Power of Protest Poetry 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

Hello everyone, and welcome to the Self-Advocate Artistic Movements Power of Poetry Workshop.

This workshop is part of the the SARTAC Fellowship. It is a year-long fellowship for self-advocates to develop and grow their skills as leaders in the self-advocacy movement. Fellows work with a supporting host organization on policy issues or a project that can help develop their leadership skills.

A SARTAC Fellowship project should help the fellow grow their own skills as a leader. The project might work on finding new ideas to help solve problems many people have.

Slide 2 - Zoom Features

Before we get started, I will go over some Zoom features with the group.

How to turn your mic off.

- If you are on a computer, move your mouse. A black toolbar will appear on the bottom of your Zoom screen.
- If you are on a smartphone or tablet, tap the screen. A toolbar will appear at the bottom of your screen.
- In the left corner of the black toolbar is a picture of a microphone.
- When there is a red line across the microphone, other participants will not be able to hear you.
- Click the microphone button when you would like to talk. People will be able to hear you when there is no line across the microphone.
- Please turn off your microphone when you are not speaking. The host of the meeting can also turn off your microphone if there is background noise.
Slide 3 - Zoom Features

How to raise your hand and use the reaction tools.

- There is a “Raise Hand” button to show that you have a question or would like to speak
- There is a green check or “yes” button to show you agree
- There is a red “X” or “no” button to show you do not agree
- There is a gray left arrow button to tell the speaker to go slower
- There is a blue right arrow button to tell the speaker to go faster.
- There are also emoji reactions that can be used like thumbs up or hands clapping.

Slide 4 - Zoom Features

In the middle of the black toolbar at the bottom of your Zoom screen, is the “Show Captions” button.

- To turn on captioning, click the “Show Captions” button.
- Then select your preferred language

Slide 5 - Zoom Features

How to use the chat

- If you look to the middle of the black toolbar, there is a “Chat” button.
- When you click on the “Chat” button, a chat box will appear.
- In the Chat box, you can type messages to the whole group.
- Or you can send a private message to one participant.
  - To send it privately to one participant, click the gray box that says “Everyone”
- A drop box will appear with a list of participant names.
- Select the participant you want to send the message to.
- You type your message in the space below where it says “Type message here…”

Slide 6 - 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 7 - Ground Rules

Before we dive into the workshop I want to cover some ground rules for the class.

1. Please keep your microphone off while the host is speaking.
2. Be respectful of others.
3. Let the group know if you would like to talk about something that might be a difficult topic for others. This is called a trigger warning.
4. Raise your hand if you have something to say. Please do not interrupt others.
5. Say your piece then let others have a turn to share.
6. Please let the presenter lead the conversation. Put questions and comments in the chat, or wait until it is time to ask questions.
7. Please turn off your screen if you have a phone call or are having other conversations.

Image Description:
There is an illustration of two hands holding up a blue sign with black text that says “Self-advocacy is for EVERYONE”
Slide 8 - Welcome to The Power of Poetry 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:

https://oforreal2202.mystrikingly.com

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 an image of me on the screen. I am wearing ear buds and glasses and smiling.

Slide 9 - Workshop Agenda

Let's go over the agenda for today.

- Today's workshop will start with a lesson on protest poetry.
- Then we will learn about self-advocacy and get some tips from a Poet, activist, and fellow self-advocate, Lateef Mcleod.
- Then we’ll take a break
- Once we’re back from the break we will begin our writing exercise!
- After we practice writing our protest poetry, we will have an opportunity to share what we've created.
- You can write as many poems as you like.
- After that, we’ll close out our workshop.

Image Description:
a fist with disability symbols on it and the words "disability rights" The fist is holding a flag that says "The Self-Advocate Artistic Movement"
Slide 10 - What is Protest Poetry?

Today we are going to focus on reading, reciting, and writing protest poetry. Let's begin with explaining what protest poetry is.

Slide 11 - What is Protest Poetry?

Protest poetry is a type of writing where poets express their feelings about injustices that are occurring at the time. Issues like ableism, racism, and inequality, are examples of injustices happening now.

