**Get Free: A Summer Project For Queer and Trans\* Youth of Color**

**Project Description**

This summer in Oakland, CA, (July 9th to 15th, 2014) Black Girl Dangerous presents a week-long artistic, intellectual, emotional and practical project for queer and trans\* youth of color that focuses on the inner work it takes to ***Get Free*** in a world where, for us—people who experience oppression based on race *and* queerness or trans\*ness—just surviving is a feat. Through writing, dreaming, screaming, owning up, and facing who we are, who we have been, and who we might become, we aim to start an emotional r/evolution that will reverberate throughout our lives and our communities.

This FREE, week-long program will include daily workshops, creative projects, discussions, confessions and solutions re:

* taking steps toward healing our own individual trauma so that we can come together in healthier ways
* treating each other better, causing less harm, and being accountable to each other for the harm we do cause
* speaking truth about, and pushing back against, racism, misogyny, ableism, and various other forms of oppression *within* QTPOC communities
* and more.

Black Girl Dangerous is committed to amplifying the voices of queer and trans\* people of color and that includes doing everything we can to help our people find their voices. We believe that finding your voice requires looking inward with courage, clarity and compassion. We believe that looking inward is the first step towards getting FREE.

JOIN US.

BGD will select 10 to 12 queer and trans\* youth of color to participate in the program this summer.

To participate in this project, you must be ALL of the following:

* between the ages of 16 and 21 (on July 9, 2014)
* *and* a person of color who experiences oppression based on race
* *and* someone who identifies as queer and/or trans\* (even if you use other words for it)

The program is FREE. Workshops, lodging and food will be covered by Black Girl Dangerous (in collaboration with our community and with the support of our donors). BGD will also provide scholarships to help with travel costs to Oakland for participants who need it.

**Application**

This form is the first stage of the application. In the second stage, 20 applicants will be selected for interviews (via phone or video chat). From those 20 interviews, 10 to 12 applicants will be selected to participate in the summer project.

Please do not include recommendations from parents/teachers/anyone with this form. Youth who are selected for interviews will be asked for recs/refs at that time.

To apply, you must be ALL of the following:

* between the ages of 16 and 21 (on July 9, 2014)
* a person of color who experiences oppression based on race
* queer or trans\* (even if you use other words for it)

Submit this completed form to youthprogram.bgd@gmail.com **no later than March 31, 2014**. If you don’t have access to the internet, you can mail this form to: Black Girl Dangerous Press, P.O. Box 27170, Oakland, CA 94602. Mailed applications must be **postmarked no later than March 31, 2014**. Late applications will not be considered. Applicants selected for interviews will be notified by April 15th. All applicants will be notified of their status by May 1, 2014.

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| --- | --- |
| Full Name: |  |
| Date of birth: |  |
| Race and/or ethnicity: |  |
| Gender and preferred gender pronoun: |  |
| Circle any/all that apply: | queer    trans\*    lesbian    gay    bi    questioning    intersex |
| Other identities that are important to who you are: |  |
| City/town where you live: |  |
| Phone number: |  |
| Email address: |  |
| Have you ever been/are you currently in therapy? If so, for how long and what kind? (talk therapy, group therapy, etc.) |  |
| How comfortable are you with confrontation? (circle one) |          bring it           somewhat           I’m scared |
| Are you a student? If so, where? If you are in college, what’s your major? |  |
| Do you work? If yes, what do you do? |  |
| What are your hobbies/interests? |  |

Please answer each of the following questions as completely and concisely as possible. You must answer all questions to be considered for participation. **Each answer should be no less than 100 and no more than 250 words**. You may attach a separate page for your answers.

We don’t care how many big words you know, so avoid those. What matters is clarity and connection. We are also not interested in you “selling yourself” to us. We want to know about your ability to be authentic and accountable.

1. Why do want to participate in this project?

2. Describe the ways in which *you* have privilege/power.

3. "Creating an upset" refers to a situation wherein a person is legitimately confronted with some mistake or wrongdoing and rather than own up or be accountable for it, they deflect responsibility by getting really upset about something else--something unrelated that the other person did, the way the person confronted them, some other sudden concern--in order to direct attention away from their mistake or wrongdoing. Describe a situation where you were guilty of "creating an upset".

4. Describe a time when you handled conflict with a friend, family member or community member in an effective way that did not produce more harm.

5. Please describe your ability and/or desire to work in groups.

6. Participants outside Oakland may be required to cover some or all of their travel costs. What is the most that you (with the help of any family, friends and community, where applicable) could contribute to your travel costs to get to Oakland? (check one)

☐ I could cover all of my travel costs

☐ I could cover at least half

☐ I would not be able to cover any of my travel costs

☐ I live in Oakland