

It Happened When...

The episode used a play that was written about a difficult event to help listeners understand what occurred and what the event revealed about the world in which it took place. This activity asks participants to learn about a historical event and present the facts surrounding it in a creative way.

- 1.) Ask the participants to choose an event from the last 100 years that they find fascinating or that they consider significant in terms of its relationship to the society in which we live. This could include events such as a presidential election, an important speech, a meaningful protest, or another local or global event of their choosing.
- 2.) Give participants a week to research this event and bring in information about it. This could include transcripts from the event itself, articles about what occurred that might have influenced the event, details about what took place after, photos, etc.
- 3.) Now, invite the participants to share with each other what they discovered. They can talk about what excited them, what confused them, and what surprised them.
- 4.) Next, offer the participants three options for what they wish to create:
 - a.) A visual art collage, which includes text, photos, etc.
 - b.) An essay or piece of narrative writing that tells the story of the event, incorporating elements of what they found
 - c.) A poem that captures the spirit of the event and incorporates elements of their research
- 5.) Before they begin, encourage the participants to write down a question they have about the event. Then, ask them to write down what they think is most important to communicate about what occurred. Lastly, invite them to write down a hope they have for the future, in connection, either directly or thematically, with the event they are exploring.
- 6.) The participants can create their pieces, using what they just wrote down (the question, the important piece of communication, and the hope they have) to guide what they make.
- 7.) Once the pieces are complete, the participants can present the work to the group. Invite the group to ask each presenter questions about what they made in order to learn more.