Podcast Project

In "The Idea of America," the opening essay of *The 1619 Project*, Nikole Hannah-Jones argues that Black Americans "**have been the perfecters of this democracy."**

In fact, NHJ supposes that "without the idealistic, strenuous and patriotic efforts of black Americans, our democracy today would most likely look very different — it might not be a democracy at all."

The Prompt / Focus Question: How have the contributions of black Americans helped create and perfect American democracy?

The Task: Work in groups (no more than four to a group) to create a podcast episode that highlights Black Americans **idealistic, patriotic efforts and contributions** to American democracy.

Choose from the following topics that NHJ mentioned in the essay:

- ➔ The Equal Rights League
- ➔ Hiram Revels and the Black men who served in Congress
- ➔ The establishment of public education
- ➔ Human & Civil Rights expansion
- ➔ Black Resistance & *The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965*.

Podcast requirements

- ➔ Must be 7 to 10 minutes long
- ➔ Must include an introduction, at least two people speaking, some background music, and a conclusion
- ➔ Must have a transcript.
- ➔ Must have five to seven guided questions for listeners.
- ➔ Must highlight an individual's specific contributions.
- ➔ Typically, podcasts include interviews. If your group decides to not interview someone (a history teacher, an older relative, a peer, etc.), please find sound bites from interviews or videos relating to your topic. Be sure to give credit.