

OBSERVANCE HOSTING GUIDE



Learn more!

www.400yearsofinequality.org

Build an observance team

Invite others to help you develop and execute your observance. Who do you consider your community? What resources do you have available?

Find(Choose) your story

In the ecology of inequality we are all affected in various ways. Take a moment to situate yourself in how inequality has impacted your story. How do you experience inequality? How are you resisting?

Anchor your story in a location

After selecting the story you and your team wish to share, choose a location to anchor your observance. Where will you hold your observance? Is there a specific place that gives context to your story? Do you want to tell the story of a specific park, building, street, and/or neighborhood?

Find the best way to share your story with others

Take an assessment of the community you represent (family, community organization, institution, neighborhood, etc.). What would be the most meaningful way to express your story of inequality and resistance? Who is your intended audience? What message would you like to relay to those you are sharing with?

Determine when you want to tell your story

While the official week is scheduled Oct. 12th - 18th 2019, observances will be hosted throughout the entire year. The story you are telling will determine the most appropriate time for your observance. Select a time that is not only reflective of the ability to develop, but also timing that may be specific to your observance.

Share your observance with 400 Years community

After you have developed your observance, anchored it in a location, and set a date, join the 400 Years community online by sharing your observance with others at www.400yearsofinequality.org. Sharing your observance will invite the larger 400 Years community



We all have a story to tell. But where do you begin? “I am from” is an exercise to help ground yourself in your personal experiences. Either individually or in a group, take 10 minutes to sit with this prompt to develop a story of where you are from. When you are done, read aloud to one another and watch your stories come alive.

I am from...

Adapted by Levi Romero

Inspired by “Where I’m From” by George Ella Lyon

I am from _____ (an everyday item in your home)
from _____ and _____ (products or everyday items in your home)
I am from the _____ (description of your home)
_____ (a detail about your home — a smell, taste, or feel)
I am from the _____ (plant, flower, natural item)
The _____ (plant or tree near your home)
whose long gone limbs I remember as if they were my own.

I’m from _____ and _____ (a family tradition and family trait)
from _____ and _____ (family members)
I’m from _____ and _____ (family habits)
and from _____ (family habit)

I’m from _____ and _____ (things you were told as a child)
And _____ (a song or saying you learned as a child)
I’m from _____ (family tradition)
I’m from _____ (place of birth) and _____ (family ancestry, nationality or place)
_____ and _____ (family foods)
From _____ (a story about a family member)
_____ (detail about the story or person)
_____ (description of family mementos — under my bed, on the wall, in my heart)