

Statement on Leadership

My approach to leadership is grounded in radical love, community, and process-oriented goal setting. I received my bachelors in English and Performance Studies from Texas A&M University and, I have a Master of Fine Arts in Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities from The University of Texas at Austin. My academic endeavors have led to me be a leader in various spaces. I have experience supporting youth, organizations, and institutions in making meaning and change around community building, justice work, staff accommodations, and excellence. My experiences in this setting have prepared me to lead a space that fosters a community that honors reciprocity and care, trusting that we can lift each other up into individual and communal success.

“There’s always enough time for the right work.” -adrienne maree brown

When I lead, I deeply listen to the desires of my peers. I understand that the wishes and concerns raised by the people who are in the space are symbolic of how the space can be improved upon. Knowing that the space is not just mine, I do not meet dialogic evaluations with defense, but with a gratefulness for the gift of critique. I reject the idea that there is only one right way to reach a solution. I know that resolutions and accommodations look different to everyone. I hope to empower the people I work with to also become leaders in the space, so they know they always have the power to speak their truth even as we navigate discomfort. In collaboration, I honor process and people over product with a trust that this approach will always produce something of value. When everyone is taken care of, the best work can be produced. Most importantly, people are heard and welcomed in their workplace.

“Love is a combination of care, commitment, knowledge, responsibility, respect and trust.” -bell hooks

I believe that a leader can radically exercise love in the workplace by caring for the people they lead beyond the common thread that brings everyone together. When I love as a leader, there is a level of attentiveness that allows me to realize that there is an obligation to be good and do good to the people who look to me for guidance. I actively move past my ego in order to recognize and minimize the harm that I can cause. I trust that the people I work with are more than capable of sharing responsibility with me. I know that everyone in the space has an expertise that brings them here. Additionally, I am committed to the intellectual nourishment of my peers. I respect various ideas, and I commit to expanding my knowledge across disciplines to better serve my community. I often ponder how I can continuously work to satisfy the needs of the people I work with, knowing that their lives are intertwined with mine.

I have dedicated my career to leadership in organizing, crafting, coordinating, and facilitating programs. I led an equity and inclusion training for university students and faculty and founded a spoken word poetry action-residency for BIPOC and Queer high school aged youth. I lean on the wisdom of great intellectuals and leaders to embrace transformational change, radical love and friendship, and inclusive pedagogies. I hope to demonstrate that a leader shares power and works hard through constant change presented to them and that kindness transcends barriers. When I am appointed to lead a space or workplace, I will always make sure to do it with healthy rigorous care.