Video 1: The Journey of Harriet Tubman Musical Performance – Swing Low
*Choir Singing*
Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home
Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry he home x 2
I looked over Jordan and what did I see
Coming for to carry he home
A band of angels coming after me
Coming for to carry me home
Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home
Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home
If you get there before I do
Coming for to carry me home
Tell all my friends I’m coming too
Coming for to carry me home
Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home
Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home
Assemblymember Rudy Salas:
Hi I’m Assemblymember Rudy Salas, and I’d like to thank Dr. Christian, the entire BC community, staff, and students for celebrating black Independence Day! And also this is a time of celebration because its Juneteenth! It’s the celebration and recognition and signing of the emancipation proclamation. We know that decades and decades ago, Abraham Lincoln signed this into law, but we know that even though it was signed into law, we’re still having some of these same struggles, struggles of equity, these struggles of social justice, these struggles of freedom. So I just want to say even though we’re celebrating Juneteenth and it was something that happened a long time ago, its still relevant to our lives today. This is what you are seeing across the country, not only with George Floyd, but, with the countless incidences we’ve seen on the news, read about in the newspapers, or we’ve seen in our own lives. WE know that the struggle continues, I am just so pleased to see so many young people go out there engage, getting involved, having peaceful protests. Having vigils to show that they are engaged in this fight. To show that we are fighting for equity, we’re fighting for equality, were fighting for justice for all. In fact, here in the state capitol, we recently passed a state 5 to help with the struggle, to help move the bar, to help move us ahead. So I am just so proud of the BC community for celebrating black Independence Day and Juneteenth, and know that you have our prayers. You have people that are committed to joining you in this fight and this struggle and I thank you for allowing me to share a few words.

Councilman Andrae Gonzales:
The unjust murder of George Floyd has sparked a movement among our country to root out the systemic racism that exists in many institutions, but in particular, in law enforcement. What I have been inspired by locally is the level of protests, both in numbers and in intensity. How it has been led often by young people, by college students, by those who are lifting up their voices to say clearly, Black Lives Matter. So today I want to encourage all of you, all of us in the community, to continue the work beyond the protest in the streets. Beyond the protests at city hall, it's important for us to continue to engage in dialogue and to go inside city hall and have a seat at the table and discuss both policy reform and practices so that we can become a more just community. It takes all of us, not just elected leaders, every single one of us has a role to play. So, I invite you to the table, the work continues now.

Cynthia Zimmer – District Attorney:
I am District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer. I am the chief public safety official in Kern County, and am an advocate of the citizens of Kern County. My office consists of more than 200 attorneys investigating affairs and criminalist that are here to protect this community. We are here for you. Prosecutors represent all members of society including; victims and defendants. We are governed by and dedicate ourselves to the highest ethical standards. Our highest independence ensures that neither riches and influence, nor passion in the streets, dictate the outcome of criminal cases. We hold the powerful accountable, at the same time, we protect the weak, and seek justice for the poor and oppressed. We are the voice for those who are not always strong enough to be heard. Our office is concerned solely with the administration of justice. Our decisions are free from political partnership, we are sworn to uphold the constitution, and the laws of the land. We seek people for employment for this office for people with diverse backgrounds. So that we have a collective understanding of issues facing all areas of the community. We invite students from Bakersfield College and Cal State Bakersfield to intern with us. Not only so students can learn more about the system that protects us all, but also so that we can learn from students about criminal justice issues that younger generations are facing. We offer internships in the hope that some day our local residents will join us, as lawyers, victim advocates or scientist. Today’s politically, charged social media driven atmosphere has resulted in a rash and instant judgement fueled by false information and partisan politics. The role of the District Attorney demands that I and those in my charge, reject this phenomenon and continue to act independently and judiciously in all decisions that we make. Choosing to be a public servant and act on behalf of your community, is a powerful way to affect the manor in which the government operates. Working as a public servant often requires sacrificing higher pay and always comes with accountability to the public that you serve, but what you gain in return however, is knowing that you have done your part and played an active roll in shaping how our governments and institutions respond and serve the communities they are designed to protect.

