

# SPINNING

## IMAGINATIONS

A Magazine of Creative Projects for Active Minds

ARTS & CRAFTS  
READING  
WRITING  
MULTIMEDIA  
PROBLEM-SOLVING  
COOKING

MADE BY YPSI-AREA THINKERS



## **Welcome to** SPINNING IMAGINATIONS

This activity magazine was built by caring Ypsilanti-area creatives to keep minds active during these challenging quarantine times. It is intended to supplement remote student learning, which is still finding its most effective forms. This document is free for anyone to print, distribute, and engage with. It could be used from a computer or inexpensively printed in black and white and stapled for those without access to internet services.

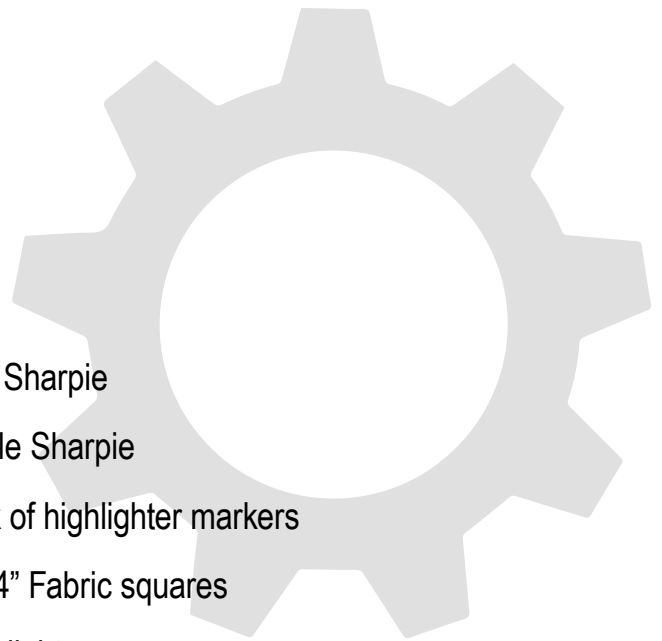
Finally, these projects could easily be enjoyed by adults, so please give yourself permission to participate and enjoy at any age. The materials needed for these projects are listed below. Many of them are things you may already have around your household. If you have any questions about the projects or how to implement them with student groups, please email Trevor Stone at [reimagineitagain@gmail.com](mailto:reimagineitagain@gmail.com).

**Thank you and have fun!**

—Trevor

### **PROJECT MATERIAL LIST**

- Pencil
- Scissors
- Clear tape
- Painter's tape
- Cardboard box  
(see megaphone project pg.4)
- Thread
- Sewing needles
- Lined/blank page journal  
(or computer paper)
- Blue Sharpie
- Purple Sharpie
- Pack of highlighter markers
- 4" x 4" Fabric squares
- Flashlight
- Acrylic paint and brushes  
(for the megaphone)
- Baking ingredients  
(see French Bread recipe pg.13)





## SHAPING A NARRATIVE

There are lots of ways to tell a story. You can use words, pictures, music, dance and more! Below we've written some suggestions for how you can create a powerful story.

**Experience + Imagination:** The best stories take parts of the storyteller's life and use imagination to take the story to a new place. Maybe you live in a city, but your story takes place in a rainforest. Perhaps you're a kid in Ypsilanti, but your story takes place in Wakanda. If you can't think of a story from your own life, ask the adults in your life about theirs. What was life like when they were your age? Where did they live? What did they do with their time?

**Hook Your Reader:** The beginning of a story is like the beginning of a song. You want to hook the listener so they're interested in hearing more. You're also setting the background of the story so your audience can follow along. Think about your favorite movie or book. What happens in the first five minutes that grabs your attention? Maybe it's the images of the landscape, or maybe it starts off with the main character in a crisis. Bring a similar technique to your story.

**What's the problem?** All stories need a problem or conflict. Imagine you are standing at the bottom of a hill. Sometimes the middle part of the story is called the climax because it's the highest point. This is what everything has been leading up to so far, and it sets the path for the ending. The climax is another space for imagination to run wild. Your story can have any climax you want, so long as it makes sense with the world you've created so far.

