTES. A QUICK EDIT I PUT TOGETHER.
JUST PUT OUT WITH NO INTENTION.

AND THEN IT GOT A LOT OF TRACTION ON FACEBOOK. AND A LOT OF
COMMENTS. A LOT OF PEOPLE, FELT HURT, FOR THE FIRST TIME.

SO -- HERE IS THAT VIDEO. WARNING THE CONTENTS OF THIS
VIDEO CONTAIN IMAGES OF VIOLENCE. EXPLICIT VIOLENCE, . SO
WHAT IS GOING ON IN NICARAGUA. THIS IS THE FIRST WAVE OF
PROTESTS THAT ARE STRONG. PROTESTS, DEMONSTRATIONS IN
NICARAGUA HAVE LEFT THEM --

THEY ARE -- THE ARMY IS OUTSIDE IN MANY PLACES. TO CONTEST
THE VIOLENCE THAT IS --

>> SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED, MANY OTHERS INJURED,
RUNNING BATTLES BETWEEN PROTESTERS AND POLICE.

>> PRESIDENT ORTE TPW-FPLT A IS DENYING HIS PARTICIPATION,
SO, THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN --

>> (INDISCERNIBLE) RULE.

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>> CAMILO MONTOYA: AM I BACK ON MY SLIDES? OKAY. GOOD. SO
THAT VIDEO WAS NOT THAT GOOD. IT'S, IT'S REALLY POORLY

EDITED. AND BECAUSE I WAS STILL LEARNING HOW TO EDIT AT THE
TIME. BUT IT WAS MY FIRST SORT OF WAY OF TAKING ACTION AND
DOING ANYTHING. THAT ESCALATED INTO WORK WITH -- WITH
ORGANIZATIONS -- LIKE THE, LIKE --
AWFUL THE GROUPS THAT FORMED AT THE LOCAL NICARAGUANS. CAME
TOGETHER. WHICH HELPED ME FIND COMMUNITY FOR THE FIRST
TIME. THAT'S WHEN I FIRST LANDED IN A GROUP THAT -- THAT
FEELS THE WE I DO. WANTS TO MAKE CHANGE. AND CARES ABOUT
THE THINGS I CARE ABOUT. SHARES A SIMILAR BACKGROUND TO ME.
AND THAT'S SENSE, WITH THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE, THAT'S MY
FRIEND, WHO I MET AT ONE OF THE PROTESTS. ALSO LIVES IN
MONT GUM -RY COUNTY AND THE AREA. ON MY RIGHT SIDE. ON THE
LEFT MY FRIEND JAN, THE REASON I CHOSE THE TWO PICTURES WAS
TO SHOW THE TWO WORLD THAT, THAT --
VIDEO, THAT HAVING A CAMERA. HAD TO EDIT. AND THAT VOICE
THAT I TALK ABOUT EARLIER. HELPED ME FIND. I WENT FROM
HAVING A FAKE FAMILIA THAT CARED AND TOOK ME IN AS CAM, TO
AWFUL A SUDDEN FINDING TWO WORLDS. THE TWO WORLDS, GET INTO
MORE WORLDS, MORE COMMUNITIES THAT TOOK ME IN FOR WHO I
WAS. WHICH WAS SOMETHING THAT I FEARED SO LONG TO BE, TO
EXPRESS, ALL OF A SUDDEN I AM EXPRESSED BY SO MANY PEOPLE.
AND, ON THE RIGHT SIDE, YOU SEE MY PROTESTER SIDE. THE

NICARAGUAN EMBASSY, ALL OVER WASHINGTON, D.C. ALMOST WEEKLY WE WERE PROTESTING FOR A YEAR OR FOR MANY YEARS. AND ON MY LEAF YOU SEE MY SIGN, HIGH SCHOOL SIDE. AND OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL. THAT, THAT, WHERE I HAD TO HIDE TO BE SOMEBODY ELSE.

I NOW FIND OTHER PEOPLE, WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS LIKE ME WHO GENUINELY CARE ABOUT ME AS A PERSON. ABOUT THE THINGS THAT I WAS AFRAID OF MAYBE DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS. THIS BECAME SORT OF WHAT GAVE ME SOMETHING TO ADD TO THE CONVERSATION. I HAD A DIFFERENT BACKGROUND.

I HAD A DIFFERENT STRUGGLE. AND THAT'S MY FRIEND, JAN, I LIKE THAT PICTURE, WE BOTH LOOK REALLY HANDSOME. MY FRIEND JAN IS FROM POLAND. I HAD NEVER MET SOMEBODY FROM POLAND UP UNTIL THAT POINT. IT WAS FUNNY, HOW -- FOR AND WE, WE COLLABORATED A LOT. WE BOTH GRADUATED. HE IS IN SCOTLAND STUDYING. BUT EVEN THOUGH, HE, HE WENT AWAY.

AND, ACTUALLY, WE WERE STILL CONNECTED. STILL TALKING TO EACH OTHER. STILL WHAT HIS LIFE IS, MY LIFE. WE WORK ON PROJECTS TOGETHER ALL OF THE TIME. AND, THIS IS ONE OF THE MANY, MANY, MANY --

PEOPLE THAT I, THAT I NOT ONLY MET -- ABLE TO BUILD A FRIENDSHIP WITH. CARRIED ON FOR MANY YEARS, AND WILL BE

ABLE TO CARRY ON, HOW MUCH WE WERE ABLE TO CONNECT BECAUSE
OF FILM. VIDEO PRODUCTION. BECAUSE OF THE SCHOOL'S TV SHOW.
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT I NEVER THOUGHT --
VIDEO, IN, IN PRODUCTION WOULD HAVE DONE FOR ME. ALL I
WANTED WAS A CAMERA. I WORKED SO HARD, WITH THE CAMERA. AND
THAT CAMERA, OPENED DOORS. AND THE OTHER DOOR. ANOTHER
DOOR. AND ANOTHER DOOR. DOORS JUST KEEP OPENING FOR ME
BECAUSE OF THAT INITIAL STRUGGLE. WAY BACK. I CAN'T AFFORD
A -- CAMERA. I WILL WORK FOR IT. I WILL SAVE UP. AND I
WILL, SWEAT MY ASS OFF AT THIS TERRIBLE --
SORRY, DON'T KNOW IF I CAN CURSE, THIS TERRIBLE RESTAURANT
THAT I WORKED AT. AND THAT'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO TO GET
MY CAMERA. AND HUH THAT, THAT, GOT ME TO WHERE I AM NOW.
AND, AND, I WILL GO INTO MY NEXT SLIDE. ART HEALS.
BECAUSE --
WITH, WITH THE --
AND THE ART WORLD WHICH IS, WHICH IS PART OF --
PART OF -- LIFE, THAT I WAS NEVER, THAT, EVEN THOUGH I DID,
AS A KID, BUT, I NEVER REALLY UNDERSTOOD WHAT ART DID FOR
PEOPLE. WHAT ART REALLY DOES TO SOMEBODY'S SOUL. AND THESE
ARE SOME OF THE ART PIECES THAT, THAT I SHARED. THAT, THAT
I MADE OVER THE YEARS THAT REALLY CAPTURED THAT, THAT,

FEELING OF -- OF --

OF COMMUNITY THAT I, THAT DEVELOPED, UPON ME. SO I GO FROM THAT, THAT IDIOT KID THAT YOU SAW BEFORE, CAM, TO SUDDENLY BEING MILO. MILO IS MAKING THIS. THIS IS COMING OUT OF MILO, THIS IS MY EXPRESSING, THE WAY I VIEW THE WORLD.

AND --

AND, SO -- AND, IT HELPED ME HEAL. EVERY TIME I MADE THESE. THOUGH IS WAS ON A COMPUTER. ON PHOTO SHOP. IT WAS MAKING COLLAGES. IT -- I AM LIKE --

WHENEVER I SHOWED IT TO PEOPLE. THEY WOULD SEE IT. THEY WERE LIKE, AMAZED BY IT. THEY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY WERE SEEING. AND, BECAUSE, TRULY IT IS JUST, ME, IT IS ME EXPRESSING MYSELF. ME EXPRESSING HOW I SEE THE WORLD. ON THE LEFT, SELF PORTRAIT. ON THE LEFT, SELF PORTRAIT. THAT REALLY SHOWED, THAT PERSON, THAT, THAT EVERYBODY SAW AT SCHOOL. AND, WALKED AROUND. WHAT THAT PERSON LIKE REPRESENTED BECAUSE -- IT'S, IT'S NOT REALLY JUST THAT I CARRY, CARRY, YOU KNOW MY CULTURE, MY COUNTRY, BECAUSE ALL OF HOSE, ALL OF THOSE ARE NICARAGUAN IMAGERY. SYMBOLS. NOT THAT I CARRIED ON MY BACK. IT PUSHES ME FORWARD. ON THE RIGHT SIDE, THE OTHER ONE. YOU CAN SEE, I FORGET THE NAME, SORRY. IT'S, IT AGAIN THE SAME THING OF -- OF, WITHIN

