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VAPA News

Visual and Performing Arts News of Madera Unified

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Why We Celebrate Black History Month Is Why Black Lives Matter Year Round!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/16-4/17 Motherload Festival
- Spring 21 MSHS-MSTC's Presents:
The Little Mermaid
- 5/31 Memorial Day
- 6/11 Last Day of School

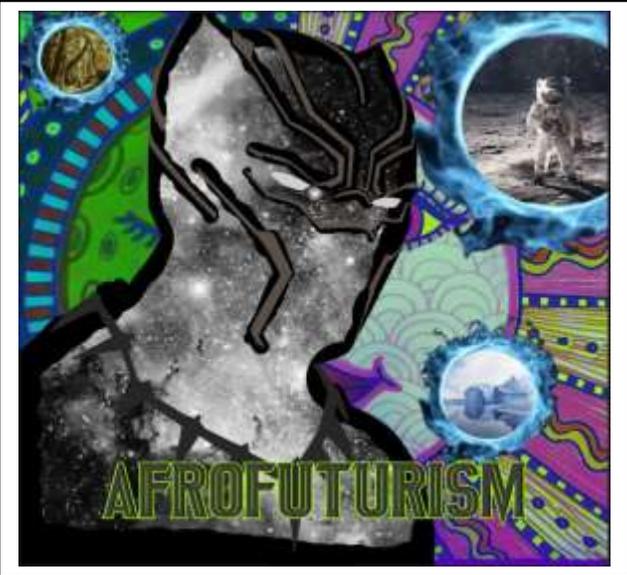
At its face, "All Lives Matter" sounds like a we're-all-in-this-together statement. Some may be using the phrase to suggest that all races should join hands and stand together against racism, which is a sentiment that comes from a good place. But the problem is, the phrase actually takes the focus away from those who need it. Saying "All Lives Matter" redirects the attention from Black lives, who are the ones in peril.

Black Lives Matter is an anthem, a slogan, a hashtag, and a straightforward statement of fact. While it is not a new movement, the message is central to the nationwide protests happening right now. BLM speaks out against the police brutality and systemic racism that caused the recent deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and Breonna Taylor, as well as the thousands of violent incidents that happen to Black people that aren't recorded, aren't reported or aren't afforded the outrage they deserve.

For those of us who are invested in working toward equality for all people, it's important not to only *see* color, but to work on leveling the playing field. One of the goals of the Black Lives Matter movement is to raise awareness that we, as a nation, need to reconsider our priorities.



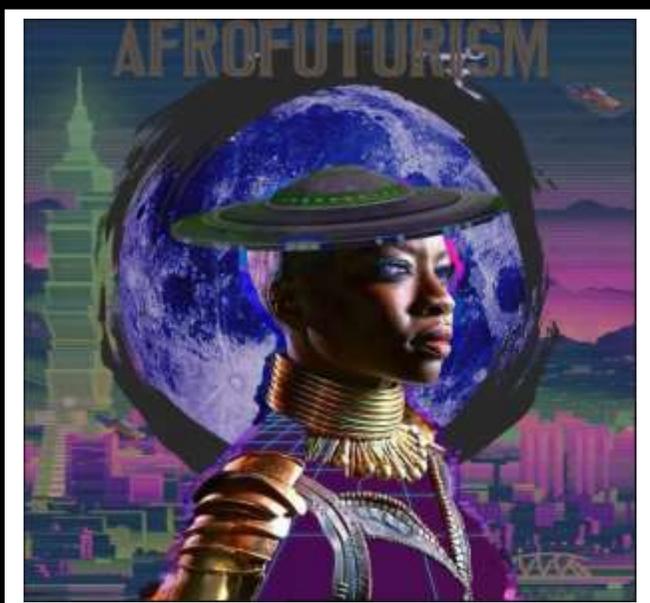
Illustrated by Aimee Orozco
MadTEC Student



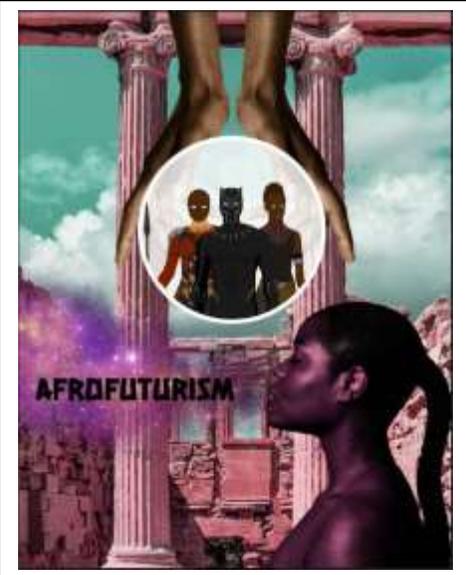
Illustrated by Mike Ramirez
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Special Thank You to
Steven Chin
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Madera Technical Exploration Center

