BC2M PRESENTS

tips + resources for civic engagement

10 WAYS TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVISM



EDUCATE YOURSELF AND OTHERS (YES, LEARNING IS ACTIVISM)!

- Plan school assembly presentations on the racial justice movement, LGBTQIA+ rights, and mental health advocacy.
- Create or repost infographics with information that you find helpful on social media!
- Engage your peers about what you are learning. Be open to changing your mind and perspective when presented with new information that appears credible.
- Make sure you are learning from a diverse set of perspectives and resources.





ADVOCATE FOR LEGISLATION

Push for changes in legislation by working with local groups and coalitions that write to legislators advocating for specific local, state, and federal laws! Find petitions to sign, letters to write, and numbers of senators, governors, etc. to call!

Ex. of a recent significant legislative change: the supreme court ruling in 2020 that LGBTQIA+ people cannot be fired from their jobs on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity.





RUN FOR OFFICE AT YOUR SCHOOL

Running for office can help you to develop vital leadership and advocacy skills. It will challenge you to consider what it means to serve a larger group and to address their concerns and needs effectively.

You might also consider joining other groups like a Gay-Straight Alliance group (GSA), peer training groups, or other task forces! If possible, look into diversifying your school's curriculum, too!



RAISE AND DONATE MONEY

Hold fundraising events like bakesales and donate the funds to organizations committed to civil rights activism. Find a list of some of our favorites here:



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10 WAYS TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVISM (PT. 2)



SPEND YOUR MONEY MINDFULLY

Yes, you can shop like an activist

Research the brands that you regularly buy from and support to see what they are doing to support their communities. Buy from brands and companies that are owned by BIPOC, women, and LGBTOIA+ folk! Support small businesses.







PROTEST...THOUGHTFULLY!

Protesting is a great way to get involved. However, it is important to think about the message you want to convey. Consider going in a group with others who are more experienced and research where you are going and what their purpose is before joining.

For example, if you are going to a racial justice protest, consider researching how your intersectional identity influences your role at protests, especially if you are white. Consider what chants and actions are appropriate for you to participate in and which you should just observe.



SURVEY YOUR COMMUNITY

Surveying your community can help you understand better how they feel about a certain issue, what they need to learn more about, and how to best address their concerns and needs.





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10 WAYS TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVISM (PT. 3)

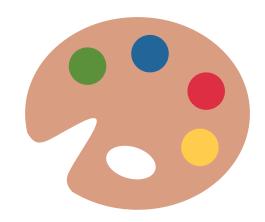


CREATE SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS ART

Yes, you can create like an activist!

Create art, writing, and theatre that is socially informed and educates, speaks to, and encourages others to engage in social justice movements.

Create signs for those going to protests!



"If I love you I have to make you conscious of the things you don't see."

James Baldwin



HOLD FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND BRANDS ACCOUNTABLE (WITH LOVE)

If you hear someone say something that may be uninformed, racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, ableist, or fat-phobic, let them know. Don't shame theminstead think about how you can communicate with them in a way that is helpful and constructive while still holding them accountable.

If you find that brands or organizations that you love and support can do better, write them to let them know! Your support matters to them and could motivate them to change.



PUBLICLY AMPLIFY YOUR MESSAGE

Re-share posts and resources on your social media, start a podcast, do an interview, write an op-ed, or invite a reporter to highlight issues or work being done in your community! Share and credit resources created by the people with the most experience with