THIS -- THIS, U.S. WORLD, BEING CARRIED BY THE, THE,
SYMBOLS OF, OF OUR COUNTRIES, LIKE -- THE NATIONAL --
BIRDS OF GUATEMALA, FLYING ON THE TOP. AND THE -- THE
MONARCH, I THINK MONARCH. BUTTERFLIES, ALSO CARRYING --
HER, MY FRIEND, EMILY, S A L V A D O R I A N DESCENT, FIRST
GENERATION AMERICAN, SORT OF REPRESENT RADIOSING THE U.S.
LATINO STRUGGLE, BECAUSE SHE WAS BORN HERE. BEING SORT OF
TAKEN OUT OF IT BY, BY OUR SYMBOLS, BY, BY, OUR COUNTRIES,
BY OUR, AND IN THE MIDDLE. KIND OF OBVIOUS, REPRESENTING
THAT, THAT, THAT IMMIGRATION -- THE STRUGGLE IMMIGRATION,
THE FEELING OF -- OF -- YOU KNOW, YOU HAVE TO MOVE FORWARD,
YOU HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE SITUATION. BUT YOU ARE TO LEAVE
EVERYTHING BEHIND. YOU ARE HAPPY TO LEAVE. SO THAT IS SORT
OF, I CHOSE THE THREE BECAUSE I THOUGHT -- IT REALLY --
REPRESENT RADIOSENT LIKE THE THREE ASPECTS OF ME. YOU KNOW,
ME AS AN IMMIGRANT. ME, ME AS A U.S. LATINO. BECAUSE I AM
LATINO IN THE U.S

AND I KNOW A THE HR OF U.S. BORN LATINOS. AND NICARAGUAN
MAN, PERSON, THAT'S ONE PART OF MY -- THE MORE LOVING PART
OF MY ART. MY OTHER PART IS MY SPOKEN WORD, MY POETRY WHICH
IS, SORT OF, THAT MY ANGRIER SIDE. THAT'S HOW I EXPRESS
AWFUL THE ANGER THAT I HAVE IN ME. ONCE I LET IT OUT, IT IS

OUT. IT DOESN'T CONTROL ME ANYMORE. THAT'S HOW SPOKEN WORD
CAME INTO MY LIFE. SO, UP NEXT, LET ME SHARE, THE SPOKEN
WORD THAT HAS TAKEN ME FAR IN LIFE.

(SPEAKING SPANISH)

PERFORMED AT THE SCHOOL DIVERSITY NIGHT PERFORMANCE. AND --
AND --

I WON'T SHOW THE VIDEO, IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY SUBTITLES FOR
YOU ALL HERE. IT IS SPANISH/ENGLISH, THAT'S WHY. SO I FIRST
DID IT, AS A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL. MY FIRST TIME DOING A
SERIOUS SPOKEN WORD PIECE IN FRONT OF A LOT OF PEOPLE. AND
JUST SEEING THE INSTANT REACTION FROM, FROM, PEOPLE, IN MY
SCHOOL. TEACHERS FOR THE FIRST TIME, DIDN'T KNOW ME LIKE
THAT, SEEING HE IS HOLDING ALL OF THAT IN. IT WAS MY FIRST
TIME LETTING IT OUT. IN FRONT OF PEOPLE, BEING VULNERABLE
IN FRONT OF PEOPLE. AGAIN, BEING UNAPOLOGETIC. I WASN'T
AFRAID TO SHARE THAT'S HUH I FELT. I WASN'T AFRAID TO SHARE
THE MANY THINGS THAT I FELT THAT I CARRIED, AND, AND THAT
IT IS NOT JUST ME. BECAUSE EVERYTHING I, I IN, YOU WILL SEE
IN THE SPOKEN WORD, THAT EVERYTHING THAT I TALK ABOUT THAT
I AM, I AM, ME, CAMILO, NOT JUST ME, ALL OF US, ALL LATINOS
WE CARRY THAT. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT IS IMPORTANT TO BE
TALKED ABOUT, TO BE NOTICED TO BE EXPRESSED SO

THAT THAT ANGER, DOESN'T HOLD US DOWN. IT HOLDS ME DOWN
SOME TIMES. LET ME SHARE MY SCREEN. AND LET ME GO TO THE
SPOKEN WORD. SO, SO THIS ONE --

THIS SPOKEN WORD IS -- LITTLE LONGER, LET ME SKIP THE
BEGINNING. THIS IS MY THIRD TIME PERFORMING, IT AT THIS
POINT. FROM, FROM, FROM THAT FIRST PERFORMANCE. AND MY, MY
HIGH SCHOOL. I PERFORMED AT OTHER EVENTS. THIS IS AT THE
STRATHMORE THEATER IN ROCKVILLE, THIS IS MY THIRD TIME ON
THE STAGE PERFORMING THIS. THIS IS AT THE LATIN DANCE
COMPETITION. THE LATIN DANCE COMPETITION. SO THE IT WAS A
ROOM FULL OF LATINOS. AND I HAVE NEVER, NEVER EXPERIENCED
THAT BEFORE. AN ENTIRE --

THEATER, FILLED WITH LATINO FAMILIES, IMMIGRANT FAMILIES.
AND HOW -- HOW AFTER THAT, YOU KNOW THE MANY DOORS THAT
OPENED AFTER I WAS VULNERABLE IN FRONT OF MY COMMUNITY,
ACTUALLY, LIKE MY LATINO COMMUNITY. SO, THE LAST VIDEO I
WILL SHOW JUST, JUST BECAUSE WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME. I
WILL PLAY IT IT IS FOUR MINUTES FOR YOU ALL. STOP ME IF IT
IS NOT SHOWING WELL. SO, I CAN, SO I CAN -- I CAN MAKE SURE
TO, TO REWIND. SO A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT
MEANS TO BE LATINO. SEE IF YOU LOOK AT IT FROM A
GEOGRAPHICAL STANDPOINT, A LATINO IS BORN IN LATIN AMERICA,

WHETHER THEY SPEAK SPANISH OR NOT. NOW HERE IN THE U.S.,
THE TERM LATINO IS FOR ANY ONE OF LATIN AMERICAN DESCENT.
WHETHER IT IS SPANISH OR NOT. WHETHER ALL OF THAT IS TRUE,
THAT'S NOT ALL THERE IS TO IT. BEING LATINO MEANS BEING
AWARE OF EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE YOU REPRESENT AT ALL
TIMES. BEING LATINO IS LIVING WITH THE BURDEN OF KNOWING
THAT YOU ARE THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF SLAVES, AND SLAVE
MASTERS. KNOWING THAT YOUR ANCESTORS KILLED THE, AND ALSO
WERE THE ONES KILLED, AND BEING LATINO MEANS COMING FROM
STOLEN LAND, SOAKED IN INDIGENOUS BLOOD, THE SAME LAND THE
AFRICAN SLAVES WERE FORCED TO CALL HOME. AFTER THEIR HOME
WAS TAKEN FROM THEM. AND YOU MAY LOOK AT ME AND SAY HOW DO
YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE LATINO? I SAY TO YOU, BECAUSE
I AM LATINO. I AM THE HAPPINESS AND THE SUFFERING. THE
ROADS AND THE HIGHWAYS. THE HOUSES AND THE BUILDINGS. I AM
THE FARMERS AND THE BUSINESSMEN. THAT 40 YEARS AGO, THESE
WERE A DIFFERENT TYPE OF WARS, THESE WERE THE WARS, WHEN
THE ENEMY DRESSED UP TO MAKE US KILL EACH OTHER.

>> THE REVOLUTION, THE DEMOCRACY IN WHICH THE PEOPLE OF THE
NICARAGUA CHOOSE THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT. A WORLD WHERE MANY
HAVE TO DIE FOR OTHERS TO LIVE. A WORLD WHERE THE RICH GET
RICHER AND THE POOR GET DEATH. THE WORLD WHERE LOOKING FOR

A BETTER LIFE IS CONSIDER AID CRIME ONLY IF YOU ARE BROWN,
A WORLD SEPARATED BY BORDERS, BORDERS PUT UP BY OPPRESSORS
WHO KEEP US FROM HELPING EACH OTHER. IT BREAK IS MY HEART
TO SEE THIS BECAUSE WHY SHOULD SOME ONE HAVE TO RISK DYING,
IN THE QUEST TO FIND A BETTER LIFE? AND THAT IS WHY, I GET
UP EVERY DAY, THAT IS WHY, I WORK SO HARD BECAUSE IT AIN'T
ABOUT ME. IT'S ABOUT YOU. IT IS ABOUT THEM. IT IS ABOUT ALL
OF US. IT IS ABOUT HELPING THE ONES COMING AFTER US.

HONORING THE ONE WHOSE CAM BEFORE US. AND BECAUSE THAT IS
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE LATINO. TO BE LATINO. TO BE LATINO
MEANS TO LOVE, TO FIGHT, TO SUFFER, AND TO KEEP MOVING
FORWARD, BECAUSE WE KEEP MOVING FORWARD. THANK YOU.