**Mic Drop:** This is usually the part that most people remember in a story. How did they feel when the story was done? Go back to your favorite song, poem, or movie. Does the ending make you feel powerful, sad, excited? Do you feel like the main problem of the story was solved? Or does the storyteller leave you on a "cliffhanger" with TO BE CONTINUED on the screen?

**PROJECT: Write your own story!**



## EXCERPTS FROM BOOKS AT **BLACK STONE** BOOK STORE

“Be silly. Be quirky. Be odd. Be unique. Be weird. Be colorful.  
Be okay with being different. Be just the way you are.”

*Be You by Peter Reynolds*

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“But, I won’t! I won’t! I will see you’re made perfectly.  
That’s how I’ll show my love for you.

*Walk With You by Carol Lynn Pearson*

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“I love when Daddy reads to me because we can ask him  
all kinds of questions, and because we get to learn new  
things today.”

*I Love When Daddy Reads to Me by Patrick Patterson*

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### PROJECT:

If you were to write a book what would it be about?

Draw the cover of that book with a title and an illustration.

**Black Stone Bookstore is located at  
214 W Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
(734) 961-7376**

THE ALEX  
THOMAS  
TALK SHOW

**PRESENTS**

# Ypsi Written

**Journalism is reporting on current or past events.**

**It requires research, which can often be done by interviewing people about their opinions on a topic.**

**PROJECT:** Interview at least 2 to 3 people about Ypsilanti life as a whole, or an aspect of it that is important to you.

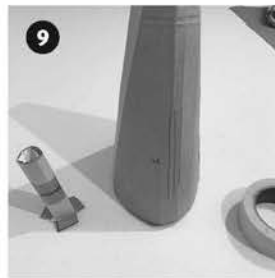
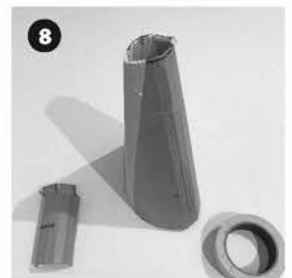
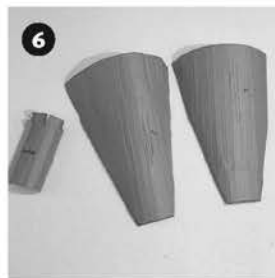
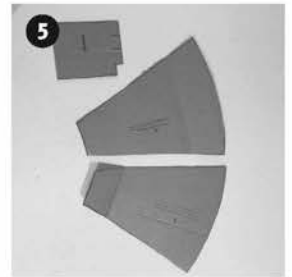
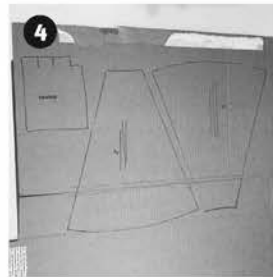
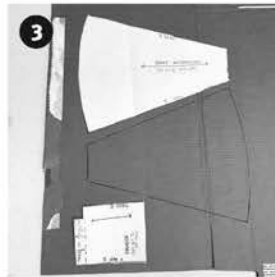
Write a paragraph about your thoughts on your conversations. Combine your writing with photographs you find or take on a journal page. Make sure the images support your story and help illustrate the point.

