

# I COME FROM I STAND FOR I THRIVE WHEN

SUMMIT SESSION FACILITATED BY **CENTER FOR WHOLE COMMUNITIES**

I come from a rich land with poor people, a mineral colony.  
I stand for every person being free to be. You do you, I'll do me.  
Art is about we not only me.  
I thrive when others in my community, and others around them, thrive.  
I come from... I stand for... I thrive when... love is in the room.  
I thrive when we collectively celebrate our common humanity and our creativity.  
I come from love and trauma and strength and weak.  
I come from a sea of white supremacy that has forced me to develop gills to derive the oxygen I need to breathe.  
I come from itinerant creatures and depression era dust bowl farmers.  
I thrive when I am preaching to hungry ears and growing something out of unforgiving dirt.  
I stand for affliction transformed into something round, savory and nourishing.  
I come from the afterbirth of a still-born revolution.  
I thrive when I am fearless.  
I stand for justice that is greater than just us.  
I stand for an acceptance of a shared humanity, triumphs and failures.  
I stand for love.  
I stand for the future, change, kindness, generosity, fucking things up, creating home with whoever I can, wherever I can.

A COLLABORATION OF

2017 ARTISTS THRIVE  
SUMMIT ATTENDEES

**ARTISTS  
THRIVE**

**POEMS  
FROM THE INNAGURAL  
ARTISTS THRIVE SUMMIT**

SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2017  
BEREA, KENTUCKY