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: AWESOME. AWESOME. ALL RIGHT. SO --
THAT WAS A LOT OF PAIN. PRESENTED INTO A, A BEAUTIFUL ART
FORM. WHICH IS, WHICH IS MOVE AROUND NOW, I DON'T LET THE
PAIN HOLD ME DOWN. I, I USE THE PAIN AS FUEL. AS, AS --
AS FUEL, THAT, PUSHES ME FORWARD THAT PUSHES ME TO HELP. MY
COMMUNITY. SO -- EVEN THOUGH OFTENTIMES AGAIN, THIS PAST
COME OF DAYS I HAVE BEEN CRIPPLED BY MY PAIN. IT HITS ME
REALLY HARD. THOUGH I HAVE BEEN CRIPPLED BY THE PAIN
LATELY. OFTEN TIMES IT HAPPENS THAT WAY. FOR THE MAJORITY
OF THE YEAR OF MY LIFE IT REALLY IS ABOUT, IT IS, THE FUEL

THAT KEEPS ME GOING. THE FIRE THAT KEEPS ME GOING. THAT'S HOW IT SHOULD BE. EVERYBODY. I ENCOURAGE MY PEERS AND DEFINITELY THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS, TO, TO, TO DO ART. TO FIND THE, THEIR WAY OF EXPRESSING THEIR PAIN. OF WORKING THROUGH THEIR PAIN. WHICH IS, WHICH IS, I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT. BUT THEN --

EVEN THOUGH THAT, THAT DID HELP ME A LOT IT HELPED ME CONNECT WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE. IT HELPED ME --

YOU KNOW, IN A PERSONAL LEVEL, UNDERSTAND OTHERS. EDUCATE MYSELF. IT, IT ALSO --

ON THE WHITE SIDE, LIKE THE MY WHITE PEERS WHO WOULD SEE ME AT MY SCHOOL, THEN, SUDDENLY, CLASSIFY ME. TO, TO BET -R UNDERSTAND WHAT IS IS THAT I WAS DOING. I GET THROWN INTO A --

A LABEL, I GUESS. (BETTER) THE LABEL ACTIVIST. PUT ON MY FOREHEAD. AND ALL OF A SUDDEN EVERYTHING I AM DOING IS ACTIVISM. AND, AND -- EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT TERM --

I DIDN'T LIKE IT -- I HAVEN'T REALLY FELT COMFORTABLE WITH IT ALWAYS BECAUSE --

I ASKED, HOW IS IT ACTIVISM IF, IF WHAT I AM DOING IS JUST, EXPRESSING MY PAIN? REALLY, WHAT I AM DOING IS -- IS --

IS -- IS WORKING THROUGH MY PAIN. IT REALLY UPSET ME THE TERM, ACTIVIST WHEN IT WAS FIRST, SUDDENLY, FIRST CALLED ME THAT. UPSET ME. IT WAS NOT ACTIVISM. I DON'T THINK. IT IS ART. IT IS SELF-EXPRESSION. IT IS WAY TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS TO FIND COMMUNITY. AND, AND SO I NEVER LOOKED THAT TERM. SO, THAT'S WHY I PUT THE QUESTION MARK ON THE SLIDE. ACTIVIST. BECAUSE, IT'S -- LIKE I DON'T KNOW. I STILLN 'T KNOW KNOW IF I KID MYSELF THAT. BECAUSE, IT, IT GENERALLY COMES FROM A PLACE OF --

OF, OF --

PUTTING UP A FLAG. HERE IS MY PAIN. AND I WANT TO KNOW WHO ELSE CAN FEEL THAT PAIN? WHO ELSE CAN, CAN, MAYBE -- BENEFIT FROM HEARING MY PAIN. AND, I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM HEARING YOUR PAIN THAT YOU FEEL YOUR STRUGGLE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY. SO THAT'S SORT OF WHERE I AM RIGHT NOW. LOTS OF LABELS ARE THROWN AT ME. AND -- WHEN THINGS GO WELL. WHEN THINGS GO WRONG. YOU KNOW -- THERE IS ALL OF THESE LABELS. I ALWAYS WONDER. I DON'T HAVE TO SHARE ANYMORE.

I WILL STOP SHARING. OH, I AM SO SWEATY. SORRY. THAT'S SORT OF WHERE I AM AT NOW. I ASK MYSELF, AM I, AM I PERFORMING, BECAUSE I WANT TO BE SEEN? AM I, GOING ON A STAGE BECAUSE I WANT THEM TO SEE CAMILLO? OR AM I GOING ON STAGE BECAUSE I

WANT TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS. THAT IS, THAT'S WHAT I WOULD SAY, IT IS FOR. RATHER THAN BEING SEEN AS A CHARACTER, AS, OH, CAMILLO, THE ACTIVIST, WHAT I REALLY WANTED WAS TO, WAS TO --

TO -- EDUCATE OTHERS. TO SHARE WITH OTHERS.

WHEN I WOULD WEAR MY SHIRTS THAT YOU SAW ON THE PRESENTATION, WHEN I WORE THE SHIRTS, IT WASN'T JUST, OH, LOOK AT ME AND MY SCHOOL SHIRT. LOOK AT THE MESSAGE THAT THE SHIRT IS HOLDING WHEN I CARRY MY FLAG, NOT LOOK AT MY FLAG. LOOK AT WHAT THE FLAG REPRESENTS. I COULDN'T CARRY MY FLAG IN MY OWN COUNTRY. BECAUSE IT IS A THREAT TO THE GOVERNMENT. SO --

SO THAT'S WHY I WEAR MY FLAG AND MY HAIR AND MY ROOM. EVERYWHERE I GO I DISPLAY MY FLAG. BECAUSE IT IS A SYMBOL OF RESISTANCE. A SYMBOL OF RESILL YEN. THAT'S, I SORT OF BEGAN ALSO ON A MORE ACADEMIC SIDE. I AM A VERY SIMPLE PERSON. I AM NOT, NOT, I DON'T READ ALL OF THE AMOUNT OF BOOKS I SHOULD BE READING, I CAN'T REALLY FOCUS FOR THAT LONG. THEN I STARTED. BUT I CAN, I AM AN ARTIST. SO, THE FEELINGS, THE EMOTIONS REALLY HIT ME. I GET OVERWHELMED WITH THE EMOTIONS THAT I GET INTO THE MORE HISTORIC ASPECT OF IT. I HAVE THE FLAG BACK HERE, WHICH IS THE FLAG OF

THE -- INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF CHILE, THE PEOPLE, AND I HAVE ALL OF THESE BOOKS, YOU CAN'T REALLY SEE THEM. ALL OF THE BOOKS DICTATORSHIPS, OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, I GENERALLY DON'T THINK I COULD STUDY IT THE WAY, THE WAY AN ACADEMIC WOULD STUDY IT. BUT, AS AN ARTIST, I LET IT INFLUENCE ME. I LET IT --

SORT OF, PUSH ME AS WELL. AND, AND WHEN I, GET TIRED, WHEN I WANT TO SLOW DOWN, I AM REMINDED THAT, WELL, YOU KNOW, THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE FLAG, IT IS IN MY ROOM RIGHT NOW, THAT I KNOW ABOUT IT, IT IS STILL, THAT FEELING IS STILL ALIVE. THAT, THAT I MENTION IN THIS BOOK. THE SPOKEN WORD. THAT PAY OF -- OF, OF ONCE YOU REALLY -- ONCE THAT AWAKENING BEGINS AS A PERSON OF COLOR AS A LATINO SPECIFICALLY IT IS LIKE, YOU START TO SORT OF HATE YOURSELF, FOR MANY YEARS, I HATED MYSELF. BECAUSE I WAS LIKE, WELL, DO I HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE, TO BE --

HELPING THE LATINO COMMUNITY WHEN MY SKIN IS WHITE? WHEN I AM ON THE, THE MORE PRIVILEGED SIDE OF LATINOS WHEN I HAVE A STATUS, WHEN I AM A CIS GENDER MALE, THOUGH I, TELL MYSELF, I AM A VICTIM. I HAVE ALL OF THESE THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT. I REALLY AM, ALSO SO BLESSED. SO LUCKY TO NOT BE DEALING WITH, IN TERMS OF THE OTHER PEOPLE OF MY COMMUNITY

HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT. AND SO -- YOU KNOW IT'S, IT'S STILL,
THAT'S KIND OF, THAT'S KIND OF WHAT, WHAT REALLY MESSED ME
UP. PREPARING THE PRESENTATION. I AM STILL YOUNG, NOT LIKE
I AM AT A POINT WHERE I CAN SAY I HAVE DONE THIS.

AND I HELPED THESE PEOPLE. IT'S STILL GOING. AND, I AM,
DOWN SOME OF MY FRIEND ARE HERE, I GET, I REALLY, I GET
CRIPPLED BY THE PAIN OFTEN. I DON'T KNOW HOW, WHAT TO SAY,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO, WHAT MESSAGE TO PUT OUT. BECAUSE --
YOU KNOW, I CAN WRITE A, AN ANGRY SPOKEN WORD TO HELP ME.
BUT WHO IS IT GOING TO HELP? SO, I DOUBT MYSELF, OFTEN.

AND, AND I'M ASHAMED, LIKE I SAID, BEFORE THIS, THIS, WHEN
I, STARTED THIS, THIS, I VOTE LIKE, I DON'T LIKE TALKING
ABOUT MYSELF. I DENT LIKE SHARING, LIKE WHAT MY PLAN IS
BECAUSE WHAT IF MY PLAN FAILS. AND I CAN HAVE ALL THESE
DREAMS, THESE ACHIEVEMENTS THAT I, THAT I WANT TO, ACHIEVE,
ALONG THE WAY, BUT --

BUT I AM HUMAN.

