

# Land Acknowledgment

*Draw your awareness to your physical relationship to earth, if possible, making direct contact. We open with the acknowledgement that the land on which each of us is currently located is occupied territory. It is the traditional land and ancestral home to Native American, Indigenous, and First Nations peoples. We acknowledge that the United States was established on a foundation of theft, genocide, and enslavement, and remains rooted in Anti-Indigenous policies and systems. We understand that the resources that allows us to join together today is not available to many Indigenous communities and communities of color, and this question of access contributes to changing climates that disproportionately impacts these same populations. And we take a moment to recognize and honor the local indigenous population, knowing that this is our present as much as it is our past.*

*As we read the groups from Yale, please add to the chat the tribal groups of your location, as an opening for us to move beyond words into actions that fully embody a commitment to indigenous rights.*

# Land Acknowledgment

*At Yale, we acknowledge that indigenous peoples and nations, including Mohegan, Mashantucket Pequot, Eastern Pequot, Schaghticoke, Golden Hill Paugussett, Niantic, and the Quinnipiac and other Algonquian speaking peoples, have stewarded through generations the lands and waterways of what is now the state of Connecticut. We honor and respect the enduring relationship that exists between these peoples and nations and this land.*

*While this land acknowledgement is not enough, it is an important social justice and decolonizing practice that helps us see ourselves as settlers on indigenous land.*



# Labor Acknowledgment

*We acknowledge that this country would not exist if it were not for the free, enslaved labor of Black people. We honor the legacy of the African diaspora and Black life, knowledge, and skills stolen due to violence and white supremacy.*

*In particular, we acknowledge Yale University's complicity in slavery, the slave trade, and violence against Black people throughout its history in these specific acts called out by the 2021 Yale & Slavery in Historical Perspective conference: in the naming and prominence of Southern slaveholders on campus; in the violence committed in medical and scientific work during the eugenics movement; and that the labor of enslaved Africans was exploited in the construction of Old Campus's Connecticut Hall in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.*

*While we strive to build a just and anti-racist community at Yale and DGSD, we also acknowledge that the Black body is still being continually met with violence across America, as well as here in the New Haven community. We acknowledge the call to end a culture of Black death and inferiority, and to affirm that Black joy, Black stories, and Black Lives Matter.*