Dr. Brijesh Bhambi – MD, Dignity Health:
I feel the pain, the kneeled knee that methodically smothered the last breath of an overwhelmed, helpless and pleading human has traumatized the entire world. The grotesque image of hands in pocket nonchalance has convulsed all of humanity. So much changed in those 8 minutes and 46 seconds. Peaceful protests and forceful voices are the tools of change in a democracy. Silence invites status quo. Status quo has to go. As an immigrant born in abject poverty, I aspired a fulfilled life in the land of opportunity called USA. Ever since I arrived in this country, I’ve reveled in the notion Americana, it’s a priceless, its powerful, its empowering, it propels an individual to be the best. I have loudly proclaimed to everyone in hearing range and beyond, I’m the best American there is; I am an American by choice. I struggled however, with the paradox of people born in this country who never got to avail the notion Americana. From my vantage point, I ignorantly ascribed it to a lack of initiative. I often talk to my kids about this. My kids assume I was tone deaf, I thought they were politically correct. Yes, shame on me. A few days ago, a friend send a brief snippet of a Martin
Luther King interview that bridged the disconnect. Freedom from slavery without means of sustenance turned to be hollow freedom. It was a one-way ticket to famine. As a European immigrants held parcels of lands and African Americans hand no land to cultivate, no mean of sustenance - only impoverished human existence. This wrecked havoc on social fabric of African American life. It’s time, ladies and gentlemen, that the notion of presumed innocence but extends to all, and does not stop at a color barrier. It’s time to say sorry for all the injuries and injustices. It’s time to stop insulting. It’s time to say thank you for all the contributions and sacrifices. It’s time to put to practice spreading President Lincolns words. Let’s be charitable towards black lives, and have malice towards none. Let’s work to achieve a more perfect union. Incarceration is a curse, both in sheer numbers and cost. At nearly $100,000 per year cost, of imprisoned life against $60,000 average minimum wage for a family of 4, well, the numbers don't add up. What is the purpose in incarceration that doesn’t rehabilitate, incarceration in the absence of rehabilitation encourages recidivism. Where is the return on investment? From a larger economic standpoint, lack of integration of a significant segment of society, in its whole is a financially winless strategy. I say together better, lets unite. Kneel not to kill, kneel to elevate. Hate is repulsive. Love is constructive. Let’s give love a chance. Thank You.

Video 2: Real Talk On Race: Danny Morrison Julian West Reggie Bolton

Danny: Lets start with you Julian final word give a message to those that are watching America in general as we come to grips with what we are dealing with, with police brutality and everything. Give them a word of encouragement while we close this thing out.

Julian: I would say, I just want to say to the young people, I'm so proud of you. I’m proud of you for stepping up, I haven’t seen this kind of movement, I’ve never seen this kind of movement and this kind of traction in just standing up and its all... I was driving down the 178 the other day and we were blocked and I had somewhere to go, but I wasn’t even trippin’, I was like go ahead stand up... and it was all young folks. Folks younger than myself that were out there, that were standing up for what they believed in. I have to say that I think we are on the right track, but, keep going and don’t stop at just protesting. Lets also pay attention to where the money is going as well and the financial boycotts is the next steps. Those that are school aged children brewing an example and going and getting your education and filing the spots in the next steps. You be the teachers, you be the next professors you be the next police officers, the next doctors, the next district attorney you go get that education so you can be undeniably qualified to fit those roles and that how you really finish this thing off in my opinion.

