



Our History

Christina Hayworth
-Santiago.

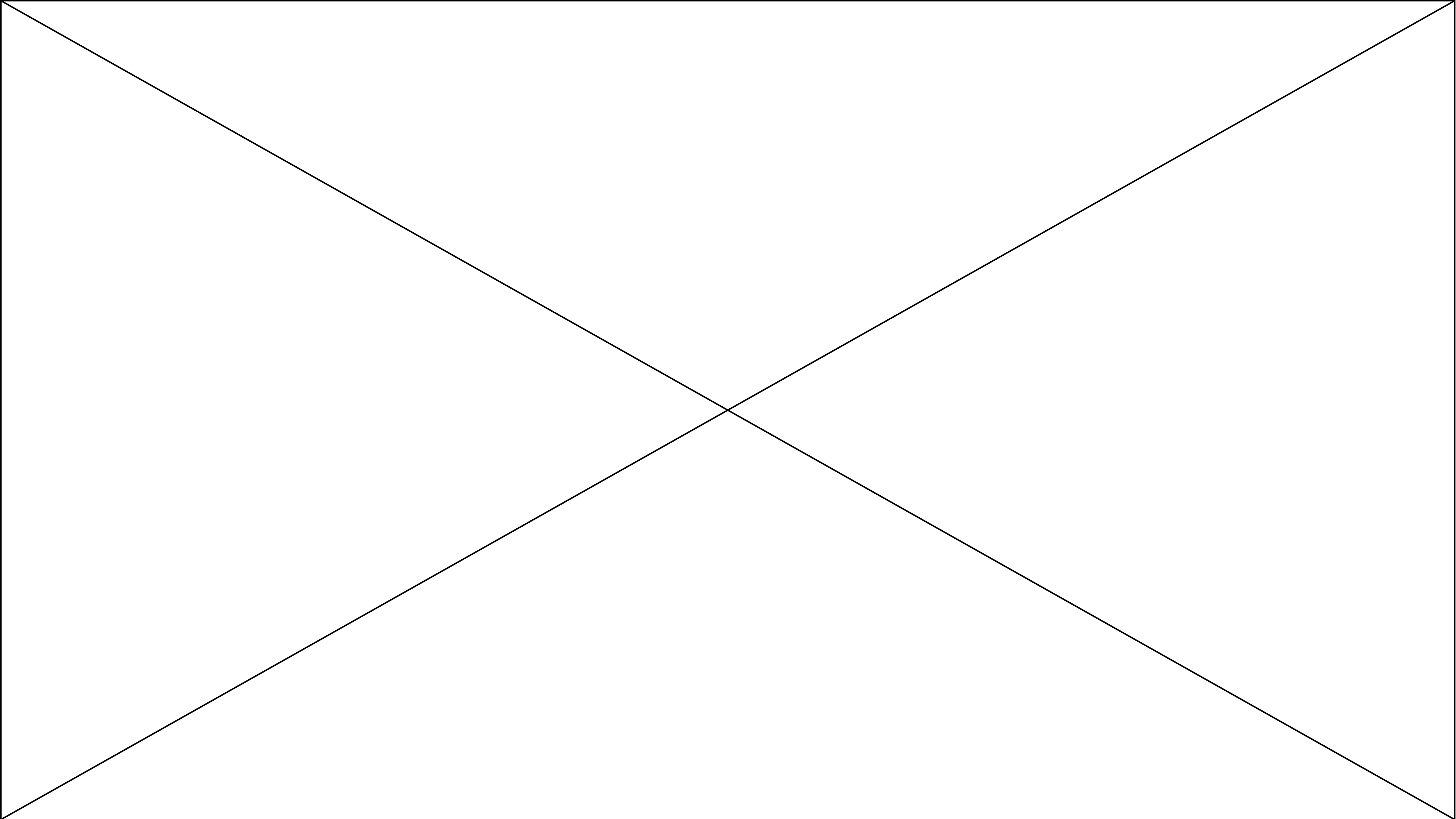


Sylvia Rae Rivera

*Its name honors the legacy of our transcestras, Sylvia Rae Rivera and Christina Hayworth-Santiago.

