

Mentors, Teachers, and Beloved Community:

- [Finca Luna Buho](#)
 - All of the wonderful beings
- [Woven Roots](#)
 - Jen and Pete
- Jenny Solidago
- [Black and Wild LLC](#)
 - Raei
- [Rising Leaders Fellowship Program from Justice Outside](#)
 - The entire group that facilitated the program, and each of my cohort mates
 - [Dr. Darlene Hall](#) - Intersections Consulting
- [Transformations](#)
 - The entire team
- [SNUG](#) - Trinity Alliance of the Capital District Region
 - The Troy Team, The Albany Team, and Our participants
- [Jasmine Estrada](#)
- [Oliver Reitz](#) - Institute for Wild Med
- [Fig Lefevre](#) - Holyoke College
- [Mumbets Freedom Farm](#)
 - [Ashni](#)
- [DEI Outdoors](#) / [The Resonance Collective](#)
 - Rachel Hailey
- Every Resident that I worked with at Horizon House
- [Eforall Berkshire County](#)
 - Allison, Robin, Evan, and Ben
- [The Kindling Collective](#)
 - Hallie in particular

Thought Leaders:

- **Adrienne Maree Brown** — Emergent Strategy: “Listening as an act of love.”
- **Prentis Hemphill** — “Boundaries are the distance at which I can love you and me simultaneously.”
- **Indigenous Knowledge Systems** — Oral tradition as archive and resistance
- Deep Listening practice from **Pauline Oliveros** (sound as awareness)
- Listening as resistance and relationship in **Black, Indigenous, and diasporic oral tradition**
- **Tema Okun** – culture of urgency and how it impacts communication
- **Robin Wall Kimmerer** – Braiding Sweetgrass (relational knowledge, kinship with nonhuman beings)

- **Autumn Brown & adrienne maree brown** – on pattern literacy and systems within relationships
- **Ibram X. Kendi** – How to Be an Antiracist (explicit and structural racism)
- **Kimberle Crenshaw** - Intersectionality as a concept
- **bell hooks** - belonging
- **James Baldwin**: “Language creates reality, and reality shapes our lives.”
- **Kim TallBear** – Indigenous sovereignty & spirituality
- **Ijeoma Oluo** – Nuanced takes on cultural borrowing
- **K Cherokee** – Disabled Native critiques on commodification
- **Mia Mingus** – Power, body, access, and cultural accountability
- **Dr. K. Tsianina Lomawaima (Muscogee Nation)**: “Our cultures weren’t lost. They were stolen. And many are still being kept from us.”
- **Laverne Cox**: “When you’re marginalized, your culture often becomes your sanctuary. That sanctuary deserves protection, not consumption.”
- **Mia Mingus**: “Liberation is not a performance — it’s the quiet work of living in integrity.”
- **Mike Hoag** - Beauty In Abundance
- **No Name Reads** - Founded by the artist No Name
- **Qween Jean** - Black trans liberation
- **Miss Major** - Black trans liberation
- **Audre Lorde** - The Masters Tools
- **Assata Shakur** - Liberation
- **Black Panther Party**
- **Leah Pennimen** - Farming While Black and Black to Earth Wisdom