**ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE**

**Goal(s):**
- To explore political songs that inspire social change.
- To learn about political poetry.
- To read Audre Lorde’s poem *Poetry Is Not a Luxury.*
- To become familiar with local spoken word artists and their contribution to our community in New York.
- To learn personal ways to write lyrics.

**Materials / Resources:**
- A notebook
- A pen or pencil
- Your laptop or android phone.
- Internet access to watch the videos online.

**New Word(s) / Terms**
1. Political poetry
2. Social change

**NYS Arts Learning Standards (select no more than 2 - student audiences only)**

Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work. (MU:Pr4.2.HS)
Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and musical works. (MU:Cr1.1.HS)
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| Step #1 | ● The students will play a video for the class:  
*Writing Your Own Songs: Session 2*
(Note: This video contains all the materials, music, and questions listed below).
● The students will prepare their materials and get ready to listen to a poem by Audre Lorde. (3min) |
| Step #2 | ● The participants will be approached with a prompt:
Are you interested in writing a song about politics?
The poem can be transformed later into song, if you wish.
● The students will learn about political poetry.
● Then the participants will listen to spoken word artist Betina Gold.  
*Poet Gold Performance* |
| Step #3  
Activity | ● Students will write a song or a poem. |

**Activity Modifications (as needed):**