Power of Protest Art PowerPoint Script

Please note that this is an example of what I used during my art workshops. It is meant to be a guide. Please feel free to make changes to fit your needs.

Slide 1 - Introduction
Welcome to the Self Advocate Artistic Movement Power of Protest Art Workshop!

The SARTAC Fellowship is a year-long opportunity for self-advocates to develop and grow their skills as leaders in the self-advocacy movement. Fellow's work with a supporting host organization on policy issues or a project that can help develop their leadership skills.

Slide 2 - Photo and Art Release Form
As part of our workshop, we have a release form that we would appreciate if you could sign.

By signing this form, you give The Arc Minnesota, SARTAC, and SABE permission to use and share your photographs, stories, artwork, and recordings for their public outreach and mission-related purposes.

- This includes publications, social media, videos, and other promotional materials.
- Please take a moment to read the form, ask any questions you may have, and sign if you feel comfortable.

Image Description:
An outline of two hands holding a camera and the flash is going off.

Slide 3 - Welcome To The Power of Protest Art Workshop
Hello! Welcome! My name is Ocean C Poet. I am a 58-year-old, multi-raced, transgender male, artist, writer, poet, musician, and animator, living in St. Paul Minnesota. And I have been a self-advocate for 6 years.

I have even published seven books including a graphic novel, a self-help, and poetry book. Visit my Website to learn more
I believe art is helpful in self-advocacy because it allows people to express what’s inside of them.

"Your art is your words. Your words are your art. Your art is your protest."

**Image Description:**
There is a photograph of Ocean C. Poet, a black man, wearing classes, smiling.

**Slide 4 - Workshop Agenda**
Let's go over the workshop agenda for today:

- first we'll start with learning a little bit about Self-Advocacy,
- then we'll learn about protest art
- after that we'll take a short Break to set up,
- then we'll get to paint and draw our own protest art,
- after that, we will have share our artwork,
- then we will close out.

**Image Description:**
There is a digital drawing of a fist with disability icons on it, the fist is holding a yellow sign that says “The Self-Advocate Artistic Movement”

**Slide 5 - What Does it Mean to Be a Self-Advocate?**

Now, let's get started with self-advocacy

What Does it Mean to Be a Self-Advocate?

**Image Description:**
There is a black and white illustration of 5 people in a group with a speech bubble above them.
Slide 6 - Self-Advocacy

Today, we're going to talk about self-advocacy, which is all about learning to communicate in your way, for yourself, and make decisions about your own life.

It starts with understanding and embracing who you are, as a person with unique abilities and experiences.

It's also important to know your rights as a person with a disability. Laws exist to protect your rights, but unfortunately, sometimes they're not followed. That's why it's crucial to learn about disability rights laws to empower yourself and ensure your rights are respected.

I want to be honest with you - even when we know the laws and when they're being violated, there may be people who try to silence us. But don't let that discourage you from advocating for yourself.

Next, practicing self-advocacy skills, including problem-solving. Finding solutions to challenges requires brainstorming, researching, and asking for help.

Making informed decisions about your life is also part of self-advocacy. It's about having the confidence to choose what's best for you.

Lastly, remember that self-advocacy doesn't mean you have to do everything on your own. Leaning on others can strengthen our self-advocacy.

Slide 7 - Self-Advocacy

While self advocacy is important for everyone. Self advocacy is especially important for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- When people do not advocate for themselves, they may be pushed to do things that don’t feel right to them.
- Learning to advocate for yourself may seem frightening or hard.
- You don’t have to do it alone.
- We are all learning and growing together.
- I hope this workshop will teach you how to use Drawing and painting as a form of protest in self-advocacy.

Now that we've spoken about the importance of self-advocacy, let's talk about Disability art
Slide 8 - What is Disability Art?
Next, I will talk about disability art.

Slide 9 - What is Disability Art?
Disability arts is artwork created by people with disabilities.

Disability art can come in all forms, like paintings, sculptures, music, drama, or digital creations. The key part is that it reflects the experience of a person with a disability.

It's a powerful way for people with disabilities to tell our stories, break down stereotypes, and push for equal rights and respect.

What is the history of Disability Arts?
The development of disability art began in the 1970s / 80s as a result of the new political activism of the disabled peoples' movement.

Slide 10 - Why is Disability Art Important?
First, let's talk about self-expression. Disability art offers a canvas for people with disabilities to paint their feelings, to narrate their life stories. It's a platform that helps us feel empowered, stronger, and even happier.

Now, bringing awareness.
Have you ever noticed that people with disabilities aren't shown a lot in TV, movies, or books? Well, disability art helps us bring awareness so people can understand more about who we are.

Next up, challenging stereotypes.
There's a lot of wrong ideas about people with disabilities out there. Disability art flips these stereotypes on their head. It showcases the unique talents and diverse experiences of artists with disabilities, helping break down labels.

And of course, advocacy.
Disability art isn't just about self-expression; it's a powerful tool to fight for our rights. Artists use their work to highlight problems like lack of access or unfair treatment, and they inspire us to make positive changes.

Lastly, Disability arts adds to our shared culture.
It shows us different ways of being and experiencing the world, reminding us that everyone's experiences are valuable.

