

Ayanna Snowden, Bergen County Technical High School

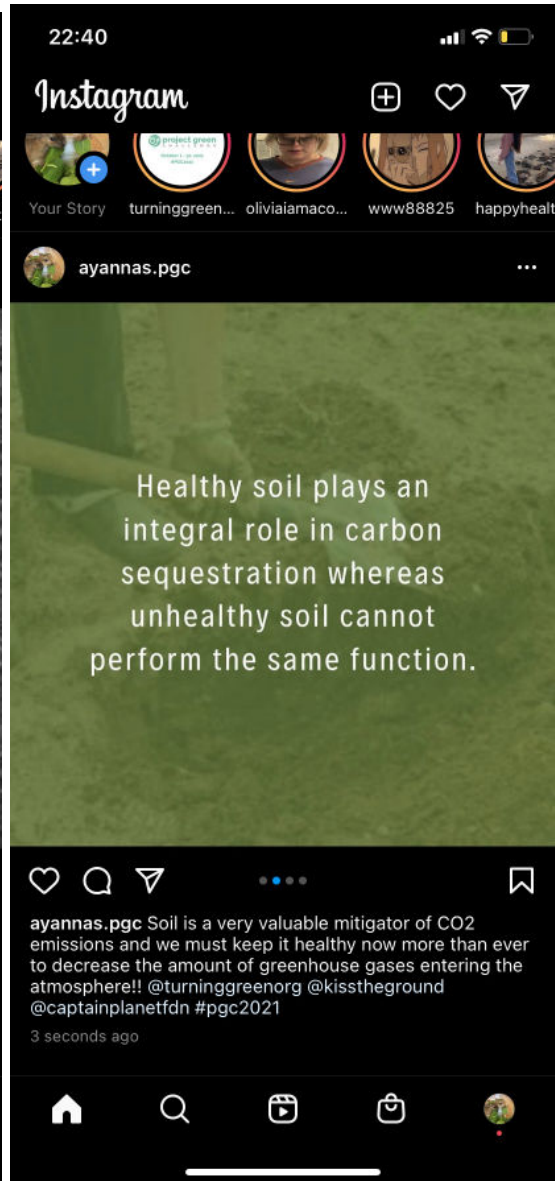
Silence is privilege.
Speak for the marginalized.
Speak for the planet.

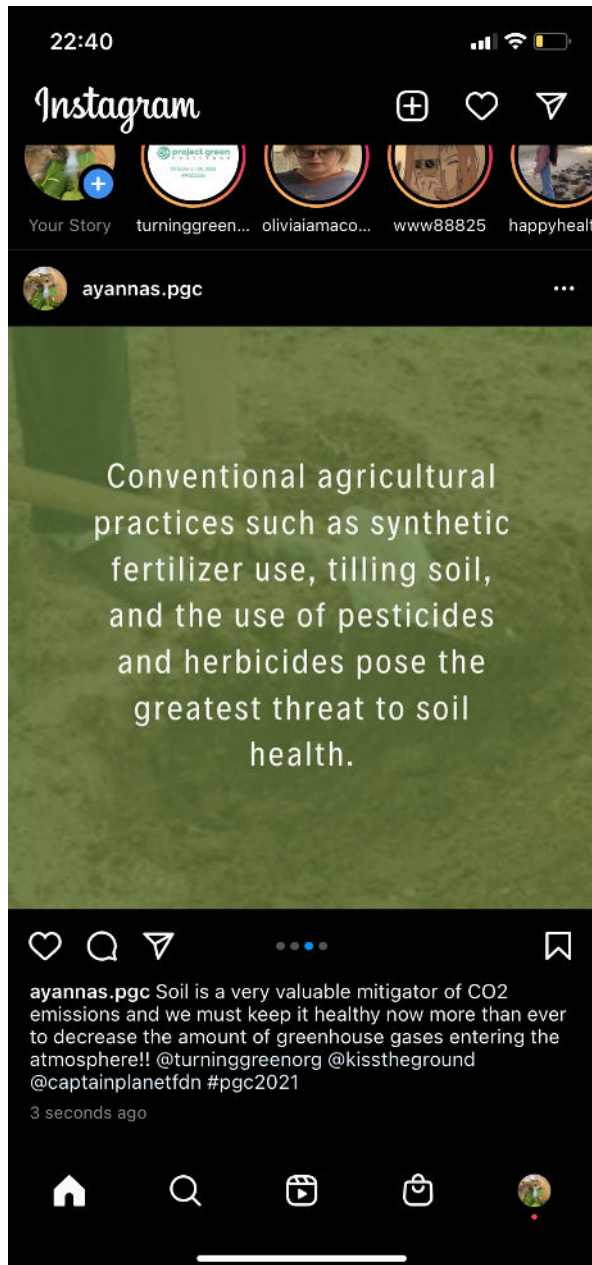
My haiku about why I advocate for environmental causes and why I am participating in PGC.