I AM A PERSON. LIKE --

LIKE, EVEN THOUGH I CARRY ALL OF THIS WEIGHT, I REPRESENT
ALL OF THESE PEOPLE. I -- OFTENTIMES I AM LOOK I JUST WANT
TO REPRESENT MYSELF. I WANT TO DO NOTHING. LOOK I REALLY,
I, CAMILLO LOOK TO DO IS BEING IN NATURE, CAMPING, LIKE

WALKING IN, IN ON THE TRAIL. THAT'S WHAT I COULD DO MY
WHOLE LIFE AND BE FULFILLED. BUT THEN HERE I AM. NOT JUST
CAMILLO, I REPRESENT ALL OF THE PEOPLE. BECAUSE I AM SO
PRIVILEGED BECAUSE I HAVE, A ROOF OVER MY HEAD THAT I DON'T
HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT. NOT BEING THERE TOMORROW. I HAVE A
LOVING FAMILY. I HAVE, I HAVE -- LOVING FRIENDS, I HAVE, I
WAS ABLE, WAS ABLE TO FIND A KPAOUPB TEE. THEN, I MIGHT AS
WELL, YOU KNOW, 60s UP. SOME TIMES AND, AND -- REALLY SHOW
UP FOR WHO, FOR THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE THOSE PRIVILEGES.
WHEN, I HAVE A STATUS. I HAVE -- I AM A RESIDENT IN THE
COUNTRY. WHY SHOULD I REST? THEN WALKING AROUND. THEIR LIVE
HERE COULD BE OVER. SO WHY SHOULD I REST. IT'S SORT OF
THAT, AGAIN --

I STRUGGLED -- TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO SAY. BECAUSE I
AM STILL FIGURING IT OUT

I DON'T SEE MYSELF, AS I CAN'T REALLY TEACH A CLASS ABOUT
THIS YET. I CAN'T REALLY -- YOU KNOW, MENTOR SOMEBODY YET.
I DON'T FEEL, BECAUSE IT, I AM STILL, GOING IN THIS
JOURNEY. FIGURING STUFF OUT. AND, AND I AM ALWAYS LOOKING
FORWARD TO LEARN FROM PEOPLE. AS WE ARE ENTERING THE 8:00,
Q/A PART OF THIS. ANY QUESTIONS YOU ALL HAVE, WANT TO ASK,
I AM HONESTLY SAYING, MAYBE I'M NOT THE PERSON WHO HAS THE

ANSWER TO THAT. BUT I CAN SHARE, WHAT I THINK IS THE ANSWER.

SO FAR IN MY LIFE. WHAT I HAVE LIVED SO FAR.

SO --

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU SO MUCH, CAMILO. THANK YOU FOR BEING SO OPEN. AND, AS YOU WERE TELLING ME, WE ARE ENTERING THE 8:00, WE, WE USUALLY OPEN THE FLOOR TO QUESTION AND ANSWER. I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU SO MUCH. SAY THANK YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE SO VULNERABLE. YOU WERE PRESENTING YOUR JOURNEY, OF BELONGING, AS A LATINO, AND AS, AS -- AS A PERSON IN THIS COUNTRY, AND THAT WAS REALLY, REALLY APPEALING, APPEALING TO ME. I MEAN YOU WERE LIKE -- CLEARLY --

DESCRIBING THE -- THE SUFFERING FROM -- BEING DETACHED FROM YOUR COUNTRY FROM YOUR CULTURE. AND COME HERE AND NOT FINDING A PLACE TO BE BY BECOMING INVISIBLE. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE THIS MAKING-VISIBLE. BECAUSE, ONCE WE BOOK INVISIBLE IN THIS COUNTRY. AND WE NEED TO, SHED THE LIGHT ON OURSELVES. TO BE ABLE TO, TO BE SEEN. AS WELL AS OTHERS NEED TO TURN THEIR FACES AND SEE US. THANK YOU, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ABOUT THAT. ANOTHER THING THAT WAS IMPORTANT HOW YOU FEEL WHEN YOU STRUGGLE, WHEN PEOPLE IN THIS

COUNTRY --

DON'T KNOW, DON'T CARE WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE COUNTRY. THAT SUFFERING THAT IT CAUSES LIVING HERE. HOW WE ARE CONNECTED. OUR HEART IS STILL THERE. MAYBE OUR BRAIN AND OUR MIND IS HERE. BUT OUR HEART IS THERE. SO IT IS REALLY DIFFICULT TO HAVE THOSE, TWO THINGS, ANNIE, IT'S TIME. EVERYONE TO OPEN THE FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS. AS CAMILO TOLD YOU, YOU CAN ASK HIM. HE WILL SHARE WHAT HE FEELS. MAYBE IT IS NOT THE ANSWER THAT YOU ARE, EXPECTING, I AM SURE IT WILL BE A GREAT ANSWER. SO GLAD BECAUSE WE ARE NOT THAT MANY PEOPLE, I THINK IT IS, IT IS OKAY IF YOU -- WANT TO ASK -- CAMILO SOMETHING. MAYBE YOU CAN OPEN -- YOUR MIKE. AT THIS TIME.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU SO MUCH. BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL SHARING. I REALLY ENJOYED IT SO MUCH. BECAUSE IT WAS VERY ACCESSIBLE. AND IT REALLY -- GAVE US I THINK A WINDOW INTO WHAT IT IS LOOK TO TRY TO BELONG AND, REALLY, REALLY, THE, THE, CHALLENGES AND THE WISDOM THAT YOU GOT FROM THAT CHALLENGE. OF HOW TO FIND YOUR PLACE. I MEAN THAT'S -- YES, IT HAS TO DO WITH IMMIGRATION. BUT IT IS REALLY A STRUGGLE THAT WE ALL FACE JUST IN LIFE. IS HOW DO WE FIND THAT PLACE? AND, SO BEAUTIFULLY SHARED. AND ESPECIALLY WITH THE

ART. AND BRINGING IN HOW YOU FOUND YOUR ART AND YOUR
EXPRESSION. AND, I KNOW THERE WERE COMMENTS IN THE CHAT
ABOUT HOW, AMAZING THE ART WORK WAS. WE WERE ALL JUST LIKE,
WOW. INCREDIBLE. SO, JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND
I THINK IF YOU HAD ANY WORRY AT ALL WHETHER OR NOT YOUR
WORK IS HELPING, JUST THIS TALK ALONE, 100% HELPED ME AND I
KNOW OTHER PEOPLE HERE TO GOT A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF
SOME THINGS THAT -- THAT'S WHAT, YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHY WE DO
THESE, THESE WEBINARS IS BECAUSE WE REALLY BELIEVE THAT
UNDERSTANDING IS WHAT LEADS TO LOVE AND WHAT LEADS TO
COMPASSIONATE ACTION. SO WE ARE HOPING THAT FROM, COMING TO
THE WEBINARS, PEOPLE UNDERSTAND MORE AND WILL BE MOVED TO
DO MORE. JUST LIKE YOU HAVE BEEN DOING. SO, JUST WANTED TO
SAY THAT. AND BEFORE WE OPEN THE FLOOR. IF YOU HAVE A
QUESTION, YOU CAN UNMUTE YOURSELF. ASK HIM A QUESTION.
OR GIVE HIM A COMMENT, COMMENT ABOUT HIS PRESENTATION.
WHATEVER IT IS YOU HAVE. PUT SOMETHING IN THE CHAT. CAN WE,
MAYBE, YOU WANT TO SPEAK THAT OUTLOUD OR WAIT UNTIL AFTER
CLAIRE SPEAKS. I LOVE WHAT YOU ARE SAYING THERE. SO I
REALLY, IT WAS AWESOME. IT WAS VERY BEAUTIFUL. AND I AM
READING WHAT I WROTE, ACTUALLY. SO I LOVED HOW YOU DESCRIBE
LATINOS AS VICTIMS AND VICTIMIZERS. WHAT WOULD YOU TELL

PEOPLE WHO LOOK AT LATINOS AS MARGINALIZED AND UNDERPRIVILEGED PEOPLE WITH, LITTLE CAPITAL, LIKE CULTURAL CAPITAL AND SOCIAL CAPITAL. THANK YOU, I APPRECIATE THAT QUESTION. IT IS A PROBLEM. BECAUSE AGAIN WITHIN OUR OWN COMMUNITY. NOT EVERYONE IS AT THE SAME PLACE. YOU KNOW. AND, AND, NOT EVERYBODY, WHO COMES HERE, COMES WITH THE SAME SITUATIONS. LIKE, WITH THE SAME STRUGGLES TO DEAL WITH, YOU KNOW. THE DICTATORS IN LATIN AMERICA ARE LATINOS JUST LIKE US. THEY COULD LOOK JUST AS SOMEBODY WHO IS OPPRESSED AND VULNERABLE. I DON'T THINK IT'S --

I MAY NOT BE ANSWERING YOUR QUESTION. BUT I THINK WE HAVE TO -- LOOK AT, US, AND I THINK IT IS, PART OF EDUCATING AND HAVING THESE CONVERSATIONS WHERE, WHERE --

YOU KNOW WE LEARN THAT -- THAT IT IS, IT IS SO DIVERSE, YOU CAN'T JUST, THE, BECAUSE-UP ARE LATINO DOESN'T MEAN YOU, YOU STRUGGLE WITH THE SAME PEOPLE. WITH THE SAME THINGS EVERYBODY ELSE STRUGGLES WITH. AND LIKE I WAS SAY BEFORE, LIKE -- EVEN THOUGH -- YOU KNOW, I'M NOT, THE MOST PRIVILEGED PERSON ON EARTH. I THINK I AM SUPER PRIVILEGED WITHIN MY OWN COMMUNITY. AND, YOU KNOW, IT, IS ALL ABOUT WHO -- WHO, RELATIVE TO WHAT YOU ARE COMPARING IT TO I GUESS. SO, OBVIOUSLY, IF -- IF, I, I PUT MYSELF AGAINST --

I DON'T KNOW, SUPER WEALTHY -- YOU KNOW, THIRD GENERATION, LIKE, LIKE, RICH PERSON, YEAH, I'M SO, BELOW ON THE SCALE OF PRIVILEGE. I THINK IT IS ALL RELATIVE TO THINGS. PEOPLE HAVE GOT TO BE AWARE OF THAT. YOU CAN'T JUST THROW EVERYBODY IN A BOX. IT'S NOT GOOD FOR US. ALSO TO SEE OURSELVES AS MARGINALIZED. BECAUSE WE ARE NOT. WE ARE, BUT, BUT, BUT WE ALSO HAVE TO EMPOWER EACH OTHER TO LOOK BEYOND THAT. TO, TO, SEE THAT WE HAVE SO MUCH HISTORY, WE HAVE SO MUCH TO BE PROUD ABOUT, TO BE ASHAMED ABOUT, TO, TO, TO SHARE WITH OTHERS, SO IT IS SO, DIVERSE. YOU KNOW? IT'S, IT'S --

IT'S COOL BUT ALSO NOT. HOW THAT IS. HOW COMPLEX IT IS.