Now that we've explored self-advocacy and disability art, let's talk about protest art!

**Image Description:**
A painting of a person wearing headphones that are covering their ears. The bottom of the painting has blue text that says “Sensory needs are normal”

**Slide 11 - What is Protest Art?**
Next, we'll talk about what is protest art

**Slide 12 - What is Protest Art?**
Protest art is when artists use their creativity to make art that sends a strong message about important issues.

What are the elements of protest art?

Protest art can be made in different ways, like paintings, sculptures, music, or even performances.

The main goal is to make people think and talk about important topics like inequality, racial justice, LGBTQIA Rights, other human rights, Disability rights, gun violence, or the environment. etc.
Artists use symbols, colors, and powerful images to grab people's attention and make them feel something.

**Image Description:**
A painting of three people on a blue background with text in black that says “Nothing about us. Without us. Disability Rights”

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**Slide 13 - Disability Advocacy and Protest Art**

Protest art has played a big role in the fight for disability rights. Artists who have disabilities have used their art to share their experiences, help people understand what they're going through, and ask for change.

They have used art to show the world what it's really like to have a disability and to challenge wrong ideas about disability.

This has led to some really powerful artworks.

These pieces don't just show the struggles that people with disabilities go through. They also show their strength and the amazing things they have achieved.

Art has been a way to challenge and break down unfair labels, fight against discrimination, and work towards changes in society.

Next, let's review some more examples of protest art.

**Image Description:**
A painting of grey scissors on a white background with blue and red text that says “Stop cutting human services.

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**Slide 14 - Examples of Protest Art**

**Image Description:**
Artwork one: A painting with a rainbow colored background with black text that says “United”. This piece of artwork was created by Katie M
Artwork two: A painting of three people on a blue background with black text that says “Disability justice. Our lives matter.” This piece of artwork was created by Ocean C. Poet

**Slide 15 - Examples of Protest Art**

**Image Description:**

Artwork one: A painting with a blue, red, green, and purple background. One the background is a white square with multi-colored text that says "Disability rights are human rights" This piece of artwork was created by Ocean C. Poet

Artwork two: A painting with multi-colored text that says “Power to the People.” Under text is a grey peace sign. This piece of artwork was created by Ocean C. Poet

**Slide - 16 Examples of Protest Art**

**Image Description:**

A digital painting of a girl sitting in a wheelchair, painting on a canvas. The canvas has many colors and text that says "My Disability Rights Matter"

She is sitting in front of a window, there is a lamp to the left and a sign on the wall that says "welcome power protest art" There is a plant under the sign.

The digital painting is by Ocean C. Poet

**Slide 17 - Examples of Protest Art**

**Image Description:**

There is a digital illustration created by Ocean C Poet. There is 4 people with disabilities holding 2 signs that say “Combining Self-Advocacy with Art is Powerful!” and “Protest Art has the power to fuel social change and impact our Human Rights!”
Slide 18 - Drawing and Painting Activity
Now it's your turn to draw and paint!

Slide 19 - Activity Directions
Now it's time to make our protest art!

Once we break please grab the painting materials you need.

You will paint for an hour. We have volunteers here who can help if needed. If you have any questions feel free to ask.

Please title your artwork.

Afterwards, we will have time to share our paintings.

Remember, there's no right or wrong way to create protest art. It's about embracing your creativity and unique style.

Trust your instincts and let your passion guide you. The most important thing is to express yourself authentically.

This workshop is a space for you to explore and express yourself. Embrace your creativity, let your voice be heard.

Together, we can make a difference through the transformative power of protest art. Now, let's dive in and start creating powerful artwork.

Image Description:
There is an illustration of a person wearing a painting apron holding a paint brush to a canvas with blue-green paint on it.

Slide 20 - Break and Set-up
Now We will take a short break while we set up and gather materials.

Now it's your turn to draw and paint!
Slide 21 - Welcome Back
Hey everyone, our hour to paint is up. Please join us at the front of the room for our share-out.

Slide 22 - Share Out
We are now going to give people the opportunity to share their protest art.

Raise your hand if you would like to share your art.

Before you share your protest art, please introduce yourself with:

- Your Name
- Your Pronouns
- Give the title of your protest art piece
- Tell us what Inspired you.

**Image description:**
There is a line drawing of an orange megaphone

Slide 23 - Closing
Thank you so much for coming to the Power of Protest Workshop! We appreciate you joining us and creating a safe space for us to come together as self-advocates.

I hope this will encourage and inspire others with disabilities to self-advocate for themselves.

Thank you for coming
Remember to break the cycle

Slide 24 - SARTAC Disclosures
“This publication is supported in part by a cooperative agreement from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or
opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities policy.”

“The Self Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC) seeks to strengthen the self-advocacy movement by supporting self advocacy organizations to grow in diversity and leadership. The resource center is a project of Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE), the oldest national self-advocacy organization in the country. SARTAC is a Developmental Disabilities Project of National Significance, funded by the Administration For Community Living – Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). The information in this manual was written to provide guidance for self Advocates and their allies to assist in understanding policy issues affecting their lives. It is not to be used to determine a person's legal rights or an organization's legal responsibilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, as amended or any other federal, state or local laws written to protect the rights of people with disabilities.”