**OPTION:** Find the phone number or email of a local Ypsilanti government official, and interview them too.

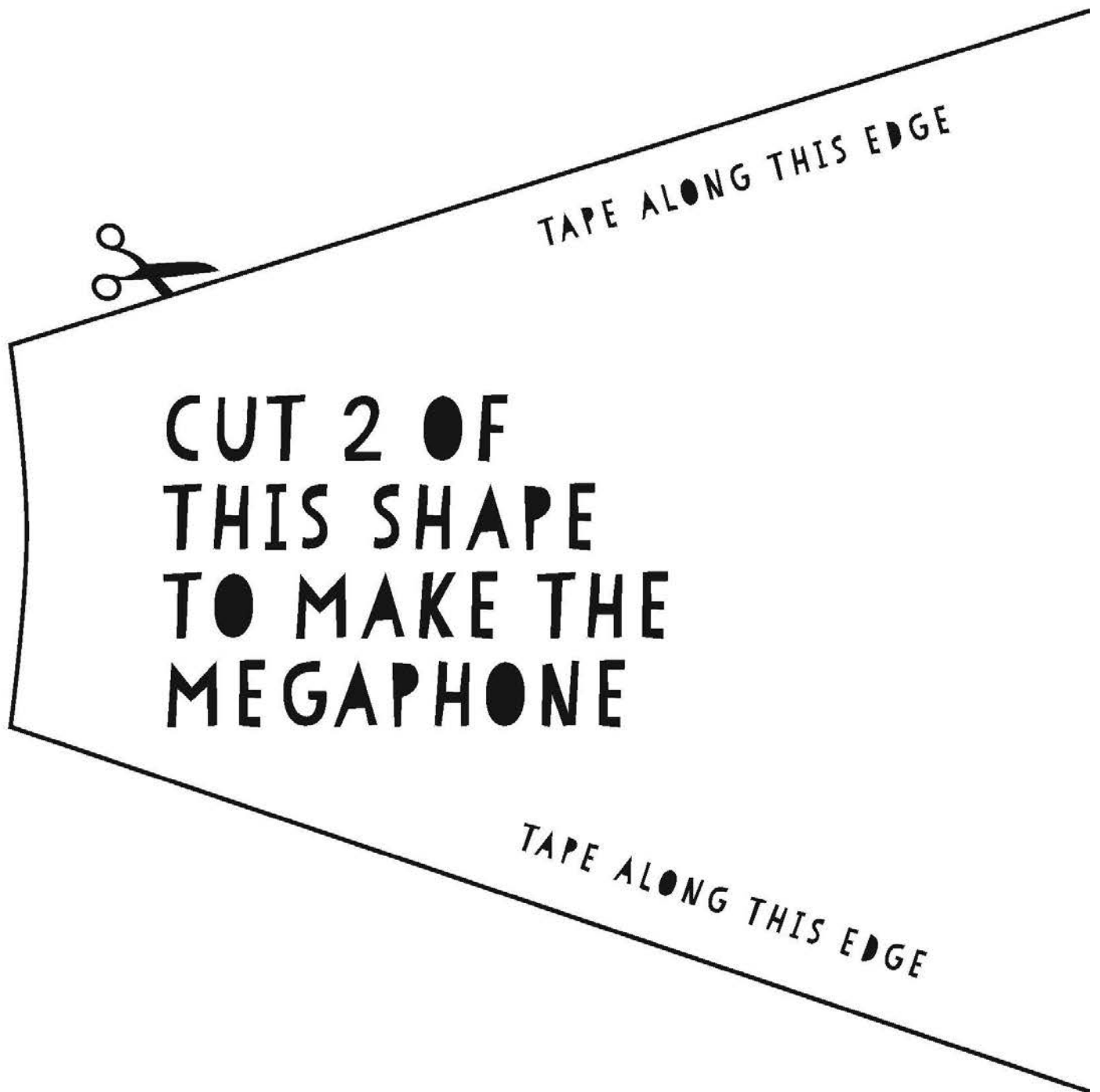
# USE THIS BOX TO MAKE A MEGAPHONE!