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: THANK YOU.

>> I WAS JUST GOING TO THANK YOU SO MUCH.

ONE THING THAT STRUCK ME ABOUT YOUR STORY -- IS PARTLY TRUE OF MANY ADOLESCENTS WHERE YOU FIND YOURSELF AND YOUR COMMUNITY AT THE SAME TIME. THAT WAS SO BEAUTIFULLY SHOWN IN YOUR SLIDE SHOW WHICH I THOUGHT WAS GREAT. BUT ALSO SEEMS TO ME SOMETIMES, WHITE AMERICANS WE HAVE SUCH AN INDIVIDUALISTIC FOCUS THAT, THAT WE STRUGGLE OUR WHOLE LIVES TO, TO FEEL A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, THE WAY THAT YOU EXPRESSED IT. AND I JUST, I JUST WANTED TO, TO, THANK YOU

FOR, SHOWING IN YOUR TALK HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS.

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, I SEE THAT IN MY FRIENDS AND PEOPLE THAT I KNOW A THE LOT. OFTEN TIMES IT IS LIKE, IS LIKE, HERE ARE, THESE GOOD, LIKE, SOCIALLY ORIENTED PEOPLE AND, AND, LIKE MY WHITE FRIENDS WHO STRUGGLE WITH, STRUGGLE WITH THAT COMMUNITY TO FIND, AND, AND, I THINK THAT IN SOME WAYS THAT, THAT -- MAKES ME PRIVILEGED. LOOK I DO HAVE A STRUGGLE. I DO HAVE -- LIKE A COMMUNITY THAT, THAT I COULD HELP, AND, SO -- IT'S ALSO, IN THAT, THAT GOES BACK TO, TO THE, TO MAGDA'S QUESTION, ALL ABOUT, RELATIVE TO HOW YOU LOOK AT IT. IT IS LIKE I AM, SO THANKFUL THAT I HAVE A COMMUNITY THAT I CAN, THAT I CAN, EXPRESS TO AND I CAN HELP. AND I CAN -- COMMIT MY LIFE TO. THAT OTHERS MAY FEEL LOOK THEY DON'T. AND I, DIE TO THINK THEY DO. I THINK EVERYBODY CAN FIND A COMMUNITY. SO I DON'T, THAT'S WHY I DON'T -- I DON'T CRITICIZE PEOPLE WHO, WHO REALLY, FIND A WAY TO MAKE A COMMUNITY. LIKE MY WHITE FRIENDS, MAY BE NOT COOL TO SAY, MY WHITE FRIENDS WILL DYE THEIR HAIR CRAZY COLORS, THAT'S THEIR WAY OF FINDING COMMUNITY. I LOVE THAT I MAKE FUN OF THEM. WHY IS YOUR HAIRPINNING? I LOVE IT. I LOVE THAT, THAT IS A TRAIT THAT YOU CAN SHARE WITH OTHERS. AND

COMMENT TO, SOCIALIZE TO OTHER AS BUT. I DEFINITELY SEE
WHAT YOU ARE SAYING. AND I AGREE. I HAVE A QUESTION AND
COMMENT. ONE WHEN YOU WERE DESCRIBING HOW --
HOW YOU FELT LIKE YOU WANTED, THERE WAS, YOU WERE
STRUGGLING WITH IDENTITY AND HOW THE WHITE TEAM WAS THE
WINNING TEAM. THAT JUST BROKE MY HEART. THAT, THAT, YOU HAD
TO KIND OF FACE THAT AND WORK, WITH BOTH OF THOSE
IDENTITIES. AND, IT SEEMS LIKE THAT IS AN ART ITSELF. JUST
HAVING TO BALANCE -- THOSE TWO IDENTITIES. AND YOU SEEM TO
BE REALLY, DONE IT, YOU DO TALK ABOUT HOW IS WAS A
STRUGGLE. BUT JUST -- ALL OF THE OTHER THINGS THAT YOU HAVE
SAID IN THE PRESENTATION MAKES ME FEEL LOOK YOU HAVE DONE
IT SO GRACEFULLY. I GUESS MY QUESTION IS, SEPARATELY. WHEN
IS THE FIRST TIME THAT YOU RECALL, THAT YOUR ART WAS THE,
THE THING THAT WAS, LIKE --
THAT WAS YOUR -- YOUR WAY OF EXPRESSING --
YOUR STRUGGLE? AND, AND, IT WAS, YOU REALIZE IT WAS
SOMETHING THAT WAS HEALING TO YOU. WHAT WAS THE MEDIUM? AND
WHEN, WHEN WAS THAT? DO YOU RECALL?
>> I CAN TELL YOU THE EXACT MOMENT. IT WAS WHEN I
PERFORMED, THE SPOKEN WORD, THAT WAS MY THIRD PERFORMANCE.
THE FIRST TIME I, PERFORMED IT WAS ACTUALLY DURING

REHEARSAL FURS THAT EVENT. THAT'S WHAT'S WEIRD ABOUT THAT IT IS, SUCH A PERSONAL, YOU DON'T WANT, YOU DON'T WANT TO DO ATE AGAIN. BUT I HAD TO REHER IT IN AN EMPTY, IN THIS EMPTY AUDITORIUM AT SCHOOL. THERE WAS LIKE ONE PERSON, ONE, THERE WAS ONE, MS. OWENS IS HER NAME, ONE AFRICAN-AMERICAN TEACHER ALL THE WAY IN THE BACK. SNUCK IN TO SEE THE PERFORMANCE.

THIS WAS BEFORE, ANYBODY ELSE SAW IT. SHE SNUCK IN TO SEE IT. AND SHE CAME UP AND SHE WAS LIKE, CAMILO, LOOK I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU, YOU JUST SAID THAT. WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT, JUST CAME OUT OF YOU, YOU DON'T, SHE HAS HAD ME IN CLASS YOU

DON'T SHARE THAT STUFF. YOU DON'T LIKE, LIKE, NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU ARE UPSET IN THE CORNER. WHY YOU SKIP CLASS. NOW I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE CARRYING ALL OF THIS. AND YOU HAVEN'T SAID IT. AND, THEN SHE, STARTED SHARING HER OWN STORY. SHE IS AN OLDER WOMAN. SO, SHE, SHE CAN TELL YOU A LOT ABOUT, YOU KNOW, JIM CROW, ERA WITH HER FAMILY, HOW HER FAMILY STRUGGLES FROM THE SOUTH. SHE WAS SHARING WITH ME THAT PART OF HER, SO, SO, IT WAS THE FIRST, AGAIN, JUST ONE PERSON. AND, AND ME SHARING AWFUL THE HISTORICAL THINGS I STRUGGLED WITH. CARE ABOUT. MADE HER SHARE, HER STORY,

WITH ME. AND HER FAMILY STRUGGLE WITH ME. AND THEN, I
CONNECTED WITH HER FOR THE FIRST TIME. AN OLDER WOMAN, OF A
DIFFERENT RACE. AND, AND THEN --
THAT, THAT, SORT OF -- PREPARED ME FOR, WHAT WAS HAPPENING
THAT NIGHT, WHEN, THE ACTUAL PERFORMANCE THAT WE HAD.
AND -- I DID THE SAME ACT THAT, THAT I, PERFORMED A COME OF
TIMES. AND, AND, EVERYBODY -- LIKE, THE ENTEAR AUDITORIUM
WAS JUST, IN TEARS. CLAPPING. CHEERING FOR ME. I WAS LIKE,
WHOA. LIKE THIS -- THIS HELPED THEM. AND IT HELPED ME. IT
HELPED ME, EXPRESS MYSELF. AND IT HELPED ME UNDERSTAND ME
AND OTHERS AS WELL. SO THAT IS, THAT IS WHAT I -- PUSHED ME
STILL TO, TO KEEP DOING IT. AND BECAUSE OF THAT, INITIAL
REACTION THAT I GOT FROM PEOPLE. THANK YOU, I APPRECIATE
YOUR QUESTION AND YOUR COMMENT.

>> ANNIE MAHON: LOOKS LIKE A QUESTION IN THE CHAT FROM RE
NFL ATA, CAN YOU TALK ABOUT HOW YOU SAW THE DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN LATINOS AND OTHER GROUPS AT BCC AND IN OTHER SPACES
WHERE YOU SAW SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL DIVISIONS?

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: BCC IS ROUGH. THANK YOU FOR ASKING THAT,
RENATA. WHAT I, WHAT I SAW, AT BCC WAS --

AND, AND IT WAS JUST THAT --

AND I SAW IT, NOT JUST, NOT, BECAUSE EVERYBODY SEES IT, SO

CLEAR. CLEARLY, BCC IS CLEARLY SEGREGATED. BUT I WAS IN IT.

