Jalent imventoeu

Everybody has talent. That's just a fact.

One of the keys to being a strong leader and activist is recognizing your talent, then leveraging it.

You can probably come up with a few things you're good at. If you need help figuring some out, here are three cool ideas:

- 1. Think about the things you can do that make others say "I wish I could do that" or "I wish I were as good as you at that." To get used to identifying those as talents, stand in front of a mirror and say it out loud. For example: "Hi, my name is ______, and I can speak two languages!" Notice how good that feels. Say it again and again.
- 2. Think about something people have repeatedly told you that you would be good at, like "You would make a great teacher" or "You should have your own talk show." Consider what assets they must recognize in you to make them say that. Write those down.
- **3. Think about what's easy for you.** Most of us believe the things we're good at are easy, so we tend to discount their value.

And we often value things we find difficult — which others might find easy. If something comes easily to you, chances are you're good at it, too. That's a talent.

WHAT DO THE THINGS YOU'RE GOOD AT SAY ABOUT YOUR SKILLS? MAKE A LIST LIKE THIS ABOUT YOURSELF:

I like presenting in class = Confidence!
My drawings are pretty great = Artistry!
I get A's on my essays = Eloquence!
I'm a social media expert = Friendliness!
I understand code = Tech savvy!

NOW, IMAGINE HOW THOSE SKILLS COULD BE PUT TO EFFECTIVE USE AS A LEADER OR IN AN ACTIVIST INITIATIVE:
Confidence — presenter, speaker
Public speaking
Addressing city council
Talking to random people on the street
Artistry — designer, marketer
Designing logos
Creating posters
Producing signage
Eloquence — communicator, persuader
Crafting slogans and taglines
Wording petition statements
Drafting letters to the editor
Friendliness — networker, recruiter
Engaging supporters
Getting the word out
Fundraising
Tech savvy — developer, programmer
Creating a website
Developing an interactive web campaign
Organizing/running equipment at events