

## Invitation to Participate in [Building Bridges Word by Word](#)

Concerned about the deep divides in our country, the [Building Bridges Word by Word](#) project created a safe space where we can step back from these rifts, read each other's stories and discover that while we may be different, we have many of the same fears, hopes and dreams. With that knowledge, we can begin to build bridges across our divides.

We invite you to be a part of this important bridge building effort by writing a short reflection (250 words or less) on a favorite saying, quote, song, or poem that is meaningful to you. By posting these [stories](#) side by side, Building Bridges Word by Word reflects the rich diversity of our country and our common humanity. For more about the project, please see the [Building Bridges Word by Word website](#).

We hope you will consider participating in this effort. Here are four ways to do so.

1. **Read the [stories](#) posted on the Building Bridges Word by Word website** and meet the interesting people behind them. Their reflection may remind you of something that happened to you or something that's been on your mind. Perhaps their song, the one they wrote about, is also *your* song. That's okay. It can be enlightening to hear another person's perspective on the same words.
2. **Write a [short reflection](#)** about a saying, quote, song, or poem that has meaning in your life. Think about a line or two that speaks to who you are and what you believe. For instance, it could be a popular saying that seems particularly relevant these days or something you heard your mother repeat throughout your life. It might be a favorite quote that you've taped to your refrigerator or tacked on to your emails because it captures how you feel about the world. Or perhaps it's a song that helps you get through tough times or a poem that challenges you to think or act differently.

As you consider what you want to write, please review the [guidelines](#) and the prompts, which may be helpful. Take your time: this project is ongoing so there are no deadlines. To ensure that this is a safe space, please focus your reflection on a text that is meaningful to you and refrain from commentaries on other people. We will not accept malicious content, hostile language, or anonymous reflections. Here is the [link](#) to the submission form.

3. **Share this invitation with others.** The success of this effort depends on engaging people from a wide range of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, including gender identity, age, race, and ethnicity, as well as geographic, political, religious, cultural, and social backgrounds. Please help us broaden our outreach by sharing this invitation with your family, friends, colleagues, and networks.
4. **Help us get out the word** by following the Building Bridges Word by Word's [Facebook page](#) and by liking and sharing posts. The more interactions among site visitors, the more visibility we'll get from Facebook's algorithm.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [buildingbridgeswbw@gmail.com](mailto:buildingbridgeswbw@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you.