BECAUSE --

FOR MY FIRST TWO YEARS I WAS WALKING. I WAS EATING. I WAS, HANGING OUT WITH THE WHITE SIDE. SO I WAS ON ONE SIDE OF THE SCHOOL. AND SUDDENLY I LEAVE THE SPACE FOREVER. I AM A THREAT TO THEM.

I AM THE WOKE KID. I CAN CALL THEM RACISTS NOW BECAUSE THEY SAY RACIST STUFF. THEY CAN'T MAKE RACIST JOKES AROUND ME ANYMORE, MY HAIR IS LONGER. MY CURLS ARE SHOWING. NOW IT, IT IS A FLAG THAT I HAVE. AND SO THEN, THAT'S WHEN -- WHEN I STARTED LIVING THE, THE ACTUALLY STARTED LIVING WHAT IT WAS LOOK TO BE HISPANIC AT BCC. I WOULD TAKE, THROUGHOUT MY DAY, I HAD, AP CLASSES, AND LIKE HONORS CLASSES, LOWER LEVEL ONES.

I WOULD GO FROM ONE SIDE OF THE SCHOOL, ALL WHITE KIDS, WHERE IN THE CLASS ROOM I FELT LIKE THE OUTSIDER. TO THEN, THOSE WERE THE AP CLASSES, THE ADVANCED CLASSES. AND THEN, THE ON LEVEL CLASS. MATH CLASS. IT WAS ALL, BLACK AND LATINO KIDS. AND, I WAS AT HOME. WE COULD JOKE AROUND. WE COULD SHARE ABOUT OUR DAYS WEEVIL COULD TALK ABOUT ANYTHING. AND, AND, EVEN, IT SUCKS BECAUSE IT IS IN A CLASS WHERE I FELT AT HOME THE MOST, WHERE I FELT LISTENED TO THE

MOST, AND HAD A COMMUNITY, WERE THE CLASSES THEY DIDN'T
REALLY HELP MY GPA THEY WERE ON-LEVEL CLASSES. SO IT
REALLY --

IT REALLY SCREWED MY, MY, IDEA OF EDUCATION, SENSE OF
EDUCATION. THEN IT BECAME, WELL, IT WAS EITHER COMMUNITY
BUILDING OR, EDUCATION, ADVANCING IN MY EDUCATION. IT WAS,
EITHER, YOU CHALLENGE YOURSELF, ECONOMICALLY, READ HARDER
BOOKS AND ASSIGNMENTS OR YOU FEEL WELCOMED IN A CLASSROOM.
WHICH I WILL ALWAYS VALUE THAT OVER ANYTHING. REALLY LIKE,
LIKE, SURE MAYBE I DIDN'T PUSH MYSELF LIKE I COULD HAVE AT
SCHOOL. I DIDN'T DO ASSIGNMENTS I SHOULD HAVE DONE. BUT I
CHOSE LATINO, LATINO, AND BLACK KIDS THAT BECAME MY
COMMUNITY. THE COMMUNITY. THOSE ARE THE ONES THAT CARRY ME.
AND, AND, AND, I LOVE YOUR, THE FIRST -- QUESTION, THAT YOU
SAID, IN THAT -- THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LATINOS? HOW,
EVEN --

EVEN WITH THOSE LATINOS THERE WERE STILL SO MANY
DIFFERENCES BECAUSE SOME OF THEM WERE UNDOCUMENTED. SOME OF
THEM WERE U.S. BORN. SOME OF THEM JUST TURNED CITIZENS.
AND, OTHERS WERE SUPER, SUPER WEALTHY, LATINOS, SUPER,
SUPER POOR LATINOS.

SO EVEN WITHIN, THAT GROUP THAT LABEL OF THAT

CLASSIFICATION, LATINOS THERE IS STILL SUCH A DIVISION THAT I FELT. AND AGAIN, LIKE I'M NOT ON EITHER EXTREME ALSO. SO, YET, YET AGAIN I FOUND MYSELF IN THIS, IN THIS IN BETWEEN. WHERE IS LIKE, WELL I DON'T REALLY LIKE THE WEALTHY KIDS AT ALL. ACTUALLY. THE WEALTHY LATINOS. EVEN WHEN YOU ARE TALKING THAT SPANISH, THAT WAY OF SPEAKING SPANISH, YOU HEAR THAT SUPER PROPER SPANISH BECAUSE THEY COME FROM, THE, THE SUPER RICH, THE, THE ELITE IN, IN THE SOUTH AMERICA OR WHATEVER. AND YOU HEAR THAT, THAT, THAT, TRUE, LIKE, STREET, A LOT OF THEM ARE FROM THE HOOD. SO THAT, THAT HOOD, SPANISH, THAT, THAT I HADN'T HEARD IN SO MANY YEARS, WHEN I FIRST STARTED, STARTED HANGING OUT WITH LATINIZE HEARD AGAIN. I WAS LIKE, WOW, BUT I AM NOT FROM THE HOOD EITHER.

SO, SO, I CAN'T REALLY FIT INTO THAT EITHER. SO THEN IT IS, IS THIS DIVISION. BUT I CAN, FEEL IT A LITTLE MORE. I CAN, UNDERSTAND IT MORE THAN I CAN, I HAVE NEVER LIVED IN A GATED NEIGHBORHOOD

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS LIKE. I CAN UNDERSTAND, WHAT IS LOOK FOR THESE KIDS. SO IT WAS STILL, THERE IS STILL, WASN'T LIKE A COMMUNITY. YOU CAN FIND COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE GROUPS. AND, IT HELPED ME A LOT. I GUESS. YEP. ANY

OTHER QUESTIONS, YOU ARE SO SMART. YOU HAVE A PH TK-FPL,
LIKE, GOING TO HAVE A PH TK-FPL, I'M NOT THE ONE YOU SHOULD
BE ASKING THAT TO.

>> I HAVE A QUESTION.

>> THIS IS, SUPER OPEN-ENDED. BUT, WHY DO YOU THINK ART IS
IMPORTANT?

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: I APPRECIATE THAT. LIANA IS MY
GIRLFRIEND, EVERYBODY. SHE IS THE BEST.

>> WHY DO I THINK, ART IS IMPORTANT. I THINK ART IS
IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT, IN MY LIFE, IT, IT HELPED ME HEAL. A
LOT. IT HELPED ME EXPRESS A LOT. IT HELPED ME CONNECT WITH
OTHERS IT HELPED ME CHALLENGE MYSELF BECAUSE, IT WAS LIKE,
WELL, YOU KNOW I WANT TO, PUT THIS OUT. I WANT TO HAVE A
FEELING THAT I WANT TO PUT OUT TO THE WORLD IT WANT TO SHOW
IT TO OTHERS. BUT I NEED A WAY TO EXPRESS IT. WHAT'S THE
BEST WAY. IS IT BETTER IF I'VE PUT IT IN WRITE SNAG BETTER
IF I SAY IT OUTLOUD? BETTER IF I SWING IT? BETTER WITH
IMAGES? WHAT'S THE BEST WAY OR BETTER FOR ME TO DO A
SPEECH? SHOULD I, LIKE WHAT'S THE BEST, BEST -- WAY OF
DOING IT. SO THAT'S WHY ART AND I LOVE THAT, YOU QUESTION
IS SO OPEN ENDED. THERE IS SO MUCH ART. SO MANY FORMS OF
ART. AND THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS OF EXPRESSING SOMETHING SO

IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE VOCABULARY, LIKE IF YOU ARE THE TOO,
LIKE AS, AS, YOU KNOW, AS SMART, NOT TO SAY THAT I AM DUMB,
BUT AGAIN, GOING BACK TO, RE INN. ATA, SO SMART TO ME. I
THINK, RENATA SHE IS SUCH A SMART PERSON. IT'S LIKE, SO SHE
HAS -- A VOICE CAB THEY'RE THAT I DON'T NECESSARILY HAVE.
BECAUSE I DON'T READ THE BOOK SHE IS READING. I DON'T GO TO
THE CLASSES SHE IS GOING TO. MAYBE I CAN EXPRESS THE SAME
FEELING SHE IS EXPRESSING THROUGH A PAINTING OR, THROUGH,
THROUGH, --

THROUGH A POEM OR THROUGH SOME ART. THAT'S WHAT I LOVE
ABOUT, ABOUT --

ALSO, THE, DIFFERENT ROLES THAT WE ALL PLAY FOR OUR
COMMUNITIES.