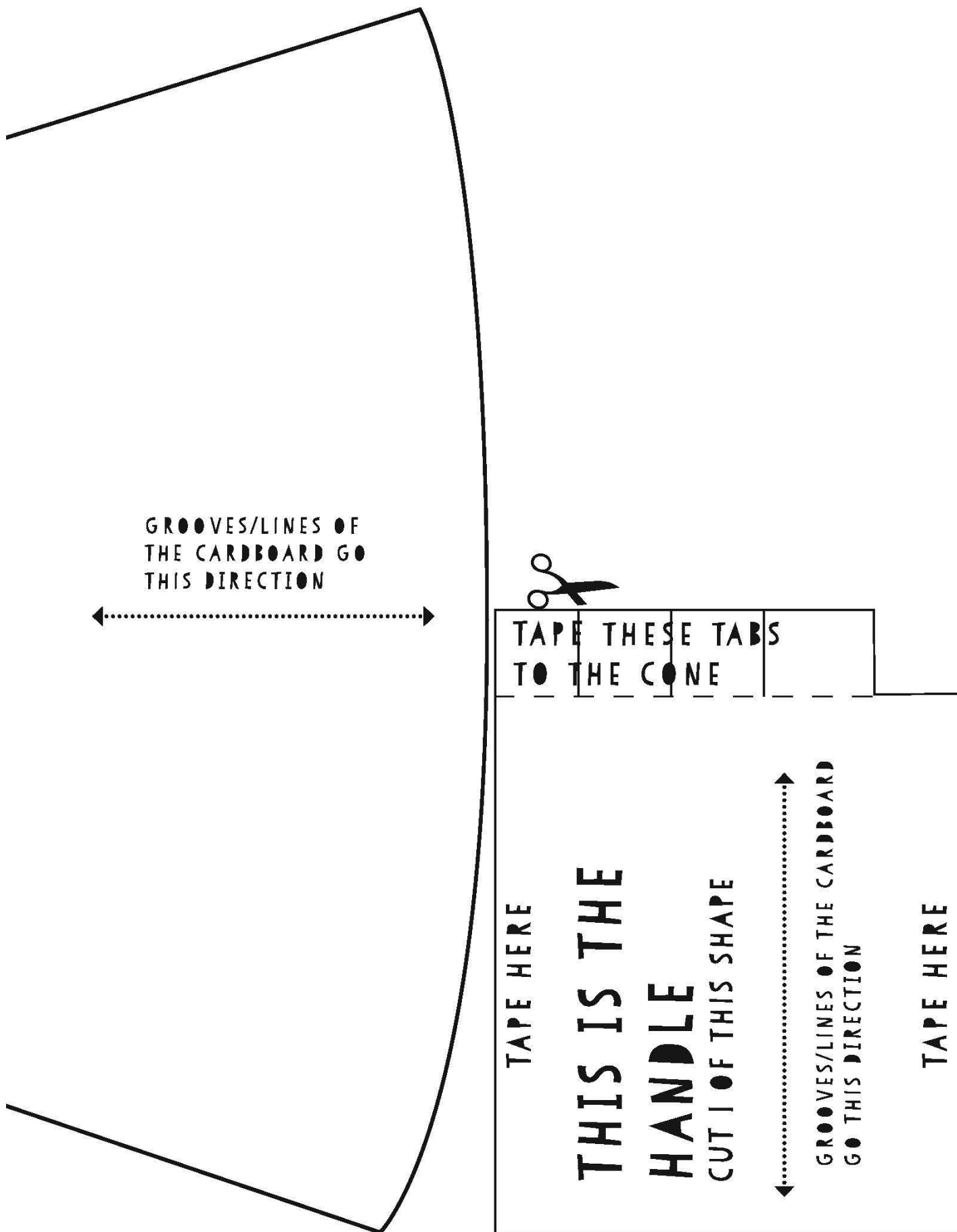


- 1 Take your box apart and make it flat.
- 2 Cut out the pattern pieces on the next page.
- 3 Notice that the cardboard has grooves or lines in it. Line up the arrows on the patterns with the lines in the cardboard.
- 4 Use a pencil or pen to trace around the edge of the pattern, making TWO megaphone pieces and ONE handle.
- 5 Cut out the cardboard pieces.
- 6 Roll and unroll the megaphone pieces to make them curve.
- 7 Tape the megaphone pieces together along the long side.
- 8 Roll it into a cone and tape the edges together.
- 9 Roll the handle into a tube shape and tape it together.
- 10 Connect the handle! Fold down the 3 flaps of the handle and tape them flat against the the cone.
- 11 Decorate your megaphone.



