We invite you, your students and colleagues to participate in an interactive evening of creative sharing and collective expression on the Sojourner Truth Quad.

Thursday, October 14, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
(Rain date: Friday, October 15)

Sound your truth
Beat your drum
Pipe up
Call in
Make noise
Celebrate
Free your speech
Listen in
Parrhesiazomai*

*In rhetoric, parrhesia is a figure of speech described as: “to speak candidly or to ask forgiveness for so speaking”. This Ancient Greek word has three different forms, as related by Michel Foucault in Fearless Speech. Parrhesia is a noun, meaning “free speech”. Parrhesiazomai is a verb, meaning “to use parrhesia”. Parrhesiastes is a noun, meaning one who uses parrhesia, for example, “one who speaks the truth to power”.

This time of upheaval has shed a harsh light on the social injustice that permeates our society, as well as the urgent need to shift our ways to avoid environmental and climate catastrophe.

What needs to be said right now?
What do we all need to hear?
How might our creative acts meet this moment?
How might we come together to celebrate being alive together?
How should the heart of our campus beat?
Let’s be courageous and show up for each other. Let’s have fun, let’s do things differently, for a change. Why not?

Rather than sequencing activities, we will layer different modes of expression, so they fluidly respond to each other and create an experiential whole.

**Plans in motion:**

1. Sculpture students will build a truth-speaking, truth-listening platform for all to use during the event (with Prof. Emily Puthoff)
2. Black Studies students will perform spoken word (with Prof. Anthony Dandridge)
3. Students will read from the 400 Years of Inequality timeline displayed on the quad (with Prof. Andrea Frank)
4. English Dept. students will read poems of joy & protest (with Prof. Sarah Wyman)
5. Sonic cacophony (with Prof. Michael Asbill)
7. Read from a tower of books on the BIPOC experience and climate change provided by the STL Library.
8. Tell stories about Sojourner Truth and read names of other enslaved people who lived in this region.
9. Contribute to a massive collective charcoal drawing with Art students.
10. Hear how Music students dialogue through soundscapes, instruments, and voices.
11. Photography students will document the event (with Prof. Nadia Sablin)

**FACULTY:** Consider creating your own assignment for your students at the beginning of the semester, so they can contribute to this emergent event.

**Here are possibilities:**

1. Write a poem, a play or a story; make sounds.
2. Share what’s on your heart and mind.
3. Ask questions about what you don’t learn at this institution.
4. Have Voice students sing out your words for all to hear. (If you don’t dare to speak out, submit your thoughts in a giant mailbox).
5. Listen deeply to members from all parts of our campus community.
6. Reflect back what you hear, read, feel, or see.
7. See Theater and Creative Writing students intervene, interact, and perform.
8. We may have to dance...
9. Stage collective portraits for Instagram with people you didn’t know until now.
10. Design a machine to reverberate and recycle the sounds.
11. Share data on species extinction, climate change, and global pandemic.
12. Listen to the trees, bushes, and blades of grass on the quad. They have lots to teach.
13. Identify the flora and fauna of the Sojourner Truth Quad
14. Read out the names of enslaved and dispossessed people who have lived here.
15. Share a story of the Lenape / Esopus Munsee people who first lived on this unceded territory.
16. ... invent your own response.

This event is hosted and coordinated by The Eddy at New Paltz in collaboration with the Dorsky Museum. 
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