

ART FOR OURSELVES GATHERINGS

JULY 2016: Queer Power/Queer Pain

In light of last month's tragedy at The Pulse and the current social climate, we felt the need to discuss the complexities, obstacles, pain, triumph, and power as queer people*.

**If you do not identify as queer we encourage you to use this time to reflect on how your experiences are similar or different from your queer community members. Of course, this conversation is for all, but do make space for queer words and queer feelings. Your presence and allyship is valuable.*

Opening

- Name, gender pronoun
- What brought you to today's gathering?
- What are you hoping will come of today's gathering?

Artifact 1

- Draw, write, dance, sing, somehow express your current emotional state at this precise moment.

Discussion

- How have you constructed your gender and/or sexual identity?
- If you identify as a queer person, which spaces make you feel safe? Which spaces make you feel unsafe? And why?
- Which spaces do you feel you have the most power; socially, politically, and/or spiritually?
- If you are a queer person of color, are there spaces where you feel safe as a POC but not as a queer person and vice versa?
- Describe the intersection of your various identities. Are some of these identities marginalized? Are some of them privilege holding?

Reflection

- Reflect on how your intersecting identities allot you certain privileges in certain spaces, write them down.
- How can you use the privilege/power you have to uplift those who are marginalized?
- From what you heard, what is one way you can take action in your everyday life to support the safety and visibility of our queer siblings?

Closing / Artifact 2

- Create a self portrait.
- Give some love