Ayanna Snowden, Ayasno23, Bergen County Technical High School







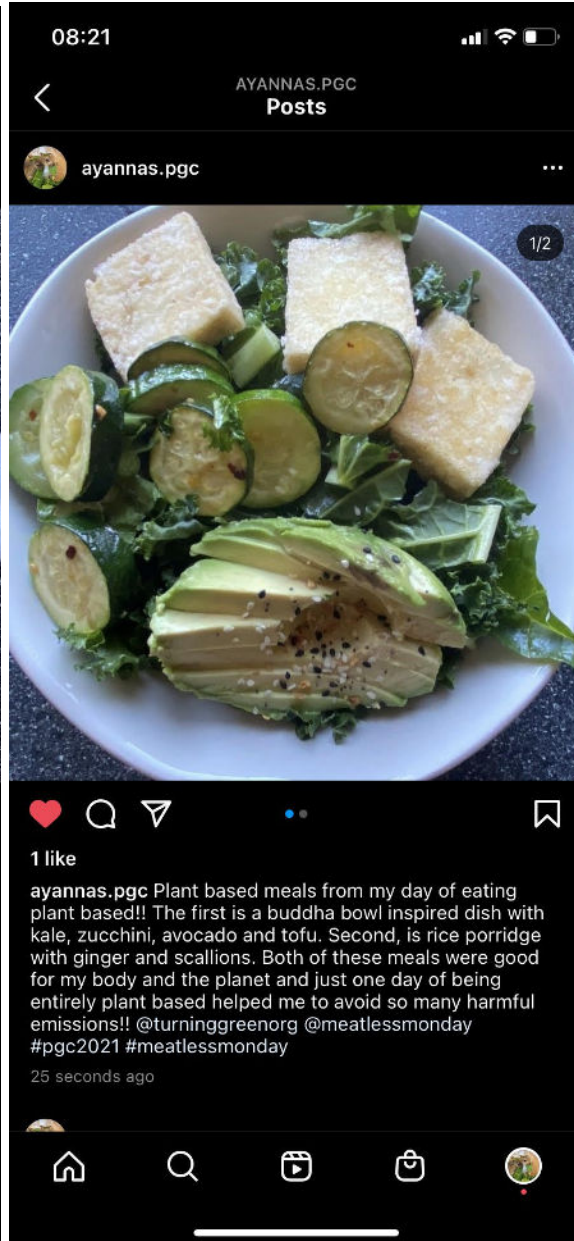
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- A natural and preferably outdoor space would best help me to de-stress because I really enjoy being outdoors and nature makes me feel at peace. Additionally, having stuffed animals would be very nice since I am quarantining right now and can't exactly be around people so that would be the next best thing!
- After sitting in my sanctuary, I felt rejuvenated and will definitely opt to sit out there more before the weather gets too cold! I tend to overwork myself during the school year and rarely get time to focus on just taking care of myself. So, this opportunity was very eye-opening for me and I will find a different way to implement it during the winter.



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- Today I went plant-based with my mom and we found it to be easier than expected to create plant-based meals but we struggled a little bit when figuring out how to incorporate proteins and nutritionally valuable food items.
- After three plant-based meals, I felt like I had more energy and my mom and I both found the experience very rewarding and rejuvenating.
- Yes, in our household, we already do not eat red meat which is a large contributor to emissions and detriment to health. However, after this experience, we made the decision to incorporate more entirely plant-based meals or meal days into our lives.



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Amy Choi; Las Vegas, Nevada; The Meadows School

- Amy is helping to draft the text for Nevada's plastic bag ban alongside one of her local representatives.
- Amy's community is primarily climate deniers or people who do not believe they can make a difference in the climate crisis. So, Amy joined PGC in order to show her community that it is possible to make a difference using your voice.
- Amy was inspired by getting responses from her local representatives because she previously didn't think that they would respond to her. However, through the PGC letter writing challenges, she was able to reach out and hear back from her representatives which she found to be a meaningful experience.
- "I wanted to show my community and some of my friends 'hey look at what happens when you have an eco-friendly lifestyle!' and how great it can be and 'look at what you can do!'"

Profile:

Amy currently attends The Meadows School and is from Las Vegas, Nevada. There, she is the president of the Green Club, a rapidly growing club that aims to introduce environmental initiatives to the campus. She feels as though her school peers lack proper climate education and wanted to join PGC to set an example and show them that anyone can take steps to solve the climate crisis. In fact, during our call she stated, "I wanted to show my community and some of my friends 'hey look at what happens when you have an eco-friendly lifestyle!' and how great it can be and 'look at what you can do!'"

During her time at PGC, Amy has been outspoken about the plastic crisis as observed in her powerful graphics below. In fact, she was even able to get in touch with one of her state representatives and is now working on Nevada's first draft for a statewide plastic bag ban. PGC has been a catalyst for Amy's advocacy and she is already taking tangible political action towards a better future. Meeting Amy was such an inspiration and we can all learn from her work!

