**Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**National Portrait Gallery**

Inaugural **"Our Struggle for Justice: A Day of Action"** event

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By Reginald Williams

**Special to the AFRO**

A cadre of social justice organizations recently joined forces to present the inaugural "Our Struggle for Justice: A Day of Action" event at the National Portrait Gallery. According to the National Portrait Gallery, "Our Struggle for Justice" is an ongoing initiative to remember and honor leaders of the civil rights movement.

The daylong event included "A Day of Action," a community art exhibit called The Struggle for Justice, and a digital storytelling initiative called Our Struggle for Justice. Speakers, educators, activists, and organizers presented workshops and discussions for middle and high school groups, bringing educators from D.C., Virginia, and Maryland together to connect on curriculum.

"We need people to support educators who won't back down to outright challenges," explained NaKeesha Ceran, associate director for Teaching for Change. "We need people who will demand a curriculum that will demand they understand that we are fighting for justice among young people, but mostly are about young people.""}

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**Our Struggle for Justice: A Day of Action** event began as a social media campaign initiative in February 2021, as part of the national observance of Black History Month. The event is meant to encourage youth activism.

Our Struggle for Justice: A Day of Action at the National Portrait Gallery.

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"Our Struggle for Justice" is a digital storytelling initiative that began on February 1, 2021, as part of the national observance of Black History Month. The initiative is led by a collective of social justice organizations, including Teaching for Change, a pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade educational organization.

The initiative uses Instagram and Twitter to encourage activism. Members of the collective used these social media platforms to amplify their voices by telling their stories.

"We wanted to encourage activism and tell the story of activism through portraiture," explained Irina Rubenstein, education specialist at the Portrait Gallery. "We have an exhibition called The Struggle for Justice, and it features leaders of the civil rights movement.""}

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