To submit, please go to: https://voices.vday.org/speak/ and Diaspora. We welcome all written forms of storytelling: poems, articles, essays, letters, artwork, or creative expressions that reflect the experiences, resilience, and complexity of Black women. We are particularly interested in works that have been silenced, suppressed, or censored. All submissions must be created by Black women: cis women, trans women, gender non-conforming women, and non-binary women. We have created several prompts to inspire and animate our submissions. You can explore the following themes:

- How do you imagine life-affirming futures? What will be our new possibilities?
- What is the role of art in challenging the effects of colonization towards the Black female body?
- How do you reclaim and celebrate the long legacy and tradition of poets participating and assembling in social causes?
- What is the role of art in raising awareness of social issues such as poverty, violence, and inequality?
- How do you redefine beauty, femininity, and power in your work?
- How do you reclaim and celebrate the long legacy and tradition of poets participating and assembling in social causes?

Voices is an art project for ALL women by Black women: we define and celebrate the artistic autonomy of both the process and project. If you love a Black woman, create more space for her to create. If there is a story she holds that needs to be heard, offer to write it, or transcribe it for her. We need everyone willing and able in this effort.

The most critical part of this Voices art piece will be the submissions. We welcome all forms of storytelling, including poems, articles, essays, letters, artwork, or creative expressions that reflect the experiences, resilience, and complexities of Black women. All submissions must be created by Black women: cis women, trans women, gender non-conforming women, and non-binary women. We have created several prompts to inspire and animate our submissions. You can explore the following themes:

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Voices is a poetic performance piece and artistic campaign. We need you! Your stories, your experiences, your dreams and aspirations are what will make this piece come to life. Please submit your work to https://voices.vday.org/speak/ or send it to voices@vday.org. We look forward to seeing your creativity and passion in action.

Meet the Team:

**Helen Pena** — Digital Strategist

Helen is a Black feminist storyteller and cultural organizer from Miami, FL. She uses photography, graphic design and zine-making to interrogate femininity and beauty within our culture. Her portraits and collages were recently featured in Magician, an exhibition on black portraiture and organizations to increase their social capital.

**Kayla Shelton** — Campaign Illustrator

Kayla Shelton is a political home for artists and organizations to increase their social capital. Brands she has steered digital campaigns, led public art interventions, facilitated and organized community building initiatives in South Los Angeles; designing for and organizations to increase their social capital. She has curated and produced several art shows, steered digital campaigns, led public art interventions, facilitated and organized community building initiatives in South Los Angeles.

**aja monet** — Artistic Creative Director

aja monet currently work in South Florida. She was recently featured in Magician, an exhibition on black portraiture. In 2018, she was nominated for a award for her work in public art interventions, led public art interventions, facilitated and organized community building initiatives in South Los Angeles.

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