Reggie: it’s a commitment, lets have the commitment that they have, have that commitment of doings what’s right, I’m with Julian with the young people. I was out running with my son at the park and this young man walked up to me, he’s a young white male, I know him, I know his father and we were interacting just talking. We weren’t talking about none of the stuff. I was like alright man ill check you later I’m gonna go back to running and he goes alright coach you go ahead, but check this out I stand with you on this. I was like.... Huh? He says I stand with you, with what’s going on out here and I said man I appreciate that. He was the first person that had said something to me non-African American about that and I was like whoa! He was with his young lady friend and I said, man that right there is what’s going to change this situation, because you are going to tell your kids this ain’t okay, and like Julian said, If the young people, if they continue to go on the path they are on, they are going to change this because they are saying this ain’t okay no more, so this, the commitment to stay the course like they did with the boycott, the bus boycott. It might take a year, it might take two years, but if we stay the course and keep pushing and doing the things we’re doing now and making these changes in policies and institutions things are going to change. But I take
these young people, they get me excited, they get me turned up, I got to go out and be better because I need to be with them. So, that’s what I would say.

**Video 3: Real talk on race with the Bakersfield Police Department: Danny Morrison, Tommy Tunson, BPD Chief Greg Terry, Chief of Police Joe Mullins**

**Danny:** are you guys going to implement some of these new policies tell the city what your going to do from this point forward to change, to have a paradox shift with the imagery that you guys put out with BPD.

**Joe Mullins:** The paradox shift is already taking place its already started, it does it takes a little while, you can’t just flip around it takes a little bit to get going, but we got a lot of, your absolutely right Chief Martin did a fantastic job and he got a lot going, he got a lot started, and were working to keep it going. We’re working hard to keep that momentum moving, we are. We have looked at our policies, we’re continuing to review those policies. We do take this seriously, we are accountable to the community. We are working with BC to move that principle policing forward and make it even better, expand it even further and were listening, what you’ve seen over the past 12 days, I’ve never been prouder of our officers who have maintained control and calm in some very difficult circumstances of the last 12 days a lot of stuff you saw around the country, you didn’t see here because we respect the peoples rights to be out there and be heard. Whether or not we agree with that message, there may have been a few arrests here but you didn’t see a lot of, you said yourself how well behaved and properly everybody let their voice be heard because were willing to work with people and respect that and give them that time and space to be heard. Then to take it forward and take it seriously, you started off this broadcast by asking me to say what I believe, I’m going to end it with, you watch what I do and you’ll see what I believe.

**Danny:** Well said, Chief the floor is yours, take us home

**Greg Terry:** Hey thanks again Danny very much for the opportunity to speak to you and the community about this really really important time in our history. Not only has our community been policing, also the police department, the Bakersfield police department is moving in the 21st century. Your going to see us building relationships with the community and working very diligently to build trust. A very important word. We are going to be reviewing our department policies and practices to ensure that we are using the best practices and addressing all of those areas for the community. We are going to be engaging in community policing, your going to see problem solving, your going to see zone community meetings, surveys, opportunities for the community to have their input. We’re going to structure the organization a little differently so that officers are going to be deployed to areas for a longer period of time, to establish relationships to build trust and solve problems and I recognize that this starts with me at the very top. So I take that very serious and I am committed to this community as well.

**Video 4: Norma Rojas-Mora, Director of communication and community Relations, Bakersfield College**

People of color live in a society where we hear so many doubts. Those colors are too bold, tone down your language stop talking with your hands, modify your excitement, do not stand out watch your facial expressions, don’t look angry, don’t speak up, watch yourself, learn to blend in. The conversations I have had with friends, colleagues, and community leaders around George Floyds death can help with racial injustices that happen on a daily basis. Some overt and some blatant, all wrong. It isn’t a new dialogue, it has just been amplified across the world and we have collectively said, enough is enough. While we used to have these conversations in private, or within the comfort of our closest circles, we have now been given permission to share. It is acceptable. The deepest conversations I have had are in my own home, to hear my daughter share her own experiences, to see kids treat her differently in the classroom because of the color of her skin. The prejudices she has faced because her skin tone is shades darker than her siblings or white counter parts, and the
rational fear that she expressed about being stopped by a police officer. Even though she knows she’s a good kid, has forced me to question the messages we are sending our youth. Racism affects us all. While actions starts at the individual level, collective action helps create the momentum to create change. I commit to organizing forums for young Latinas in our community. To have difficult conversations about race, racism, and how we can all do better create spaces where society can thrive. Through these conversations help these young women realize their full potentials as Latina leaders. I ask you to join me. Join Bakersfield College as we continue to provide opportunities for engagement and dialogue. We all have a responsibility to do our part, we must be the change.

