EXPLORE BUSINESS:

Race and the Entrepreneur

Student Activity Choices

Slide Presentation

Choose a person highlighted in the "Race and the Entrepreneur" discussion and create a PowerPoint presentation with no more than 5 slides that includes how his or her life has involved the intersection of business and issues of race. Use information from the video, as well as your own research. In the last slide, reflect on your experiences and what questions you would have asked the panel. Suggestions: Erika James, Chris Bennett, Josh Kopelman, Monique Woodard, Natanya Montgomery

Personal Reflection

Choose one of the key quotations highlighted on the PDF worksheets with each "Race and the Entrepreneur" video segment and write a 500-word reflection about how it relates to your own life. Alternatively, choose a theme in the video that resonates with you and reflect on a personal connection to that theme and/or how it makes you feel in a 3-paragraph journal entry format.

The Reporter

Interview a business person in your life about his or her personal experiences with racial issues. Use some of the concepts explored in "Race and the Entrepreneur," such as Black founders, diversity, racial inequity, unconscious bias and white privilege, to craft your questions. Share a 3-minute video of your conversation or present a 3-paragraph report from your interview to the class.

The Entrepreneur

In a small group, outline a business plan for an entrepreneurial venture you want to start. Using insights from "Race and the Entrepreneur," include how you plan to integrate diverse practices into your new organization, from leadership and management to hiring and product development. Pitch your 3-page plan to the class.

Creative Writing

Choose at least 10 words from the vocabulary provided on the PDF worksheets with each "Race and the Entrepreneur" video segment to create a poem, chant, rap or short story. Share your creation with the class.

Tech Challenge

Create a 2-3-minute pitch video on your smartphone about Chris Bennett, the Black founder featured in "Race and the Entrepreneur." Use information you have learned about him from his life and entrepreneurship journey to convince a team of venture capitalists to invest in his business. How will you highlight his strengths as a successful entrepreneur to encourage the funders not to "pattern-match?"

Getting Analytical

The statistics around venture capital for underrepresented founders of businesses are pretty compelling. Check out the numbers and use them, along with insights from "Race and the Entrepreneur" to tell a numbers-driven story. What are the numbers telling you and how do Chris Bennett's and Josh Kopelman's experiences support or reflect these numbers? Submit a 2-page report highlighting some of the statistics and using specific examples from the video to tell your data-driven story.

Member of the Board

With a small group, select a recent Silicon Valley startup to research. You have been chosen to sit on its board of directors, providing guidance to the leadership team. Visit the website to find out more about the company and its products. Research the diversity, equity and inclusion plans of this business. Based on what you find, as well as information from "Race and the Entrepreneur," how would you advise this company to operate, position its products, look for financing? Complete a written 2-page plan or present a 5-slide action plan to the class.