

# Toolkit for Our Collective Resistance



Collective  
Resistance!

Born in The Bronx

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## A little about us:



Collective Resistance is an event based community ran by Black Womxn & Femmes from The Bronx. Through curated events, artistic projects, and the occasional blog post, we are working towards creating a fierce community that radicalizes what it means to belong in spaces that silence us and deem us invisible. We are here because we believe that through collective resistance & community work we can create shifts that centralize our voices and our experiences.



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## Pouring Love into our Community: Why we created this toolkit.



The Bronx is our home. It is the place where we first learned how love, community and magic can come together to resist racism, gentrification, anti-blackness, dishonest politics and the politicians that come with them. As we continue to lay roots in our beloved borough we realized that it was time to provide more resources, and spaces, for our people to rise up in power. This is how we dreamt up our first ever toolkit. As a collective, we believe its important to have accessible resources. This toolkit provides literature and art that centers Black womxn and femmes' lived experiences and helps us navigate different topics that are core to Black womxn and femmes' identities.



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## The Guide



Black Feminist & Womanist Reads! Pages, 5. This section will outline a powerful list of books by Black Womxn that will spark self love, magic, and give you the space to give words to experiences that can be difficult to name.



Writing for Our Revolution! Pages, 6-8. We've created small prompts that will allow you to dive deeper into the reading and work of Black Womxn. For this section make sure to take out your fav notebook/pen and get ready to do some powerful reflection.



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## The Guide



Community Building Through Film & Food! Page, 9. We have outlined 4 films you can screen with your powerful community. This makes for a simple yet meaningful event because all films highlight how Black Folk have pushed the boundaries of what it means to belong in society.



Soundtrack for Our Resistance! Page, 10. Nothing speaks resistance like some music and love. We've outlined some our favorite songs that can spark joy at any party or intimate gathering.



# Black Feminist & Womanist Reads!

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1. Electric Arches

By Eve Ewing.

2. Citizen: An American Lyric

By: Claudia Rankine

3. The Body is Not an Apology:  
The Power of Radical Self- Love

By: Sonya Renee Taylor

4. Home Girls:  
A Black Feminist Anthology

By: Barbara Smith

5. Spill: Scenes of Black  
Feminist Fugitivity

By: Alexis Pauline Gumbs

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# Writing for Our Revolution!

1. In *Electric Arches*, Eve Ewing discusses the idea of a "re-telling". Re-telling is the act of re-writing and re-imagining encounters with racism and other forms of violence. In the re-telling of these events, Ewing transforms the moments where Black folks end up with more magic and power than any person or violence encountered at that moment. We believe that re-tellings are powerful ways to reclaim power. What would a retelling look like for you? Take some time to write down some of your retellings and share them with your community! This is art in practice!

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# Writing for Our Revolution!

2. In *The Body is Not an Apology*, Sonia Renee Taylor guides us through the ways that radical resistance is directly connected to radical self love and acceptance. At Collective Resistance we love visual art and use it as a tool to map out the magic we see in our bodies everyday! We encourage you to get together with some of your homegirls and create your own collages of self love and magic!





# Writing for Our Revolution!

3. For many of us here at Collective Resistance Black Feminism saved us, sisterhood and siblinghood saved us. Even more, writing continues to save us. In this final prompt we encourage you to do some life mapping. As an activity created to outline difficult experiences, breakthroughs and moments of power, life mapping allows you get creative and jot down all the moments you want to return to on difficult days. On the next page we outline some brief instructions for this exercise:



# Writing for Our Revolution!

- Grab some paper, markers & any other creative tool.
- On your paper or notebook create a nonlinear shape. Non-linear shapes are important because our lived experiences are not stuck into specific moments or time frames.
- After drawing your shape choose any starting point on the shape. Start to jot down your moments and experiences of power and map them out. You can be as specific as you want to be. This is about you and your ability to remember your magic!

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# Community Building Through Food & Film

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- The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1974

Free Angela Davis and All Political Prisoners

Chilsom '71 Unbought and Unbossed

Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart

Gather your homies and have a powerful movie night with these films!

Note: Films can be rented on Youtube & Google Play or seen on PBS.



# Soundtrack for Our Revolution

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- Bickenhead - Cardi B
- She Bad - Cardi B
- Bubbles - Jamila Woods
  - BLK Girl Soldier - Jamila Woods
  - GIOVANNI - Jamila Woods
- Colors - St. Beauty
- Self - Noname

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We Hope You Enjoyed Our Toolkit!

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