We are proud to know that Providence Student Union - that's right YOUTH are coming together to take a stand with the #ourhistorymatters campaign.

That is why we created the History and Culture Club- we believe that students need to see themselves in the curriculum, need to see themselves in history books and in general to feel a sense of place and that they belong.

Our Founder- Niko Merritt states:
"Civic knowledge and future engagement is shaped by historical and social contexts; offering a curriculum within the schools that has an inclusive message could re-shape how we view ourselves-especially the youth. That sense of belonging would have a positive effect on their school performance while decreasing the achievement gap that, according to recent data, is getting worse all over RI. Furthermore, many studies show that "... the use of culturally relevant texts also helps connect minority students to the school curriculum (Rodriguez, 2009), increases their reading comprehension (Bell & Clark, 1998), and leads to an increased motivation to read (Freeman & Freeman, 2004)."

This Curriculum that Sankofa Community Connection is working on in Newport RI will share knowledge in a way that:
•will give our communities, families and youth pride and identification, and it will create balance and equity in our roles in the history of our land, our people, our cultures
•will reveal untold stories that are missing and honor lives and cultures ignored- to engage people, students and communities.
•will CORRECT the overall story and the telling of the story by all of our historical agencies.
•will be a model for other communities of how to dig deeper, how to reveal, and why it is so important"

Thank you to the Providence Student Union for all that you do.