Video 5: Tommy Tunson Director of Public Safety Training
Greeting hows everyone doing today, BC renegades, Bakersfield Community. We will look at TPM from an analytical and research aspect today. We will look at the president’s task force and 21 century policing. This task force was formed in collaboration with agencies and community members from across the nation and together 6 pillars of recommendations were provided to the country in 2015. There were 6 pillars, the first of those 6 pillars was building trust and legitimacy. We are still working on that pillar, and there is a lot of work to be done. We have to look at creating a more diverse work force and we have to be consistent with our interaction with the community. Number 2 Pilar; policy and oversight. Law enforcement agencies should collaborate with community members, especially in a community that are disproportionately affected by crime. Together community agencies are looking at policing strategies. How to deploy resources to reduce crime by improving relationships, increasing community engagement and fostering cooperation. That means meaningful communication between the community and its law enforcement agency. Number 3, technology and social media. We can more than see the effects of social media today, law enforcement is learning to give much better, and be more affective and efficient in creating and understanding social media. Number 4, and very important, again community policing and crime reduction in mind. Law enforcement is looking at, and should develop additional policies and strategies that reinforce again the importance of community engaging and interacting for public safety. Communities need to affirm and recognized the voices of our youth in the community, I think, the community colleges are good indication and a good example. We need to listen to our youth we need to listen to our young people. Their voices are crying out to be heard all across this nation as we can see in the protests, and the administration and the execution of the first amendment right. Number 5, training and education we need to expand the education between line officers in the field and on the streets and their leaders. They have so many different functions that they need to understand, and we’re looking at cultural diversity training a lot more in police academies where you learn throughout the history of African American in a lot more detail than just a couple hours of discussion. Next, we need to make sure that this high quality and effectiveness of this training and education is dual between the community and law enforcement. Finally, officer safety and wellness. It is important that the wellness and safety of the officers and community members are taken into a whole I worked a 12-hour shift as a patrolmen, and it’s very exhausting and it can affect judgement and I think that one of the most important aspects of it. If we look at some of the incidences that have occurred nation wide, I would be willing to bet that those are 12 hour shifts where these decisions are made by these officers under a great deal fo stress. Finally, what are some take away lessons from TPM. Transformational policing model, it is establishing trust in communities of color. This will require genuine communication and sincere communication between all state holders, community and police enforcement. Implementing TPM, that is our call to action, si se puede! [inaudible] Go with God be peaceful and understand we are one people in America. Thank you.

Video 6: Excerpt from Senator Cory Booker on Race, Empathy, and legislation
There's been a flood of different federal law enforcement and correctional officers from federal prison system as, DEA agents, customs and boarder patrol, military on the streets including military armored vehicles, it looks like an enormous, impressive show of force to show on tv, what's is like there? Is it a harbinger of things to come elsewhere?

