

ACTIVITY 5:

What time is it on the clock of the world?

Where are we at this moment in history, and how does that orient our change strategies? To provoke activists into awareness, Grace Lee Boggs, a prominent US civil rights activist, would ask: "What time is it on the clock of the world?"

Materials:

[*Message from the Future II: Years of Repair*](#)

[*Janelle Monáe - Turntables*](#)

Laptops, tablets, cameras, and other digital devices (if you have good wifi)

Notes or cards of different colours and markers for each participant

Letter-size paper of different colours, and coloured pencils, crayons or markers, tape

Step 1: What gives you hope and energy in difficult times?

At least a day before this session, ask each person to bring a song, music video, poem, or image that makes them feel hopeful. Alternatively, give the group 10 minutes to search online to find a favourite song, poem, or image. Another option is to invite people to create their own expressions of hope and inspiration, with a partner or a small group, or individually. They could make (for example) a short video, music video, collage, drawing, song, poem, dance, photograph, theatre piece, or mask.

Plenary: If possible, move to a different space or rearrange the room to shift the energy. Ask: What gives you hope about the future? It could be an idea, an image, a symbol, a song, a vision of how the world could be, or a feeling of what it means to be liberated, empowered, or free from fear and violence.

People create, find, or show their own source of hope. After each person shares their inspiration, ask everyone else in the group to say one word or a short phrase to express how this makes them feel.