SO IT'S LIKE, WELL, YOU KNOW, IF, IF -- I DON'T HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT, MAJOR, GETTING A PH.D. IN SOMETHING BECAUSE,
RENATA HAS THAT, SHE CAN TAKE CARE OF THE ACADEMIC SIDE. I
CAN FOCUS MORE I MY ART. AND, IN OTHER, OTHERS AS WELL.
THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT ART IT ALLOWS ANOTHER SIDE OF, OF,
REPRESENTATION, YOU KNOW, OF EXPRESSION, AND, CONNECTING
AND HELPING THE WORLD. THAT, THAT, YOU KNOW, THE ACADEMIC
WORLD MAYBE COULDN'T REACH AS MUCH. ALSO COLLABORATING WITH
OTHER ARTISTS AS WELL. OH, SPOTLIGHT. COLLABING WITH

OTHERS. THE SAME WAY, AND --

AND, TO HAVE ANOTHER POEM THAT I WILL SEND OUT LATER. BUT THIS POEM I DID WITH RENATA'S SISTER, WHO IS MINE GRADE, WHO I LOVE SO MUCH. I LOVE HER TO DEATH. LIKE, IS WAS, SHE IS A DANCER. IT'S LIKE, HEY, LET ME WRITE A POEM, I'LL PERFORM THE POEM, CAN YOU DANCE TO THE POEM? CAN YOU, YOU KNOW, DO THE, THE PHYSICAL, LIKE EXPRESSION OF, OF, WHAT I AM WRITING WHAT I AM SAYING? SO, COLLABING LIKE THAT IS SO BEAUTIFUL TO ME. I CAN'T MOVE MY BODY LIKE THAT. BUT SHE, SHE CAN. SHE HAS THAT TRAINING

SHE HAS THAT, THAT, THAT, BEAUTY THAT I, I CAN'T PRESENT MYSELF. AND SO -- SO IT'S, IT'S A, A FORM OF COLLABING AND SHARING EVEN FURTHER. NOW IS NOT JUST A DANCE. NOT JUST A POEM. IT IS BOTH COMBINED INTO ONE PIECE THAT, THAT CAN HELP CONNECK, AND GETS ALL OF YOUR SENSES INVOLVED. YOU KNOW, ENGAGED. SO. THAT'S WHAT, BUT ALSO NOT THAT GOOD OF AN ARTIST. LIKE LIAN AM, YOU KNOW THIS, YOU ARE BETTER THAN ME AT MOST STUFF. SO IT'S, I FEEL LIKE I AM SPEAKING.

>> THIS IS FALSE.

>> I FEEL LIKE I AM SPEAKING FOR A GROUP OF PEOPLE. WHEN I AM IN ART CLASS, ALSO, I'M NOT LIKE I AM NOT AN ARTIST REALLY. LIKE WHEN I AM IN ART CLASS, EVERYBODY IS PAINTING,

I AM OVER HERE, I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO DO THAT. IT IS SO BROAD. YOU KNOW. YOU CAN BE IN A SPAY WITH ARTISTS. EVERYBODY HAS DIFFERENT SKILLS

I LOVE IT SO MUCHMENT I FEEL SAFE IN THAT SPACE. LET'S PUT IT THAT WAY.

>> WELL I WOULD JUST SAY, THE SAME WAY THAT EVERYONE HAS DIFFERENT SKILLS, ALSO HAS THEIR DIFFERENT REASON FOR, WHY THEY THINK ART IS IMPORTANT. SO EVEN IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU ARE AS SKILLED AS SOME ONE ELSE, RACHEL JUST SAID NO JUDGMENT. THANK YOU FOR SHARING.

>> THANK YOU. YOU ARE THE BEST, LIANA.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU SO MUCH. THERE IS ANOTHER QUESTION. MARY. MARY IS ASKING YOU HAVE YOU HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH GROUPS OF YOUNGER PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR STRUGGLE AND YOUR ART?

>> CAMILO MONTOYA: I WAS SUPPOSED TO SPEAK TO THIS GROUP OF MIDDLE SCHOOLERS, BUT I NEVER, I NEVER, I NEVER CALLED THEM BACK. BUT I WILL DEFINITELY WILL NOW THAT YOU SAID THAT. AND, NO, NO, I HAVEN'T. AND I, I DON'T KNOW HOW, WILLING I AM TO DO IT. BECAUSE LIKE I SAID EARLIER, I DON'T FEEL LIKE I'M AT A STAGE YET, WHERE I CAN TURN AROUND AND PREACH, OR I CAN TURN AROUND AND TEACH. I FEEL LOOK I'M STILL, I'M

STILL LEARNING, STILL MOVING FORWARD. I FEEL LOOK IF I, I
DON'T KNOW. I GUESS, YOU KNOW, SHARING, SHARING MY STORY
IS, IS -- IS IMPORTANT, VALUABLE. BUT, I DON'T, I DON'T
KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO IF, IF, 12-YEAR-OLD WAS LIKE -- YOU
KNOW WHAT DO I DO? HOW TO GUY GET OUT OF THE SITUATION? I
DON'T KNOWMENT I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EXPERIENCE. I DON'T HAVE
ENOUGH --

I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH --

PERSPECTIVE, IN LIFE, TO, TO SHARE THAT, SO --

I ACTUALLY WATCH MYSELF AROUND LIKE KIDS.

ESPECIALLY LATINO KIDS. SO CAREFUL WITH THEM.

I DON'T WANT TO MESS THEM UP. I JUST PRETEND TO BE LIKE,
LIKE, PUT TOGETHER. AND, EVERYTHING I DO. SO, NO I HAVEN'T
YET.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: I DON'T KNOW IF SOMEONE HAS A
QUESTION. IF NO, I HAVE A QUESTION. IT WAS SO TOUCHING. IT
MOVED ME SO MUCH. IT HELPED ME A LOT WITH THIS PROJECT OF
MAKING-VISIBLE, THANK YOU, CAMILO. SINCE THAT I WAS LOOK
REALLY, LIKE -- REFLECTING A LOT ON MYSELF ABOUT BEING
VICTIM AND BEING OPPRESSOR AND, AND ALL OF THESE, THESE
LAYERS THAT WE HAVE. BUT I WANT TO, TALK TO YOU, BECAUSE
CAMILO IS ALSO, REALLY, REALLY, AND HE WAS PART OF THE BCC,

TV, TEAM, AND THAT'S HOW IMPORTANT, BECAUSE YOU WERE
COMMUNICATING TO, TO THE WHOLE SCHOOL, WHAT WAS HAPPENING
TO YOUR SCHOOL. AND HAVING THAT -- THAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE
THERE --

LATINO INFLUENCE. WERE YOU ABLE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO SHARE
CONTENTS, DIFFERENT THAN THE ONE THAT BCC AN THE
ENVIRONMENTS AND THE UNITED STATES, WANT YOU TO BE SHARING
THOSE, THAT --

WHITE PERSPECTIVE, THE WHITE INTEREST, AND WE STRUGGLE SO
MUCH FOR EXAMPLE EVEN WITH THIS SERIES OF, OF LATINOS OF
BELONGING. AND IT IS REALLY DIFFICULT FOR US TO PEOPLE TO
SEE OUR STRUGGLES, TO SEE OUR POWERS, TO SEE -- TO SEE US.

OR TO SEE OTHER MINORITIES IN MEDIA. THAT IS REALLY
IMPORTANT. AND YOU WERE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE
MISREPRESENTATION OF LATINOS IN MEDIA. WHY DON'T YOU TALK A
LITTLE ABOUT THAT IN YOUR WORK, BEING PART OF THE MEDIA,
IN, IN SCHOOL, BUT ALSO, YOU ARE NOW ENTERING,
PROFESSIONAL --

WELL, ROLE IN THE MEDIA.

WHY DON'T YOU TALK A LITTLE ABOUT THAT.

>> YEAH, I WILL BE BRIEF. BECAUSE I KNOW WE ARE RUNNING OUT
OF TIME. BUT, AT BCC I WAS, HELPED START THE SCHOOL TV

SHOW, BCC, T SR, LIA NFL A IS THE BOSS IN RIGHT NOW. THE DIRECTOR, SO, ABOUT THAT. AND IT WAS, IT WAS LOOK -- FOR THE FIRST TIME I WAS LOOK UNDERSTOOD HOW, BECAUSE ALSO WITHIN I STARTED WITH, WITH BCC-TV AROUND THE TYPE THE 2016 ELECTION WAS GOING ON. SO, THE MEDIA. SUDDENLY WAS PLAYING ALL THESE TERRIBLE THINGS, I WAS LIKE WHAT THE -- IS GOING ON? WHY ARE THEY SO TERRIBLE. WHY ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT -- SO TERRIBLY. I HATED HOW THEY REPRESENTED IT. SO, AND THEN, HOW, HOW, HOW MUCH ALSO THAT MOVED PEOPLE. LIKE PEOPLE BELIEVED WHAT WAS IN THE MEDIA. PEOPLE BELIEVED WHAT WAS SHOWN ON TV. BELIEVED, AND, AN ANCHOR WOULD PRESENT. AT THE SAME TIME, THAT WAS GOING ON, REAL WORLD AT BCC AT OUR SCHOOL. IT WAS THEN MY RESPONSIBILITY TO REPRESENT US PROPERLY, SO, SO WE WOULD JUST SEGMENT ABOUT LATINOS. HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH SEGMENTS. LIKE EVERY WEEK, THROUGHOUT THE, MONTH WE WOULD DO SEGMENTS ABOUT -- ABOUT THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY. AND, AND, ANY, ANY, ANY LIKE --

NEWS THAT HAPPENED THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN LIKE, BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION. AND, IN THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA. WE WOULD ALWAYS MAKE SURE TO, TO -- TO REALLY LIKE TELL HOW IT IS. AND ALSO SHARE OUR STORIES. SO WE WOULD TRY TO GIVE A VOICE TO -- TO

OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR WHO, WHO WERE A PART OF THIS. THIS SCHOOL. IT WAS SCARY, I REMEMBER LIKE FOR ME MY FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEAR, THIS IS THE HATE SYMBOL.

THIS MAN HATES ME. WANT *UGTSS TO HATE ME AS WELL. SO I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT. WENT BEYOND POLITICS FOR ME. IT WAS THIS MAN HATES ME. HATE US. AND DOESN'T WANT US, DOESN'T WANT ME HERE. SO WHEN I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND. I WAS SO YOUNG AND NAIVE. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND LIKE WHY WOULD SOMEBODY SUPPORT HIM? WHY WOULD A KID IN MY OWN SCHOOL WEAR A TEE SIR, TRUMP T-SHIRT, TRUMP HAT. IT WAS A HATE SYMBOL FOR ME. THIS MAN HATES ME.

