ACTIVITIES

Gather your own family, friends, or colleagues and conduct your own Q&A session, based on a commonality. Develop your questions as a group and upload the final interviews to YouTube.

As part of the exhibition, there is an iPad kiosk where you can interact with the Question Bridge app. Use the kiosk and explore!

Question Bridge: Black Males was created by Chris Johnson, Hank Willis Thomas, Bayeté Ross Smith and Kamal Sinclair. The Executive Producers are Delroy Lindo, Deborah Willis and Jesse Williams. The Post-Production Producer is Will Sylvester and the Supervising Story Producer is Rosa White.

Question Bridge: Black Males is a fiscally sponsored project of the Bay Area Video Coalition (a 501c3 not-for-profit organization) and supported in part by a grant from the Open Society Institute: Campaign for Black Male Achievement, The California Endowment, The Ford Foundation, The Tribeca Film Institute, the LEF Foundation, The Center for Cultural Innovation, Nathan Cummings Foundation and the California College of the Arts. The project was supported by the Sundance Institute’s New Frontier Story Lab.

Question Bridge: Black Males and related programs have been generously supported by the President’s Equity Council and the Office of Instruction and Institutional Effectiveness.
QUESTIONS FOR VIEWING

Question Bridge quotes both W.E.B. Du Bois and Carl Hancock-Rux. Why do you think the artists who developed Question Bridge chose the authors they did? Why do you think they choose the quotes they presented?

In Question Bridge, the questions that are being asked of black men come directly from the African American male community. What is the value of the framing of this project from within the African American community, vs. a project that’s been developed from the outside?

Why might it be important to hear questions and answers from one demographic group in the US? What is the value of hearing one perspective and what might some of the drawbacks be?

Do you think this project is relevant to those who don’t identify as a black male? Why or why not?

In the artists statement that artists Chris Johnson, Hank Willis Thomas, Bayaté Ross Smith, and Kamal Sinclair present, they speak about the overrepresentation of black men in prisons. Why is that relevant to consider?

Do you think Question Bridge presents a picture of black males that is in line with, or contrary to the media’s depiction of black men? Why or why not?

After viewing Question Bridge for a few minutes, do you note any questions or answers that challenge your own ideas about black male identity? If yes, what are they?

Consider your own cultural identity. Where does your identity come from?

Question Bridge allows us the opportunity to witness conversations we may or may not have access to in our own day to day life. Do you feel like you’re hearing a conversation that is new to you, or does it feel familiar to you? Why or why not?

What questions would you like to see asked and answered as part of Question Bridge?

ESSAY PROMPTS

Research W.E.B. Du Bois and present a well-researched paper on the life and career of the sociologist and author.

Research one of the artists who developed Question Bridge – Bayaté Ross Smith, Chris Johnson, Hank Willis Thomas, and Kamal Sinclair. Write a paper about the work and career of one of these artists.

Investigate the concept of race. There is much written about the myth of race, yet the concept of race is still prevalent. Research the biology and concept of race and present your findings in an essay.