Booker: what it is is sad. What it is is hurtful. What it is is scary. I'm the United States senator and I left here late last night, and I literally though twice about putting on my short and a t-shirt to walk home because the painful thing that, and a conversation I've had with many other black men this last week, is you know we have this fear, you've had it all your life. When I was 12-13 years old I was already about 6ft tall, and to have a nation where the men, the elders in my family felt this need to educate me that I would make people feel scared, or uncomfortable. They had this chilling sort of, it's a time where I was feeling strong and playing football, to try and help me understand that when I was getting my license that its not a joke, and you need listen to us because, a misunderstanding, and interaction could mean your death. Then to have experiences in my late teens and early 20s with police officers, with weapons drawn on me, with my car surrounded, accused of stealing my car being followed in malls for years upon years. Being confronted by security guards, and the feeling, as I say senator, Tim Scott in South Carolina talks on the floor of the senate about how many times he was stopped on his way into the senate in ways that his college Lindsey ram said never happens to me. And so what I said about the Rodney King thing, you brought up a use of interaction act, its hard for me to think about that moment in my life, I broke down, I was President of my class at Stanford, I was a road scholar just been awarded the road scholarship and that night of the that Rodney King verdict I wrote and article, I still remember my hands shaking as I think, why have I lost control? Because the rage and the hurt and the anger that lead me to the streets to march peacefully, but I was, I was so angry because from that point it had been a decade since those conversation I had with family members about this country would treat you differently. Yet here I had all these titles, all these things I worked for, but I knew that there were experiences happening to people that could easily be me. I think what has made this moment in American history so difficult for all of us, after Ahmad Arbery, after Brionna Taylor, after a black man in Central Park bird watching, halving police call on him, and then seeing the death of George Floyd in front of us, is horrific violent pornography of a killing. I think the thing that has made a lot of my friends break out in tears this week is 30 years ago Rodney King and I were marching in Stanford. We thought we could change this, and that we wouldn't have to have these same conversations with our kids, with my nephews, and decades have past and we haven't put this nation to a point where we have kids again. Where I was like wise or really questioning this nation, and wondering if a country that has been a generations in search of itself, the value I would die for, liberty and justice for all, equality under the law, we are still in search of it, and making those real, and this is one of those times where, its good to see, its so good to Americans, black and white rainbow, its so good to see their anger, its so good to see people who for too long have become to comfortable in this country. Democracy on the plan the earth, if we can show, that we can make our ideals more than just our slogans and our songs, but to live deep in the fiber and the fabric of this country so that all of us experience the same opportunities and the same justices, the same brother and sister hood, then we succeed as a nation. But right now, were struggling and I'm hoping that out of this struggle, grows a new harvest of hope, I really do. And I think we can make real change in this country.

Video 7: Musical Performance by Steve Watkin

Video 8: LaMeka Ross, Bakersfield Alumnae Chapter President Delta Sigma That Sorority, Inc
Dorothy High Said, there is no contradiction between effective law enforcement and the respect of the civil and human rights. My name is LaMeka Ross and I'm the president of the Bakersfield College Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., was founded over 107 years ago by 22 Collegian women who wanted to bring about change. We are an
organization committed to the constructed development of its members and as public service with the primary focus on the black community. The use of excessive force by law enforcement, specifically the matters involving black people, has created an environment of distrust and anxiety between the officials and the communities they have sworn to protect and serve. This is not acceptable. The recent killings of black people are a painful reminder that black lives don’t seem to matter in the land of liberty and justice for all. As member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., we are committed to fighting social injustice and inequality. Including racial profiling, police brutality and combating voter suppression. In order to two this we must use the power in our voice and partner with our local and elected officials, community leaders, and law enforcement to bring about Change and inequalities that are facing the black community. Barbra Jordan said, let each person do their part if one citizen is unwilling to participate, all of us are going to suffer, the American ideal, although it is shared by all of us is realized in each of us. By working together we are guaranteeing that ALL voices are being heard and the crucial conversation that will move our community and country forward because black lives matter too.

