

Handout: Introduction to the theme “We the People”

1. Making Observations: Nari Ward’s “We the People” Installation

Far Away: Look at the image of the artwork. What do you notice? What questions do you have?
Close Up: Look at the close-up images. What new observations and questions do you have?

2. Honor Through Art

Who might you honor in the artwork you create for the Tapestry of New York? Name at least three people or groups, from history or your own life, who have tried to make everyone feel like they belong:

Handout: The Preamble, Annotated

Preamble to the Constitution of the United States

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Break It Down for Accessibility

- Important vocabulary:
 - **Democracy**—A system of government where people have the power to make decisions, often through voting.
 - **Constitution**—A big set of rules that tells how our government is set up and what rights we have.
 - **Preamble**—The first part of the Constitution that says why it was written and what it is trying to accomplish.
- Teach it phrase by phrase using age-appropriate language.
 - "We the People" → "ALL of us together."
 - "More perfect Union" → "Making our country work better."
 - "Establish Justice" → "Making fair rules for everyone."
 - "Insure domestic Tranquility" → "Keeping peace at home."
 - "Provide for the common defence" → "Keeping us safe."
 - "Promote the general Welfare" → "Helping everyone have a good life."
 - "Secure the Blessings of Liberty" → "Protecting our freedom forever."