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Mid-Pacific Institute, Honolulu HI
A Night To Remember project sheet

Instructor: Heather Calabro
WWII unit

The Essential Question:

How does the social injustice of the past impact my present?

Overview:

In order to understand where we are going, we need to know where we have been. Many adults and students in our community are unaware of the internment of people of Japanese-American ancestry here on Hawaiian soil. It is time to educate our community about the social injustice of the past and apply the lessons learned to our future.

Skills:

Comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and integrate primary and secondary source material critically as historical evidence, and to perspective, bias, etc. Explain different approaches to, and interpretations of, historical events and topics. Agility and adaptability. Effective and high quality oral and written communication. Accessing and analyzing information.

Parts and Timeline:

1. Complete the research worksheet on internment. (Week 1)
2. Read and take notes on the attorney's case file regarding the injustice of internment (Week 2)
3. Absorb guest speaker (attorney) visit regarding the injustice of internment. (Week 2)
4. Absorb guest speaker (former detainee) visit regarding life inside internment camp. (Week 3)
5. Take a field trip to Honouliuli internment camp archaeological site. (Week 3)
6. Obtain a poem written by an internee, or write a poem using poetic devices and rules. (Week 3)
7. Learn about performance poetry from guest speaker (theater teacher and poetry slam students). (Week 3)
8. Advertise the poetry slam event and fundraiser. (Week 3)
9. Practice delivery for the poetry slam event. Peer feedback. Teacher critique. Further practice. (Week 4)
10. Put on poetry slam event/fundraiser. Gift field trip to Honouliuli site to another school. (Week 5)

Final Product

Students fulfill poetry core concept skills and speech skills through preparation and execution of a poetry slam event. Students will get on stage in front of a crowd of peers, teachers, administrators, family members, and community members, to recite a poem from memory with emotion and confidence. Students learn real-life marketing and public relations skills through advertising a poetry slam event and fundraising. Students perpetuate the learning of our community's social injustice past through gifting a field trip to another school.