November 23, 2020

Hi everyone! I'm Aslan @aslanpearl (she/her), a queer Afro-Indigenous member of the Klamath Tribes of Southern Oregon! I'm currently a junior in high school in Portland, OR with a passion for inclusive feminism, Black liberation, and Indigenous sovereignty!

Over the past 5 months, I've been in the streets protesting with my amazing @fridays4freedom friends, so you may know me from there as well.

😊

I've been invited to take over @fiveoaksmuseum's Instagram to share my experiences as a young, queer woman of color. I'll also be talking about why I don't celebrate Thanksgiving, and why I believe this decision is an act of political warfare.

Over the course of my insta takeover, we're going to decolonize our minds, learn about the TRUE history of Thanksgiving, and learn how to intentionally and respectfully celebrate and center Indigenous peoples. If this sounds like something you're interested in, make sure to stay updated with my posts and stories during this week!😊
November 24, 2020
Hey y'all! It’s Aslan @aslanpearl again! Today I wanted to share some photos from my work with @fridays4freedom, a collective of Black youth and our allies fighting for Black liberation.

As I mentioned in yesterday’s post, I’ve spent the past 5 months organizing, attending, and leading protests across Portland for the Black Lives Matter Movement. Along side the other amazing Youth Leaders at Fridays 4 Freedom, I’ve had the privilege of connecting with my Black community in ways I never had the opportunity to before.

I can confidently say that my time with Fridays 4 Freedom has changed my life for the better. This experience has enabled me to find my voice, as a Black person, as an Indigenous person, as a queer person, and as a woman. Connecting with so many amazing community activists has shown me that there is a place is this work for EVERYONE.👏 @m.martinezphoto and @andrewvle#blm #blacklivesmatter #indigenous #pdx #portland
Hi! It’s Aslan @aslanpearl again! Tonight, I’m providing y’all with an interactive activity to do before any meal!

We’re going to be making place mats! The significance of this is to be intentional about what your choosing to surround yourself with while you’re eating. This is SUPER important because it slows us to ground ourselves while recognizing the privilege of having access to food and water.

This activity is designed to be super versatile, so feel free to modify it in any way necessary.

Scroll through the slides for step-by-step instructions, and MAKE SURE TO TAG @fiveoaksmuseum if you recreate these place mats to be posted on their story!#landback #indigenous #blacklivesmatter

view video at link: https://www.instagram.com/p/CICNsOjBM1Y/
CHOOSE A FOUNDATION. THIS WILL BE WHAT YOU PLACE ALL OF YOUR ITEMS ON. IT CAN BE A PIECE OF CLOTH. A TOWEL. A BLANKET. OR ANYTHING YOU HAVE WITH/AROUND YOU!

GATHER ITEMS TO PLACE ON YOUR FOUNDATION. THIS CAN BE PLANTS, PHOTOS, ROCKS, OR STUFFED ANIMALS. ANYTHING YOU BELIEVE IS VALUABLE CAN BE PLACED ON YOUR FOUNDATION.

THE FINAL STEP IS TO ENSEMBLE ALL OF YOUR ITEMS ONTO YOUR FOUNDATION. AGAIN, THIS CAN BE ANYTHING YOU WANT! THE GOAL IS TO BE INTENTIONAL WITH WHAT YOU ARE CHOOSING.
November 26, 2020
Hi, it’s Aslan @aslanpearl again, here to talk more about the inspiration behind my work!

As a queer Afro-Indigenous 17-year-old, I’m still learning how to navigate my identities and the communities that come along with them.

When I think about the “work” that I do, I like to describe it as not only serving my community, but as an opportunity for self growth and reflection. Whether I’m leading protests, speaking on panels, or being in community with others, I’m constantly learning from my experiences.

My motivation and inspiration stems from my family, friends, ancestors, and ancestral land. The work that I’ve done (and will do in the future) is a product of my ancestor’s sacrifices. Being alive is a privilege I’ve learned to and will continue to recognize. Being grateful for all of the little things that contribute to my happiness, self-love, and communities keeps me going.

**enjoy the photos of me living my best life and loving the sh*t out of myself :) #blm #blacklivesmatter #indigenous**
When I entered high school, I was immediately exposed to the injustices within our education system. This prompted me to join every social justice related class and club within my school. I also joined a local non profit - @nextuporegon - where I began my civic education journey. To this day, I am still fighting for education equity with Portland Public Schools.

Over the past few years, I've had the privilege of learning, organizing, and protesting alongside some of Portland's most amazing community leaders. This has allowed me to grow in ways I never knew possible. As a result of the people I've met and the relationships I've formed, my life as an activist is overflowing with support and community. And that's a feeling I wouldn't trade for anything.

@m.martinezphoto#blm #blacklivesmatter #pdx #portland
November 28, 2020
Self Growth and Self Love

Hi y'all! It's Aslan @aslanpearl again for the last time this week. I wanted to finish off my Instagram takeover with a little video talking about my journey as a queer Afro-Indigenous womxn!

I apologize for the lack of captions on this video, but to summarize, I'm talking a little bit about my time with @fridays4freedom along with how my community has impacted my identities.

Thank you all so so so much for following along these past few days, and make sure to follow me @aslanpearl to stay updated with my journey. Much love, Aslan.

view video at link: https://www.instagram.com/p/CIKCMooBYuP/