

Kalyah Sturges
Journal #4
Capstone

I keep trying to contact my mentor and there's no response. At this point I feel like I'm talking to a brick wall, I'm asking myself "am I wasting my time, why doesn't Ms. Kelly want to work with me, she's busy and she'll get back to me soon". I didn't want to come to the conclusion that I can't give back to a place where it helped me so much. I had so many good memories at this place that I once called my second home, so the feeling that I might not be able to give back to my community that formed me really hurt. I began to talk to my mom and aunt discussing if I should keep trying to reach out. My aunt always told me "it's not genuine if it has to be forced". In the month of December I struggled with my capstone project because I was thinking about the difficult decision to not work with Ebony Horsewomen which happened because there was miscommunication between us and since senior year is winding down with still no hours. I came into contact with a family member that also knows people who own a ranch that I can work with now just waiting for a response when I'm able to visit. Even though I didn't want to at first it showed me that during an important time like this, there's no time to wait especially when you've waited four months and still no response so I have to move forward if I like it or not. Capstone is helping me grow as a person because it shows me life keeps going no matter what, so I have to keep up with it. I also came to the conclusion that I tried to force a relationship that wasn't there anymore and I didn't want to tell myself it wasn't there so I just kept going at it, which led to myself wasting time also feeling abandonment. I can relate to this feeling because when my father and grandmother passed away, I was in a stage of resentment. It led me to being angry and anything and everything, and I used their passing as an excuse to be miserable, now looking back I wasted a lot of time being mad at the world instead of trying to find inner peace within. I decided I needed to clear my mind, and come back to my project with a brand new mindset, so my aunt and I took a trip to Barbados. My aunt is into Spiritualism and she helps me connect to my better self, so throughout the trip we meditated and made sure we had a new perspective on how we want to live our lives. She explained that it's okay to be upset, but let that control who you're trying to achieve to be. I always reminded myself that if I was upset, I wouldn't stay upset for too long because my dad and grandmother get upset when I'm upset, and I don't want that happening. From what I heard from prior seniors that did Capstone, they rushed and forced their project just so they can say "got my hours and I passed". I forced my project, and I lost 4 valuable months that I would love to get back but I can't. Most people will rush their project even more because of losing that much time, but I'm not going to do that. Instead I will follow my aunt's "3 strikes your out" tactics which is I will contact you 3 times, no response, onto the next one. I will let the project flow and take my time on things from now on. With the amazing teacher that I have, which is Ms. Boutilier, everything will fall right into place.