The goal in protest poetry is to make people aware of these injustices and encourage them to take action to make things better.

Protest poetry can be very emotional and powerful.

Protest poems are an effective way to create interest, understanding, and empathy.

Protest Poetry uses strong words and descriptions to make people feel and understand the message.

Sometimes protest poetry is written like a song or a poem, but you don't have to follow strict rules. Just write from your heart!

Image Description

A person wearing a white shirt that says "disability rights" he's holding a sign that say "Your Art is your words. Your words are your art. Your art is your protest"

Slide 12 - How is Poetry A Form of Protest?

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:
An illustration of a book that says “Poetry” on it.

Slide 13 - Self-Advocacy

Image Description
There is an image on the screen of four people with disabilities holding up signs that say "Combining Self-Advocacy with Poetry is Powerful! And Protest Poetry has the power to fuel social change and impact our Human Rights!"

Slide 14 - What Does it Mean to Be a Self-Advocate?

What Does it Mean to Be a Self-Advocate?

Slide 15 - Self-Advocacy

Self-Advocacy is learning how to speak up for yourself and make your own decisions about your life.

Self-advocacy also includes:

1. Learning about yourself:
   - Self-advocacy begins with understanding and embracing who you are as a person with unique abilities and experiences.
   - What makes you unique? What are your passions?
2. Knowing your rights:
   ● It's important to be aware of your rights as a person with a disability.
   ● Laws are in place to protect your rights to equality, accessibility, education, and employment. But sometimes people don't follow the law.
   ● This is why it's important to learn about disability rights laws.
   ● This knowledge will empower you to advocate for yourself so that your rights are respected.
   ● I don't mean to discourage anyone, but I need to be honest about my lived experience and say that
   ● Sometimes even when we know the laws and know their being violated, people will try to silence you, but don't stop advocating for yourself!

3. Practicing Self-Advocacy skills:
   ● Once you learn about yourself, your rights, it's time to practice those skills.

4. Problem solving:
   ● Finding solutions to challenges you may experience is an important part to self advocacy.
   ● Using strategies like brainstorming ideas, researching, and asking for help are important when problem solving.

5. Making decisions:
   ● Self-advocacy involves making informed decisions about your own life.
   ● It means having the confidence to choose what is best for you.

6. Asking for help:
   ● Self-advocacy doesn't mean you have to do everything on your own.
   ● Leaning on other people can make our self-advocacy stronger.

Image Description:
An Illustration of a megaphone.

Slide - 16 Poetry Tips with Lateef Mcleod

Now I will turn it over to a Poet, Novelist, Activist, and Scholar, Lateef Mcleod.

Lateef
Hello I am Lateef Mcleod. My Pronouns are He and Him. I am a Black man with cerebral palsy. I have low cut hair, and a mustache. I am sitting in my Permobil wheelchair.
Thank you, Ocean and the Minnesota Arc for inviting me here today.

I am here to talk to you about how poetry can be used as form of self-advocacy and expression of political activism.

I have been writing poetry since I was in the 7th grade. However, it was in college when I took a course called "Poetry For The People" where I learned that poetry can be used to articulate the power of your story, your voice, and also what is happening around you in your community, society, and world.

As a person who uses an AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) device, I've found that poetry is a powerful and concise way to express my thoughts.

Poetry doesn't require an excessive amount of typing which is attractive for me because I type everything out to communicate.

Now I am going to give you some tips on writing poetry.

I would start with writing about what you are most passionate about. If you are passionate about a topic, it will show in your writing.

Also read many other different genres of poetry so you will have more of a sense of all the styles of poetry you like writing in.

Make sure you dedicate some time to edit and revise your poetry. You may enlist some of your friends who are good at editing to help you with this.

The last bit of advice that I will share is that the most powerful poetry that I have written is when I was most vulnerable and shared my innermost thoughts with the world.

Although that might be scary in the beginning, it can also be freeing when you let people see your true self.

You also have to have confidence to keep saying what is on your mind and heart, even when you come across people who don't like hearing what you have to say. Have the courage to say it anyway.

