

CHOREOGRAPHY & POETRY (ft. Amanda Gorman poem)

IDEAL FOR GRADE 12

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Join OZ Arts Teaching Artists in series of short, hands-on activities accessible online. Dive into poetry, visual art, music, and dance through a unique STEAM lens designed for 21st century exploration of creativity and expression.

Joi Ware

DESCRIPTION

Did you catch Amanda Gorman's inauguration poem, *The Hill We Climb*? A rising star in the literary world, Amanda Gorman's poetry speaks boldly and bravely to the present moment. In this activity, Joi Ware combines the art of choreography and movement with the words of another poem by Ms. Gorman, *Talking Gets Us There*. By physicalizing the ideas expressed in words, we better understand the complexity within a literary work. Joi highlights the poem's call to speak truthfully and openly with one another in an effort toward a more equitable and anti-racist society.

DISCUSSION

- A poem can expand upon a central idea or theme. When you read the poem, *Talking Gets Us There*, which line is the heart of the poem for you? How might your movement choice or gesture highlight that line especially?
- There are wonderful youth poet laureates writing all across the country. Nashville's recent youth poet laureates include Marie Shields, Alora Young, and Lagnajita Mukhopadhyay. Find a poem by one of these poets and use it as the foundation for a new movement piece. Or perhaps you might write one of your very own.

STANDARDS

Fine Arts

Foundation Cr1

HS2.D.Cr2.B Choreograph a dance study that uses ideas and themes as motivation. Explain how the movement is meant to represent the artistic intent.

Standard D.Cn1.A

HS2.D.Cn1.A Analyze a dance to determine the ideas expressed by the choreographer. Explain how the perspectives expressed by the choreographer may impact one's own interpretation. Determine whether or not this dance can relate to personal experiences, technology, or other academic subjects.

Social and Personal Competency

1D. Demonstrate a sense of personal responsibility and advocacy.

Developmental Indicator

- Describes how taking personal responsibility is linked to being accountable for behavior.
- Demonstrates an ability to take responsibility for one's choices.

