

## ***We Too Sing America:***

### **Capturing Immigration Stories Through Digital Story-Telling**

**Essential Questions:** Who are imagined to be immigrants, and who are not? For those of us who are seen as immigrants, how long are we immigrants -- for how many generations? Do Black people get to be immigrants? Where are indigenous people in this narrative? How can different communities collectively resist or subvert dehumanizing stories? What kinds of stories continually need to be told or perhaps re-imagined? What new narratives have yet to be nurtured?

#### **Objectives: Students will**

1. Read literature that exemplifies immigration stories and the cultural collusions that often happen amongst generations (ex. Excerpts from *The Kite Runner*, *Woman Warrior*, *Perfume Dreams*, *Drown*, etc.)
2. Interview a family member or community member and document their journey.
3. Present their work to the community
4. Write a reflection answering an essential question and connecting it to what they learned from their subject's story and the literature read in class.

#### **1. Materials needed**

- Novel or excerpts from different novels that exemplify different immigration stories
- Computers/internet to access online digital story-telling site

#### **2. Unit Outline**

- **BRAINSTORM:** Students will begin by brainstorming all the words, images, people that come to mind when seeing the word "American." After sharing, students will do the same for "Immigrant." What similarities and differences do they see?
- **READ:** Students will read a variety of texts from authors who have immigrated and constantly return to the essential questions. Students will also study migration patterns and immigration trends throughout history.
- **RESEARCH:** Students will then identify a family or community member whose immigration story they wish to tell.
- **CAPTURE:** Students will create a 3-5 minute video, using photos, text, and audio gathered from their interviews. Students will use the following online platform: <https://immigrantstories.umn.edu/> to create and publish their videos.
- **PRESENT:** Students will host a community Film Festival and showcase their work.

#### **4. Online Sources**

<https://www.kcet.org/shows/artbound/demographics-of-los-angeles-immigration>

<http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/what-is-it-like-to-be-an-immigrant-in-la-in-the-trump-era/>

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/06/20/opinions/where-are-you-really-from-vega-opinion/index.html>

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