DOESN'T WANT ME HERE. HOW ARE YOU WEARING THIS NEXT TO ME. OF COURSE NOW I GET, NOW I UNDERSTAND LIKE, LIKE, WHAT HE SYMBOLIZES FOR PEOPLE. FOR THE BUSINESS WORLD, THE WHOLE THING. AT THE TIME, VERY VALUABLE. LIKE SHARING THAT, LIKE IT WAS JUST A HATE SYMBOL. JUST, HE DOESN'T WANT ME HEAR. AND NOW, ALL OF A SID YOU DON'T WANT ME HERE BECAUSE YOU ARE WEARING THAT, SUPPORTING THAT. THAT'S SORT OF WHAT, THAT'S HOW I CAM TO UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF THE MEDIA HAD AND, AND AT THE SAME TIME, THE, THE, 2018 CAME AROUND THE WHOLE UPRISING BEGAN IN NICARAGUA, THEN I UNDERSTAOPBD ALSO, WELL, WHY IS NOBODY COVERING WHAT IS GOING ON? OH,

BAH THE GOVERNMENT OWNS ALL OF THE TV STATIONS IN NICK RAG
WAFPLT NOBODY IS COVERING WHAT IS HAPPENING. AND THE
INDEPENDENT JOURNALISTS ARE BEING HARASSED. AND RUN OUT OF
THE COUNTRY. AND KIDNAPPED. AND PUT TO JAIL. IN BOTH
WORLDS. U.S., TRUMP. MEDIA HERE. AND IN NICARAGUA, NOBODY
COULD COVER WHAT WAS GOING ON. TOEB COULD SHARE THEIR REAL,
REAL STATISTICS OF THE PEOPLE BEING KILLED AND, IN ALL OF
THAT, AND BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT OWNED, LIKE, ALL OF THE
COMMUNICATION, OUTLETS. SO --

IT REALLY PUT ME, EVEN THOUGH, LIKE YEAH, 2000, BCC, MADE
ME UNDERSTAND THE POSITION I WAS IN. OH, I HAVE THE POWER.
I DECIDE WHAT GOES ON THE TV. DECIDE WHAT THEY GET TO SEE.
I HAVE TO BE MINDFUL OF WHAT WE PUT OUT. I HAVE TO BE MAKE
SURE I AM REPRESENT RADIOSENDING PEOPLE THAT NEED TO BE
REPRESENTED, REPRESENT US PROPERLY. BECAUSE THEN I,
EVERYONE WHEN WE WERE PUTTING, MY FIRST HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH SEGMENT AIRED FOR THE SCHOOL, LIKE, ALL OF THE LATINO
KIDS WERE LIKE, WHAT IS THAT? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ABOUT US?
RIGHT NOW? BECAUSE IT WAS SO BEAUTIFUL. IT WAS SO -- I
WILL, WE CAN SHARE THAT LATER. I WANT TO PLAY IT. I WENT BE
ABLE TO PLAY IT. SO BEAUTIFUL LIKE, LIKE, THE HONORING,
LATINOS AND MAKING THEM FEEL LOOK THEY BELONG IN THIS

SCHOOL. THEY ARE PART OF THE SCHOOL. IT ISN'T JUST, A SPACE,AL HAS TO BE MADE FOR YOU. IT IS NOT JUST LIKE A MEETING FOR LATINOS. A MEETING FOR BLACK KIDS. IT'S LIKE, IS, WE ARE A PART OF THE SCHOOL. WE ARE PART OF THIS COMMUNITY. WE SHOULDN'T JUST PRETEND THIS IS MY, MY SCHOOL, THIS IS, AND THEN, THE REST IS YOURS. I CAN, I AM FINE WITH TAKING THIS. YOU KNOW, LITTLE SPACE. YOU CAN HAVE THE WHOLE SCHOOL. IT WAS SORT OF -- FEELING LIKE WE BELONG. THAT BEING SEEN. I DON'T KNOW. IT'S -- I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT. YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN. I HOPE.

>> ANNIE MAHON: I WILL POP IN. THANK YOU. SO BEAUTIFULLY SAID. REALLY IT ALL BOILS DONE TO BELONGING RIGHT. HOW WE CAN, WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER, MAKE THE SPACE. SO WE CAN ALL BELONG. THAT'S, SO BEAUTIFULLY SAID. AND WHAT A WONDERFUL EVENING, AND SO MUCH AMAZING SHARING. I CAN JUST TELL MY THE CHAT. I AM SURE YOU WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO READ IT. EVERYONE HAS BEEN INSPIRED, AND MOVED, AND -- REALLY, REALLY APPRECIATING YOU, CAMILO, THANK YOU, SO, SO, SO MUCH. AND THANK YOU TO EVERYBODY WHO CAM TONIGHT. REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR TIME. I KNOW THERE ARE BILLIONS OF THINGS THAT YOU COULD BE GOING TO. AND LISTENING TO TONIGHT. SO, APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S TIME. AND ALSO,

APPRECIATING OUR, INTERPRETERS, FOR, FOR, INTERPRETING INTO SPANISH SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND ALSO APPRECIATING OUR CAPTIONER DON. FOR HIS LIVE CAPTIONING THAT HE DOES EVERY -- EVERY WEBINAR. AND ALSO, RACHEL IS ON THIS CALL, WHO DOES, RACHEL DOES A TON OF OUR COMMUNICATIONS WORK. AND, CLAIRE WHO DOES OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ALSO ON THIS CALL. SO THANK YOU, OF COURSE, ADRIAN AM, WHO ORGANIZED THIS WHOLE SERIES. SO --

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU. THANK YOU AGAIN. THANK YOU, CAMILLO, BEAUTIFUL, YOU REPRESENT US SO WELL. I AM SO PROUD OF YOU. AND, AND --

AND GRACIAS -- (SPEAKING SPANISH) AND THE SPACE OF MAKING-VISIBLE IS -- THERE. IT IS GOING TO BE, THE WEB PAGE. YOU ARE GOING TO BE THE RECORDING THERE. AND CAMILO IS GOING TO SHARE ALL OF THIS EXTRA MATERIALS THAT WE ARE SO EAGER TO, TO WATCH, AND TO LEARN. THERE. SO -- THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND, WE WILL CLOSE WITH A BELL. AND THEN WE WILL, DO SOME ANNOUNCEMENTS. THANK YOU. AND I ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THANK YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: WE WILL FINISH WITH A CLOSING BELL TO SEND OUT THE MERIT WHICH IS WHAT IS JUST ALL OF THE ENERGY WE CREATED THIS EVENING. WE CAN SEND IT OUT TO THE WORLD. SO FROM THE TIME THAT WE HAVE SPENT TOGETHER HERE, AND ALL

THAT WE HAVE LEARNED, MAY IT BE OF BENEFIT TO ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE, AND MAY WE CONTINUE TO GO FORWARD ON THIS PATH TOGETHER. AND SUPPORT THE AWAKENING OF ALL BEINGS, SO THAT ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE -- CAN BE SAFE AND WELL AND FREE AND ALSO FREE FROM SUFFERING AND THE ROOT CAUSES OF SUFFERING.

(BELL TOLLS)

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES, I WANT TO SHARE THAT OUR NEXT SERIES, STARTS IN MAY. I THINK ON THE 14th, WEDNESDAY. ASIAN PA SIEVING ISLANDER ISSUES RELATED TO BUDDHISM. SO OUR FIRST SPEAKER WILL BE A GUEST WHO WROTE A BOOK CALLED, BE THE REFUGE, ABOUT, REDISCOVERING ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS, I AM NOT SURE THAT'S THE RIGHT WORLD. IT IS A BOUT REMEMBERING. HEARING THE VOICES OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS. SO IT WILL BE A VARYING INTERESTING SERIES. I HIGHLY WRECK PHEPD, ESPECIALLY COMING TO THE GUEST'S TALK IN MAY. SO, I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

ANYTHING ELSE, ADRIANA.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: NO, THANK YOU, WE WILL ALSO TALK IN THE SERIES ABOUT THE, ALL OF THE -- THE EVENTS, ARE HAPPENING WITH DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE APA COMMUNITY RIGHT NOW. SO, I THINK -- THEY WILL HAVE A REALLY --

GOOD PERSPECTIVE ABOUT THAT ALSO. IT IS GOING TO BE CENTERED IN, THE BUDDHISTLE, WHAT I THINK WE ARE GOING TO TOUCH THAT PART OF MAKING-VISIBLE. WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH COMMUNITY.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THAT'S IT. THANK YOU, CAMILO. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. JUST, AGAIN, MAKING-VISIBLE IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE ALL OF YOU ARE HERE AND BECAUSE WE ARE ALL LEARNING TOGETHER. I HOPE TO CONTINUE SEEING YOU -- OUR NEXT -- SERIES, AND, WE WILL COME BACK WITH THE, THE SAME -- SAME TOPICS. NEXT YEAR. THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE FOR THIS YEAR. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: IF YOU CAN DONATE, FINANCIALLY. IT CAN REALLY HELP US. WE LOOK TO BE ABLE TO PAY OUR SPEAKERS AND, DECENT, STIPEND. AND WE ALSO HAVE TO PAY FOR, SOME OF OUR COMMUNICATION THINGS. SO PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, YES, FOLLOW US. THANK YOU, RACHEL. FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK. MAKING-VISIBLE. THANK YOU, HAVE A LOVELY EVENING. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, ALL.