**SPEAK YOUR MIND!  
SAY IT LOUD!**







EXCERPT FROM

# STAYING POWER: CONCRETE, NOT WOOD



A multimedia production & publication by Ypsi youth

I want home to be a place where every sexuality is  
supported, every race loved, every gender valid  
I'm tryna live in a place where I don't fear the sidewalks  
Where kids are lulled to sleep by crickets and laughter  
Turning bullets into basketball courts  
Powered hands into a prayer stance  
Growing hope, greens rising so high they shelter us—  
The vines of those yams, peppers, potatoes and squash  
No more public housing, we want more public art  
We want a Black history mural in the Depot Town alley  
We want rent control and affordable housing  
A community land trust for artists of color  
A safe space for Black residents to come together  
This is a calling out  
This is a calling in  
This is a call to action  
Newcomers, we hope you're listening  
Ypsi originals—we hope you're feeling us  
Let's roll deep to every city council meeting  
Imagine us taking control of our land  
Making our own currency  
Imagine us buying the block back  
Keeping the block Black  
We must preserve our culture before it's erased  
These streets are all about power  
Named after white men  
That once owned Black bodies  
But now I own myself  
I am the dream of my ancestors  
This legacy of love—a different kind of wealth  
They risked their lives to escape  
So we could stand here today  
Now we rename these streets  
I am H.P. Jacobs  
I am Isa Stewart  
I am George de Baptiste  
I am Bernice Kersey  
I be the definition of Black Girl Magic  
Be the hood's miracle baby

Don't correct me, I speak Black  
I'm tryna make a way for all my people  
A victim only stays the victim  
If you let them call you that  
Pull them shoulder back and lift yo chin  
Investing in each other is how we all's gon' win  
Change gon' come, oh yes it will  
For we are the ones  
Our city is filled to the brim with ancestral magic  
Can't you see that glow on us  
A star that will not die  
A moon full of herself, too fly  
We come from a people too ocean to drown  
Too earthy to be buried  
Too much of our mamas to back down  
Hear us, and hear us now  
Our city is not for the taking  
They dared to raise prices over our bones,  
Wanted to break us open  
We are pavement  
Concrete, not wood  
We still graceful  
We stay breathin' and living as an act of resistance  
They say jump and we don't move a muscle,  
Which is to say  
That we are here to stay  
And ain't plannin' on going nowhere  
We spill into the street  
And call it  
Ours.

*By: Ciatta Tucker, Malik Henry, Lu Allen, Tiyyera Hall,  
Dajone Benon, Isaiah Grant, Monét Madoula-Bey,  
Jua'Chelle Harmon, Shane Collins, Ashanti Kenyatta  
Campbell, Em Fisher, Marlen Gonzalez, Rachael  
Somers, Ann Guiam, Samuel Martin, Nyree McDaniels,  
Donté Clark, Ciera-Jevae Gordon, Sakinah & Zakiyyah  
Rahman aka Ain't Afraid*

# WHAT'S YOUR DREAM YPSI?

## Writing Prompts for the Future from Staying Power

Picture what your ideal street, neighborhood, or community looks like- consider some of the following questions:

- Who are your neighbors?
- How do people treat each other?
- What does the housing look like?
- What are the businesses there?
- What kinds of plants do you see?
- Where do you get your food?
- What art fills your neighborhood?
- Where do you spend your time?

**Creative Prompts:** free-write a poem, rap, story  
OR draw a piece of art off of one or more of the following lines:

- I want home to be...
- I dream of an Ypsi where...
- Is a house really a home if...
- My city (sounds/smells/etc) like...

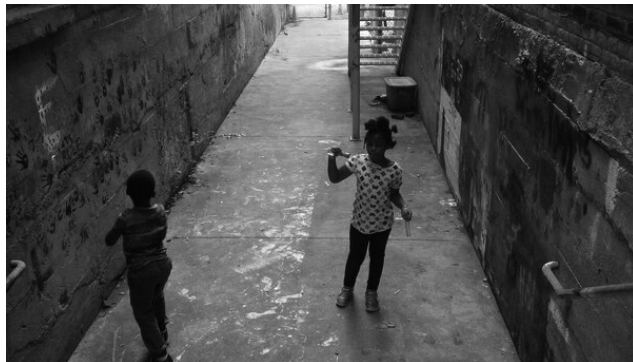
*"We have the gift and responsibility to imagine."*

**-Adrienne Marie Brown**

You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time.

Angela Davis





**#Fundthefuture:  
A prompt to  
reimagine safety  
and security.**

# KEKERE FREEDOM SCHOOL

#Defundthepolice is a new step in a long movement to end the unjust incarceration of Black, Brown and Indigenous people, the militarized police system and racism in the criminal justice system. But what if we imagined new ways to keep our schools and neighborhoods safe?