**Video 9: Valerie Robinson, Business Professor**

Thank you Jennifer and Dr. Christian for an opportunity to share the values that I have instilled in my son, Kenneth Robinson, and one of the foundations that I believe is so important that I instilled along with my husband, Kenneth, is the value of African American, and we have here at our home opened up the door ways that have Kwanzaa celebrations where he can appreciate his heritage, his values and what it means today. In addition to that we believe in Christian values, and unconditional love and to respect all mankind. As a result of that, what we have done is taught him to have faith, in a belief system that he has indicated that he as relied on many times. Just being faithful, prayerful about situations that he doesn’t know how to do and navigate in terms of making the right decisions. We have always instilled education was key getting a quality education, and even with the education that he’s had, he has always been one to learn how to think critically. When I say critically, to look at the issues at hand, to analyze, to identify the 5 w’s, and what are the results that you are looking for when you’re dealing with situations on a personal, professional, any level. Currently he has a variety of different friends, not just African American. Latinos, Indians, Asian, white, etc. He learned the importance of friendship, in addition to that he served in the us Navy, where I believe gave him the foundation of becoming a strong leader, he’s going to be opening his own business, what I still appreciate about our family is that we still get together, even now for the last month or two and just have family meetings, and just have those open conversations in terms of situations that our black, African young men are dealing with, how do we deal with these situations and what is the hope that you have, and we always leave having an encouraging words to or family members that were dealing with. I believe that its so important today, even more so, that we teach our culture why its important to appreciate those cultures as well. In addition to that I just wanted to say I appreciate this opportunity and as an educator I’m always impacted these same values that I teach in my home, also an educator I think its so important that we understand who we are and that we respect other human beings. Thank You

**Video 10: Keith C. Wolaridge**

I remover one time when I was a 7th grader and I had read the book, Robertson Crusoe, I was so proud of myself. So, I go see my teacher, I go take my test, and she says mmmm Keith I need you to take the test again. I'm thinking to myself, why do I need to take the test again, I take the test again, she said hmm okay I guess you did read the book. That hurt me as a 7th grader, I couldn’t believe my teacher didn’t believe that I could take the time to read the book. And I can also recall, when I was junior at Fresno state, an accounting major, and I didn’t do well on an exam, and I went and saw my professor, I said Doc I need some help I didn't get the grade I wanted to get, can you help me? He then says, Keith don’t worry about it, black people don’t make good CPA’s anyway, that crushed my
heart as a young man. That’s when I first experienced a hard racism of bigotry, of having low expectations of people of color. I will never forget that, and those are the issues that drive me today as a school board member to make sure children have all that they have, that we have high expectation, that they can be all that God has created them to be. My hope for our community is that we pull together as one, one race, alone can not do this. It’s going to take all of us working together as a team, this is big boulder that we have to push up a hill ladies and gentlemen. But with the right people, with the right momentum, we can cure this problem. So how we can go forward is education, I shot this at a school because its through education where people have the opportunity to be all that God has called them to be. So, I’m asking my colleagues, I’m asking my friends, I’m asking my teachers, I’m asking my fellow professors, I’m asking my fellow trustees, please let’s work together to solve this issue of racism, so that no other child will have to be exposed to what I was as a young man. Thank You so much

Video 11: Realltalk on race in America: Danny Morrison, Amaya Williams, Janell Gore, Caleb Warren
Danny: Final thoughts Amaya, take it away. What do you want to tell the audience that’s listening right now?
Amaya: this talk, I’m happy we had it, to have a discussion on a large platform where people can speak their mind about our own personal experiences that are very similar. I’m happy that we had this, also that we should keep pushing for equality, but also that equity. We’re not on the same level as every other race is, and not every other race is, were all on different levels and I feel like we all need to be given the equity that we deserve for the things that we have gotten taken away from us from the beginning
Janell: I say it’s very important for everyone to keep having these conversations, keep having them with people who are even uncomfortable with having these conversations because and take it a step further and take actions once we have those conversations. We can talk about it all we want, we can point fingers, but unless we get out there and start trying to make a change and find a solution nothing is going to change.
Caleb: y’all pretty much took the words out of my mouth but, I would say just be an Allie to us if you agree with us, whether white black whatever, just stand with us, rather is going out and protesting or signing petitions, posting on your Instagram story or donations. Be an ally with us if you agree wit us.

