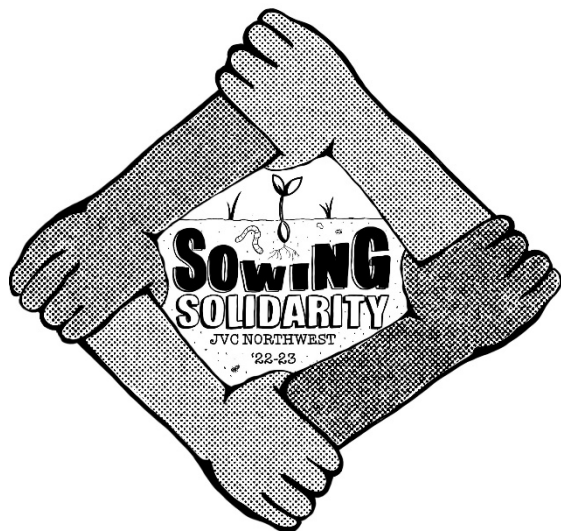


## JVC Northwest '22-23 Orientation Theme and Annotation

### Sowing Solidarity

“If you have come here to help me you are wasting your time, but if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.”

— Lilla Watson



Solidarity is a radical act. In a society that worships profit, solidarity is countercultural, and a path to the world we seek to create. But this mutual responsibility or communion of interests can only be cultivated where there is relationship – a web of humans, animals, beings, earth. We cannot be in solidarity with some distant ideal, only with those seeking it. How do we truly encounter each other? How do we become intimately familiar with the ways our lives and loves are bound up with those we may not yet or never know? Might relationships with those next to us guide our

understanding of the relentless oil-climate-race-brutality-fire-virus-flood-shooting-crisis?

Sowing solidarity is a hyper-local, gritty act. It takes time, contact, and ground. It relies on the flawed and hopeful generations of seeds, sowers, and soil ecology that birthed the present. As a Sower, you must listen to and learn to collaborate with soil, communities, and Spirit. Sowers wait for growth and tend to what has taken hold. Sowers trust in a future still unknown that they may never witness. Sowing may not be as flashy as harvesting, but through the groundwork of listening, introspection, and accompaniment, may we find and feed the network of our bounded liberation with a sense of bounty and abundance.