Junuada Petrus' poem "Give the Police Departments to the Grandmothers" is a love letter to her community. In it she writes, "we who believe in freedom will not rest," and uses her words to colorfully illustrate a world where grandmothers use their strength and love to heal broken hearts, nourish the hungry and remind us all of our power.

**PROJECT:** We invite you to tap into your own visionary imagination! Who are the people in your life who make you feel seen, cared for and safe? Who are the people in your community who you would give the police departments to?

**Draw, write, sculpt or dance your response to this prompt. Remember, art doesn't have to be "perfect", it just has to tell your story and make it come to life!**

Kekere Freedom School is an educational organization dedicated to decolonizing childhood. Our mission is to work collectively to honor the power of young people and liberate learners of all ages. We envision a thriving social ecosystem where all children and their loved ones are celebrated, and live with joy and purpose.

For more information visit [kekerefreedomschool.com](http://kekerefreedomschool.com).

# **Make Your Own Homemade Black-Light Flashlight and Make Your Thoughts Glow**

## **You will need:**

**A Flashlight**

**1 Blue and 1 Purple Marker**

**Clear Tape**

**Yellow, Pink, and Orange Highlighters and White Paper  
or a White Paper Mask**

- 1. Put one layer of tape to cover the light of your flashlight.**
- 2. Color the the tape with a blue marker. Let the marker dry. Stick another small piece of clear tape over the first one, making sure you don't smudge the blue ink. Repeat this another time with the purple marker, then once again with the blue marker and one final time with the purple marker, for a total of four layers.**
- 3. Use yellow, pink and orange highlighter pens to make a design or write a message on a plain white card. Position the flashlight directly above the card, turn on the flashlight, and watch the magic happen.**

Make <sup>ypsi</sup>GLOW with **WonderFool**  
PRODUCTIONS



# YPSI FIDELITY

AMPLIFYING VOICE WITH FIDELITY



## YFI HUMAN DOMINOES (PERFORMANCE/VIDEO)

Gather at least 4 friends to do this project with online. This is a performance/video challenge where you choose a behavior and the next person exaggerates it. For instance, you record a video of yourself doing jumping jacks or waving your arms up and down. You tag the next person on social media and they do the same thing but at half the speed. They tag the next person that does the same action even slower. As you repeat this process, eventually you'll have a very slowed down version of the same action but in various speeds. You can gather these projects with your friends and share them as a story so people can watch them in sequence from fast too slow or slow too fast.

## LIP SYNC/DUB CHALLENGE (VIDEO)

Individual or with friends online. Choose a song. Get dressed up and lip sync a song. Splice it/cut it up with footage of your friends doing the same song. Share it with the world!

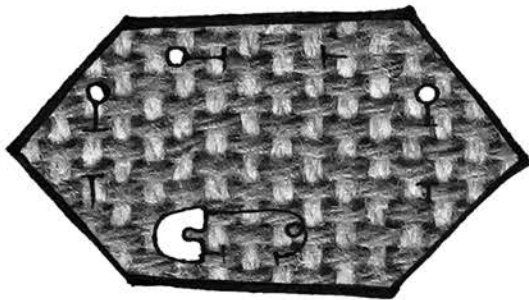
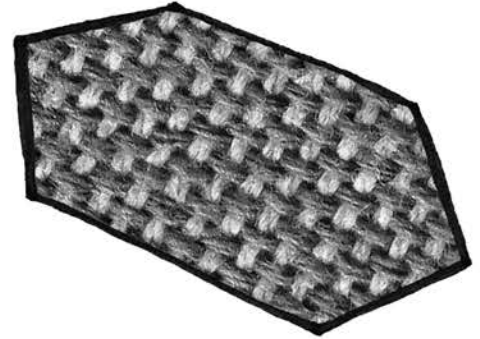
## FOODIE (WRITING/VIDEO)

Think of your favorite food. Without saying what that food is, describe it to the fullest using descriptive words about what it tastes like, what texture(s) it has, what makes it so delicious, why it's better than all other foods. Now ask people to guess what it is!