**Image Description:**

There is an image of Lateef on the screen wearing a blue and white striped shirt and blue jeans sitting in his wheelchair, smiling in the camera.
I am not suppose to be here
In this body,
here
speaking to you.
My mere presence
of erratic moving limbs
and drooling smile
used to be scrubbed
off the public pavement.
Ugly laws used to be
on many U.S. cities law books
beginning in San Francisco in 1867
stating that “any person who is
diseased, maimed, mutilated,
or in any way deformed
so as to be an unsightly or disgusting object,
or an improper person to be allowed
in or on the streets, highways, thoroughfares, or public places.”

Any person who looked like me
was deemed disgusting
and was locked away
from the eyes of the upstanding citizens.

I am too pretty for some Ugly Laws,
Too smooth to be shut in.
Too smart and eclectic
For any box you put me in.
My swagger is too bold
To be swept up in these public streets.
You can stare at me all you want.
No cop will buss in my head
and carry me away to an institution.
No doctor will diagnose me
a helpless invalid with a incurable disease.
No angry mob with clubs and torches
trying to run me out of town.

Whatever you do,
my roots are rigid
like a hundred year old tree.
I will stay right here
to glare at your ugly face too.

Slide 18 - Self-Advocacy

Ocean

Thank you so much Lateef, that was so powerful. Thank you for coming and showing us how you use poetry to advocate for yourself and the community.

Now I’d like to say a little bit more about 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 poetry as a form of protest in self-advocacy.

Slide 19 - Empower Us

Now I would like to share a protest poem with you all that I have written.

I hope these words inspire you, because our rights matter and our voices must be heard.

Empowers Us
I will continue to protest poetically. For we were all born free. Disability rights are human rights. I will stand up and fight.

For we deserve safe and healthy places to live.
Jobs that pays wages so we can survive in this life.
Transportation that takes us to our destination on time. We need people who will hear us, listen to us. When a crime is committed against us.

This is why self advocacy empowers us. Especially people of color with disabilities.

Learning about our rights enables us.

To stand strong, speak up if we are treated wrong. Demand social security not take our funds. When being awarded is our own.

Disability rights are needed. If ever in jail and in healthcare.

Acquiring Self advocacy inspires the ability To communicate and negotiate. Interests, desires and needs.

It Helps making safer and better decisions. For you and me. I encourage you to educate and advocate. Gain self advocacy skills.

Join a program or a group. Don't be afraid just be you.

Self Advocacy is. Knowing yourself Knowing your needs. Knowing how to get what you need.

Slide 20 - Break

Now we are going to take a 3 minute break.

Now is a good time to grab your writing materials:

You can use a:
  ● pen
  ● pencil
  ● paper
  ● notebook
Slide 21 - Welcome Back

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed the break and have your writing tools ready!

Slide 22 - How To Create a Poem

I am going to show you how to start creating a poem.

- The easiest way to start writing a poem is to begin with a topic.
- Think about what you want and need. Because your disability rights are human and civil rights.
  - An example I came up with is access to transportation.
- Next you want to write the first line.
  - So an example could be "I want better transportation"
- You will continue to write as many lines as you want describing why the topic you picked is important for you.
- After you write, read your poem again. See if there's anything you want to change or make better. Maybe ask a friend or family member to read it and share their thoughts.

Slide 23 - Writing Activity

Now it's your turn to practice writing poetry!

Slide 24 - Activity Directions

Now you can practice writing your protest poem.

Write about what you want and what you need because your disability rights are human rights.

It is okay if your poem rhymes or not.

Would anyone like someone to write down what they say instead of physically writing? We have volunteers here who can help write down the words you want to say. Please raise your hand if you'd like help.
Please turn off your mic and video for this writing activity

If you have any questions feels free to ask

**Slide 25 - Welcome Back**
Welcome back, I hope you had a good time writing your poems!

**Slide 26 - Share Out**
We are now going to give people the opportunity to share their poems.

Raise your hand if you would like to read your poem or you would like someone to read it for you.

Before you share your poem, please introduce yourself with:
- Your Name
- Your Pronouns

**Slide 27 - Closing Out**
Thank you so much for coming to the Power of Poetry 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 28 - SARTAC Disclosures**
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“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.”