Interviewer - All right, I'm Irakoze Emery interviewing Ariana Grimes All right, Ariana, how would you define community and what it means to you,

Grimes - um, community, to me basically is a group that a certain person may belong to, because I have, because all people in that group have something similar or something in common. For instance, like, the black community, everyone within the black community is black. So yeah, and to me, it's something that, um, that, like, obviously, everybody has, like, their own communities, but also like, basically a part of like, our identities and, like, kind of like shapes, people we are today. So that's what it means to me.

All right, good answer. Good answer. Anyways, what are the what makes up a community? What do you feel like? is needed? Like? What are the building blocks? Or like aspects of anything that would create a community? Like what do you need to create a community?

Grimes - Definitely, like, um, obviously, like, the similarities, like whatever that common ground that everybody has that make that first that's like, the main thing. But then like, after that the characteristics of the community should be things such as, like, being welcomed, like, everyone should feel welcome within that community. Loyalty, you should always like be loyal to the people within your community. Those who obviously come from the same like promo, like whoever you are similar for below to those people. Trust because you can't trust your community, then, you know, these are these people that you should be able to trust and you can't trust them, then it's kind of like, you know, who can you trust and respectfulness, obviously, be respectful to people within your community, because even though you have that same similarity, at the end of the day, you're all different people. So um, and just loving this, like loving one another within that community, because obviously, you guys have like, you need you guys want to be there and have each other's back. So having that love for each other, is really important as well.

All right. So you spoke about having a common idea or goal? How would you handle like, you know, someone that has different ideas or like, different views or different perspectives? Within the community? Right, yeah.

Grimes - Um, back to what I said from like, the last question about how even though, we all have that common ground, we should all remember that we're all like different people at the end of the day. So like, having that open to like being open. Like, you basically got to be open minded with it. Like, even though like, yeah, we're all black, or we're all women. And we're all this. And while we're all that, we're going to have different morals, we're going to have different standpoints we grew up we may have grown up differently, like nobody is the same as the exact go to person, nobody is gonna have the exact same thoughts as me, and vice versa. So you just got to be open minded, and again, still love them at the end of the day, because they are part of your community. They just have different, you know, ideas from you. And that's basically anybody you would meet from your family to your best friends. So, open mindedness is how you would deal with that.

All right, good answer. Good answer. I like that answer. Anyways, how has like, communities shape the way you think, or the way you view other people, what kind of things has like your community, or like, the communities you're involved with, like, contributed to that, um, how, how has your community influenced the way you think, or like, you know, your intentions and stuff like that,

Grimes - um, my community, like started for me is I belong in such as, like the Christian community, the black community, like using the Christian community, as an example, the teachings and like the, um, the lessons that are taught within the Christian community, such as like, loving your neighbors turning the other cheek, how to, like, you know, basically teaching us how to live our lives, according to how Jesus wants us to live our lives. That's, that's like an example of how it has shaped my ideals and my motivations, the black community, knowing that there's like a lot of people out there who face racism or don't get the opportunity that I have right now. It helps me to want to be able to give back to them and be able to give that future to the future generation behind me the opportunity that not everybody gets to have. So like, that's like, one of my motivations for like, helping out within like codes is like that. And that's why I chose like the YWCA to like, try to give back to that next generation. So those are just two examples of like communities that helped shape my ideals and my motivations.

All right. Could you give us an example of how you would like kind of include Are there people who might have different ideas or different beliefs as you into like your community?

Grimes - Um, an example would be, um, let's say in the, in the black community, let's say if there is someone who thinks, I mean, what's a common thing? Oh, the end, like weapon, ideas or weapons, I'm against warping. I feel like you shouldn't have kids. But that's something that happens a lot in the blackmail obviously happens in other communities as well. But I noticed the trend within my community because that's who I grew up with. So the ideals of warping, I've had debates with my family about this and how you don't need to hit children in order to you know, get your point across to them and teach them and raise them. But they grew up in different times. So obviously, they think a different way. And yes, they still have their kids. And even though I don't like it, at the end of the day, it's like I said earlier, it's about just being open minded, like, so I still love and I still love my family. I don't love everything I do, but I still love them at the end of the day. And anybody else who still like probably loves their children. Like I don't agree with you. And I will tell you why I don't agree with it. Tell me why you don't agree with it. But I'm not going to hate you for it until you Oh, you're, I'm not to like, Oh, I hate you. And we're never talking again. Like, you know, it's not it's like yeah, so it's like, that's an example like, you know, my family oops, kids, I don't agree with that. But we still love each other at the end of the day. You know, it just be open mindedness and love. That's what you gotta get through anything.

Alright. And last question. What do you feel is like the importance of everyone having you know, a community to belong to,

Grimes - um, because communities are part of identities, like I said earlier, it's important that we all have our communities because like, those communities are basically like, what helps it kind of helps shape us into the people we are today, why communities that I've been to where they were, like, negative ones, or whatever had negative or positive experience from them, they all shaped me into the person I was today like being like, basically being a part of like, the low income community, that helps me motivate me to want to be able to make something out of my life, so that I'm no longer a part of the community, but can still give back to that same community at the same exact time. So like, having so like, just is just having like that group of people that you can just talk to that you could just, you know, relate to vent to and knowing that they understand you back, like, like, for instance, like you're a black man and black woman. And while we both black and we both may have experienced some of the same things, you're not you're still a man and I'm still a woman so me talking to a black woman, she would understand me more than you would be able to. So it's really nice to have that person who has the all these cops common and similar things with you. And that those people who are just like, I hear you, I understand you and like they truly do understand, like what you're going through or what you're talking about. So it's really important to have those communities because like, the people around us, help to shape us into people into the people we are today. So you have nobody you know, that's really bad. So yeah.