**BY YEN AND NICK AZZARO OF YFI**  
**YPSIFIDELITY.COM**

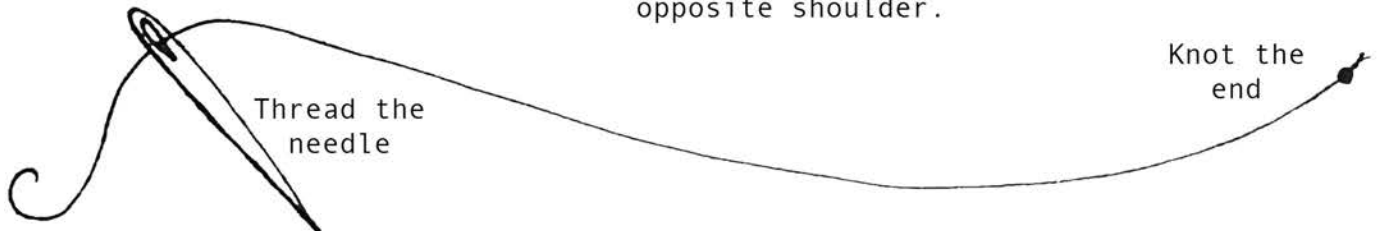
# RECYCLED FASHION

Cut out a piece of fabric in any shape. If you are covering a hole, make the piece a little bigger.

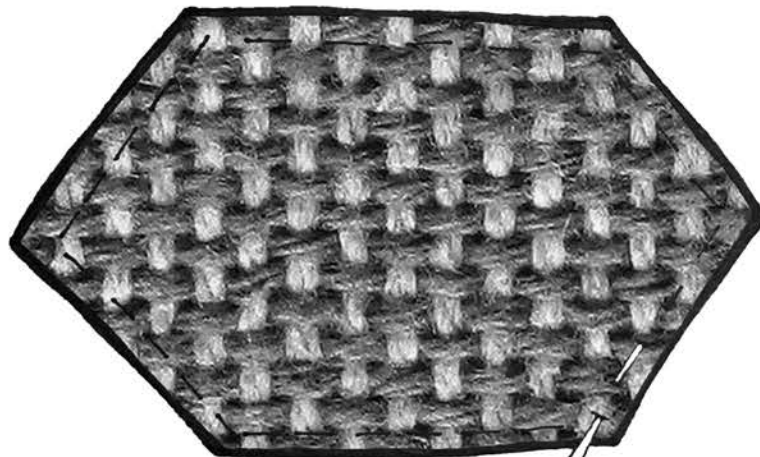


Pin the shape flat to the clothing where you want it. Use safty pins or straight pins.

Stretch out a piece of thread from your fingers all the way to your opposite shoulder.



Start underneath. Push the needle up and all the way through until the knot sits right behind the fabric. Dive the needle back down, moving in and out until you move your way all the way around your shape. Tie a knot in the back when you have made your way back to the beginning.



## French Bread

### INGREDIENTS

2 cups warm water (about 110°F)  
 1 TB Tablespoon active dry yeast  
 3 TB teaspoons sugar  
 5-6 cups bread flour  
 2 1/2 teaspoons salt  
 3 TB teaspoon vegetable oil  
 2 TB rosemary if you would like to flavor your bread.  
**Optional:** 1 egg white for egg wash for the top of the bread.



In a large mixing bowl, combine the warm water, yeast and sugar and 2 cups of flour. Add the rosemary if you would like to flavor your bread. Stir ingredients together and then add the salt. Begin to knead the dough by hand on a floured board. Add 1/2 cup of the remaining flour at a time until the dough is smooth but not sticky. Rub oil over the dough and cover with plastic wrap and let rest in the refrigerator 8 to 12 hours, or overnight.

Place the dough on the floured board. Dust the top of the dough with flour. Cut the dough in half and roll out each half into a long rectangle. Roll the dough into a log shape. Pinch the seam of the loaf closed and place the loaf seam side down on a greased baking sheet. Sprinkle the loaves with flour and cover the loaves lightly with plastic wrap. Let rise in a warm place for about 30 to 45 minutes. With a fork, whip the egg white into an egg wash and brush the top of each loaf. Slice the tops of the loaves with 3 diagonal slices across the top of each loaf with a scissors or a sharp knife

Preheat the oven to 425 F. Bake the loaves for 20 to 25 minutes until golden brown. Cool the loaves for about 30 minutes before slicing.

