**Minute of Appreciation for Khalila Lomax**

In Deep Appreciation for Khalila Lomax from RAWG, STRIDE & GDL

RAWG writes, “The Reparations Action Working Group (RAWG), under the care of the Growing Diverse Leadership Committee, would like to appreciate Khalila for her generosity, knowledge, and careful thinking.  She has helped us since 2019 when our working group was forming, helping us to define our work and chart a path forward.  Khalila not only has a great knowledge of history, but she helped our working group see the impact of a number of events more clearly and in a deeper way.  Khalila at times shared her personal experiences in a way that made the impact of events even more clear, and linked to our history as a country.  Khalila modeled for us that working for reparations takes a lot of thinking, and that thinking takes time.   She was not afraid to say, ‘I need to think about that,’ and showed us that this in itself is an important part of our path in a world that values quick answers.  Khalila helped our working group in addition to her  other responsibilities because she wanted to support our work.  We are very grateful for all of her time,  attention, and encouragement. and most of all for her friendship.”

STRIDE writes, “We are blessed and immensely grateful for Khalila’s leadership these past

four years. Khalila has led with courage, vulnerability, thoughtfulness, a love for justice, &

deep care for STRIDE campers and their families. Her example has deepened our

understanding of anti-racism and our application of BYM’s anti-racist queries in profound

ways. Her plan for a Youth Advisory Committee is one recent example of her ongoing

efforts to empower STRIDE campers and former campers, giving those most likely to be

directly affected by our decisions a greater ability to influence those decisions.

Khalila’s care for STRIDE’s members is also evident. She has invited us to find joy in justice

work, creating spaces for rest and celebration like the STRIDE Retreat.

The members of STRIDE have witnessed, often firsthand, the challenges Khalila has faced in

holding BYM accountable to its declaration as an anti-racist faith community. We support

her decision to move on, with gratitude that her vision and work will benefit STRIDE

campers and families, the camping program, and the yearly meeting at large for years to

come.”

GDL, through our clerk, writes “We expresses our gratitude that Khalila found us. That was rightly led. BYM still made her acceptance more difficult than it needed to be or should have been.

“Khalila’s decision to go is also rightly led. It is, nevertheless, very hard for me. I call her my ‘twin sister.’ We share a birthday. And while I like and adore her, admire her, respect her; while I want to hear more of what she thinks and how she is led, it is time for Khalila and Geniro to move on to the next stage of their lives.

“Khalila made the job of leading STRIDE her own by working with those who were involved in STRIDE at and for our camps. She, with help from the GDL and Supervisory Committees, kept her footing and her job when that might easily have come undone. She, then, created the job anew. Khalila worked with the STRIDE leaders, listening to and learning from them. She used that understanding to build STRIDE with a new generation of campers and members of the larger camping community. She went to Baltimore, DC, and Philadelphia to listen, learn and then to lead by synthesizing, imagining, envisioning, and enabling others to join that process and grow into it. She taught them, she taught us all. It is now up to us to apply what we have learned from Khalila, our remarkable teacher.

“Khalila, you will be a blessing wherever you go!”

Truth and love, Marcy Seitel, Clerk, Reparation Action Working Group; Eden Fuller, STRIDE Clerk; and Peirce Hammond, Clerk, Growing Diverse Leadership Committee, March 25, 2023