Video 12: Remarks from delta kappa Gamma Society, alpha alpha chapter
Together we lead and make impact on education world wide. We are members of delta kappa gamma, alpha alpha chapter in Bakersfield California with 70 members. We have been in solidarity with the hope of achieving the ideal of our founding fathers and mothers that all men and women of all races are created equal. We believe in the dream of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all people. In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny, whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly. We believe in the dream of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all people. In the words of bishop Desmond Tutu we are meant as those made for family, we are made for togetherness, We are made to hold onto one another, for we can be human only together, we can be free only together, we can be prosperous only together, we can be safe and secure only together, we are sisters standing united, we are Delta kappa gamma, alpha alpha chapter.

Video 13: Dr. Jamal Wright, history professors
My name is Jamal wright and I am a history professor at Bakersfield College. Over the past few weeks there are so many different emotions that I have felt but the two emotions that stick out to me the most are grief and hope. I have grieved the death of so many unarmed African Americans at
the hands of police officers over the years. I have grieved the death of a retired police officer in my home town of St. Louis, MO I have grieved the fact that I have had conversations with so many people about race, and they either reject that there is racism in the United States, they ignore it, or they dismiss it. And lastly, I’m grieved at the fact that so many people feel as though they have been silenced for such a long period of time that the only option that they have, the only recourse that they have is to use violence. While I have felt a lot of anger and sorrow, I have also felt hope. While watching tv and seeing people of different races, ethnicities, religions, socioeconomic standings coming together trying to improve the conditions of African Americans, this has given me hope. I’ve had hope while watching tv and seeing after looting, people of the community coming together and washing the side walks, painting, and improving the community. And lastly, I have felt hope because of the constructive conversations that I have had with many people through out the community and the constructive conversations that I have witnessed while watching the news and other sources. And I’ll conclude with this quote, that I read and forgive me I don’t have the author of the quote. The fight isn’t new but the results can be. And this is why I have hope.

**Video 14: Dee Slade**
Here we are in the 21 century still marching for recognition, inclusion, marching for freedom freedom to just live freedom to enjoy the fruits of our labor, developing this country inventions we created and were still here. Seeing but not seeing heard but not heard, hopefully this generation that’s marching and protesting they will eventually be heard. They will eventually be seen, and yes after 14 days and maybe more days to come, they are going to keep marching until someone hears their cry. Justice for all in America

**Video 15: Emmanuel Mourtzanos**
Growing up in Toronto I knew racism existed, in fact we talked about it in school. We talk about the need for racial equity and social justice but I also thought the problem was rooted in the infrastructures of our society systems. They were external. They needed to be corrected so we can achieve equity for all. But the problem wasn’t me, or so I though, it was system not realizing I was a significant part of the system. My unconscious thinking was that this is a problem that affected other people not me. But now I’m confronted with the ugly truth that the very color of my skin placed me in a social cast that came with privileges and opportunities not offered to everyone. This is elitism at its finest. I had been taught to believe that anyone who works hard enough, or is motivated enough could achieve it, whatever it was. But these are lies, lies that I had been taught to believe. I now realize the advantages afforded to me because of the color of my skin and I’m sickened by it. We become so anesthetized by the inequality of our condition that were shackled by the comfort of a mentality that they system is working just fine for me. But the anesthesia is wearing off and we need to confront the facts of our history and the facts of our reality that lay before us. When missionaries from western African countries, or third world countries, they are confronted with the oppressive conditions of the poor and realize the abundance of their prosperity and wealth is meaningless, almost repulsive when contrasted got the very real needs when contrasted to the poor of those they are serving. This is an example of how quick and willing we are to bury our heads in the sand to pretend the problem doesn’t exist. But we are at a nexus in our history I’m great full for our collective commitment to tackle uncomfortable issues. We are awaking a sleeping social giant that has been dormant fir far too long. I leave you with a quote I heard from a black inmate with little financial means and resources who was convicted and sentenced for a crime he didn’t commit, and was later exonerated for it. He had said that justice is a thing to word that is only available to those who can afford it, but that’s not me. I hope through the actions we take today that we can prove them wrong.