# TEENS

## YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY SUMMER 2020

### Noise Permit

Attend online workshops to improve your digital music, photography, drawing, video editing, and lyric writing skills. Use what you learned to create music videos and digital art. Share what you made with us to be part of our online gallery of teen art in August.

Wednesdays at 4:00 pm Zoom link and password will be posted on our website: [ypsilibrary.org/NoisePermit](https://ypsilibrary.org/NoisePermit)



This activity is supported in part by an award from the MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

### Summer Challenge

Sign up at [YpsiLibrary.org/summer](https://YpsiLibrary.org/summer). Earn digital badges when you books you read or listen to books, take online challenges, and participate in library programs. Every badge you earn is worth a chance at grand prizes, like Puffer Reds gift cards or free shoes from Ypsi Running Company. Everyone who logs at least 6 books (even manga and fanfiction count!) gets a \$5 gift card.

### Volunteer

Join the Teen Advisory Group! Earn volunteer hours, share your voice, build leadership skills, meet new friends, write grants, and help make the library a vibrant, safe, welcoming place for teens!

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 4:30pm

Sign up to get the Zoom link and password!

[YpsiLibrary.org/TAG](https://YpsiLibrary.org/TAG)



**TAG**  
wants to  
hear from  
you!

Take our survey to tell us more about what you want to do at the library this summer.

<https://www.ypsilibrary.org/2020>

### Every Week

June 15-August 8

*Monday*

PODCASTING  
4:00pm

INSTAGRAM  
CHALLENGE  
OF THE WEEK

Watch for the challenge. Can you beat the world record?

*Tuesday*

TEEN TRIVIA  
3:30pm

Meet on Zoom and test your trivia skills on topics like movies, food, music, superheroes. Play drawful too!

*Wednesday*

NOISE PERMIT  
WORKSHOPS  
4:00 pm

Meet on Zoom for workshops teaching music, photography, art and more!

*Thursday*

GET CREATIVE

Zendoodles  
Photography  
Coloring page art  
Nature Journals  
Decorate a cookie  
Mini canvas art  
Felt monsters  
Bottle cap magnet

Supplies available in July.

*Friday*

GAMING  
COMPETITION

Watch YpsiLibrary.org/teens for the game of the week. Play from home, post your score. Win prizes!

*Saturday*

COMIC/  
MANGA  
DRAWING  
MEETUP  
11AM

Join Kamron Reynolds on Zoom to hone your drawing skills.



**YPSILANTI**  
DISTRICT  
LIBRARY

Instagram: **YpsiLibraryTeens**

Follow us online to keep up with the latest news.





## GET INVOLVED



The Corner also offers community outreach and health education programs. Anyone age 12 to 25 may join our youth in action groups, including **Theatre Troupe** and **Youth Leadership Council**. Programs are currently being offered virtually, so visit our website to sign up!

**If you are between the ages of 12 and 25, Corner Health is your medical home providing full health care and mental health services specifically for you and your children.**

This includes physicals, vaccinations, sick visits, OB/GYN, pre- and post-natal care, pediatrics, STI testing and treatment, contraceptive services, LGBTQ+ and transgender care, hormone treatments, and more. Our services are judgment-free, confidential and affordable; we will work with your insurance or help you apply for coverage. No one is turned away because of insurance status.

**Health visits and mental health visits are available via telehealth, and our clinic is following all protocols to keep you safe for your in-person visits during COVID19.**

**Our Corner Store and Food Pantry** is available daily. Corner staff will assist you to assure all safety protocols are being followed.

**Let Corner Health be your medical home – call now for an appointment! Visit our website for hours and other important information.**



**47 N. Huron Street (near Michigan Ave.) • Ypsilanti, MI  
734-484-3600 • [www.cornerhealth.org](http://www.cornerhealth.org)**



# SPINNING IMAGINATIONS

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Recycled Fashion: **Natalie Berry**

French Bread: **Mary and Paul Berry**

Corner Health: **[cornerhealth.org](http://cornerhealth.org)**

Ypsilanti District Library: **[ypsilibrary.org](http://ypsilibrary.org)**

Project coordinator: **Trevor Stone**