➤ **The Sylvia & Christina Initiative (SylC)* was founded in 2021 as the first grantmaking program to support the dreams of groups led by trans and non-binary people in our archipelago.**

From 2021 to 2023, a participatory committee of six trans leaders made funding decisions for the initiative. Since 2023, the program has evolved to focus on supporting and accompanying trans, cuir, and gender-expansive individuals in our ecosystem, fostering their leadership development, and strengthening and expanding their organizations.



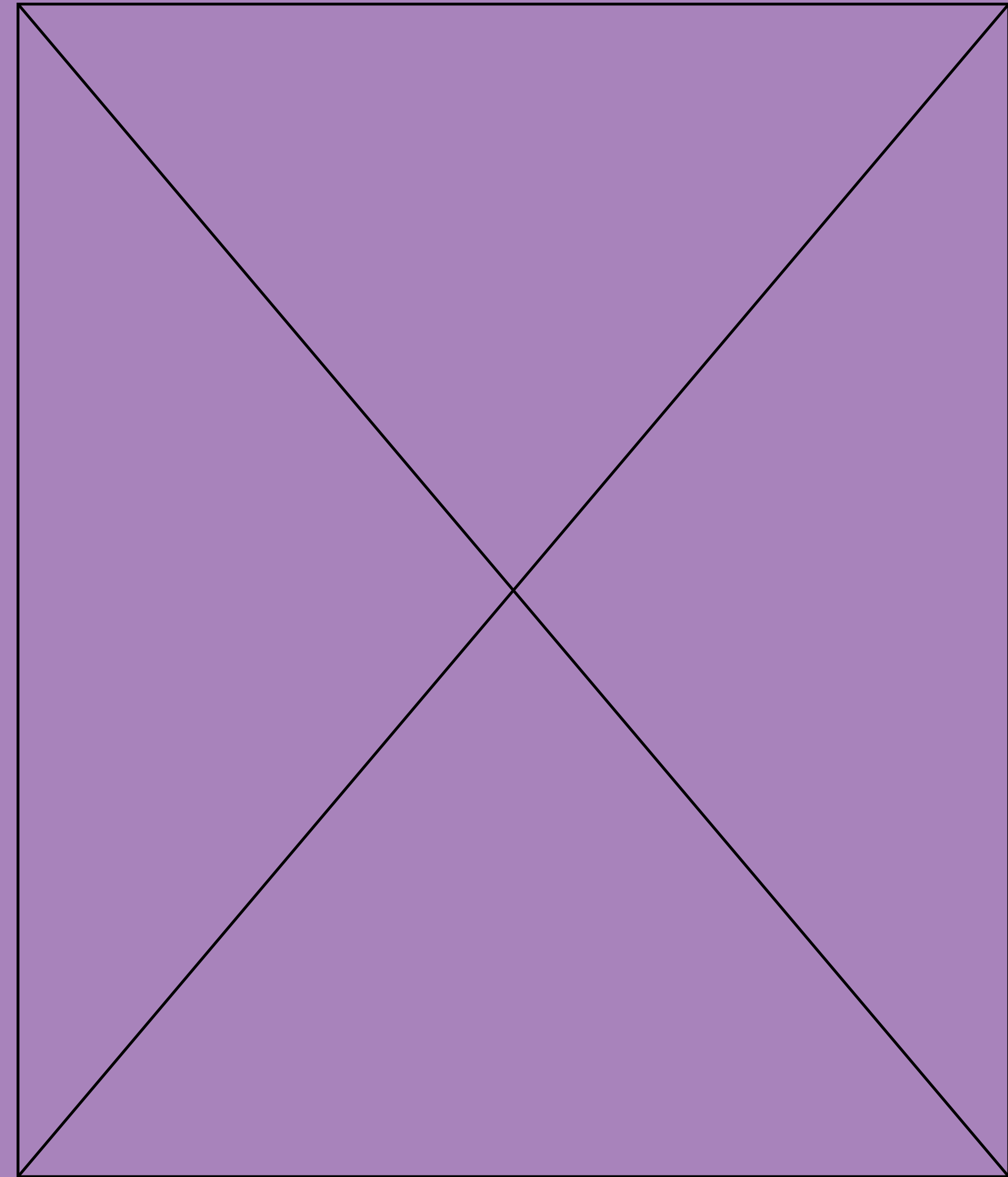
Here we are today

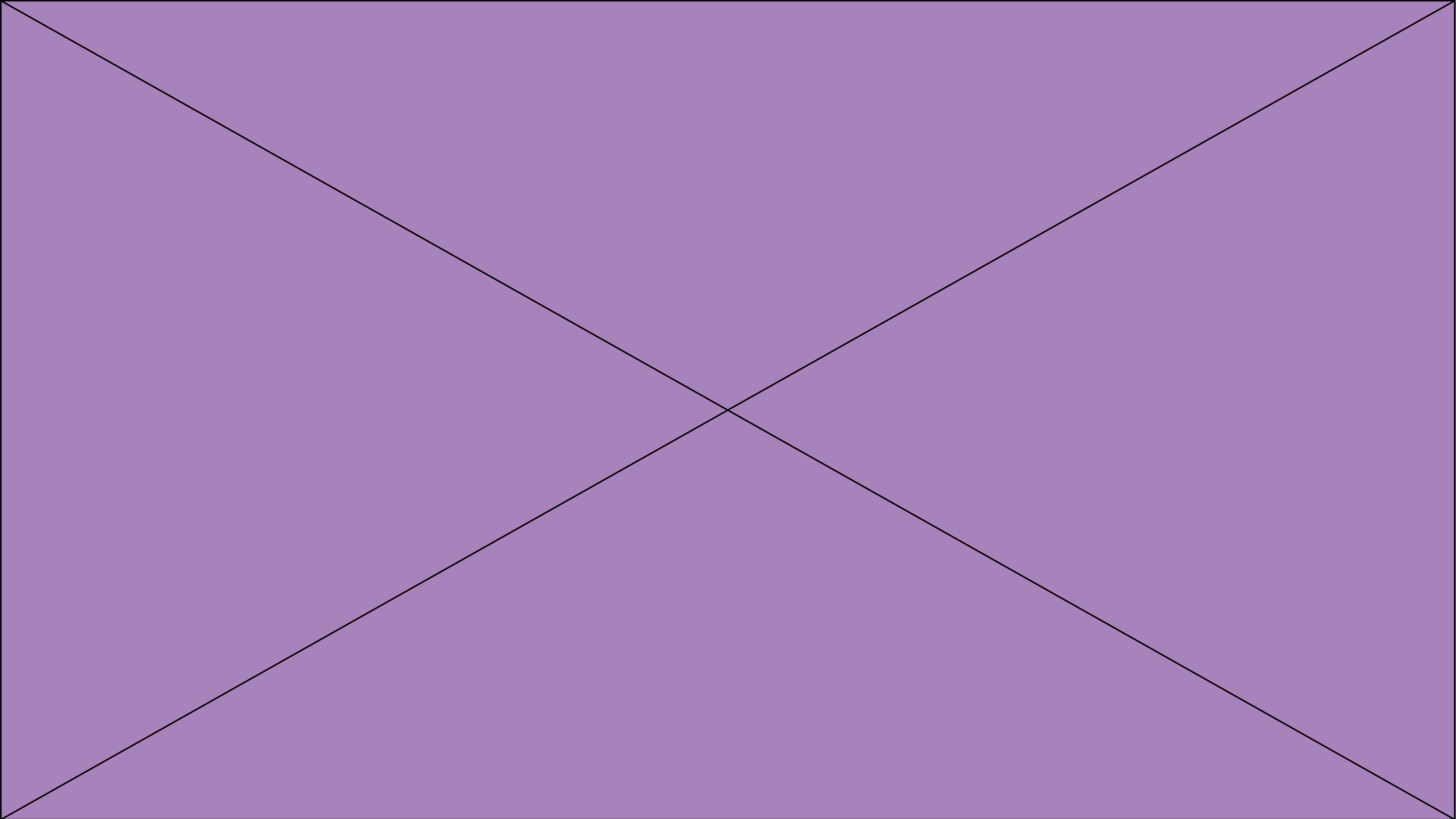
Today, we design curricula and create spaces for gatherings and training centered on rest, mutual care, and healing as the first steps toward organizing. Our intention is for the leaders and organizations involved to build power and shape a new collective vision we seek to create for the archipelago.

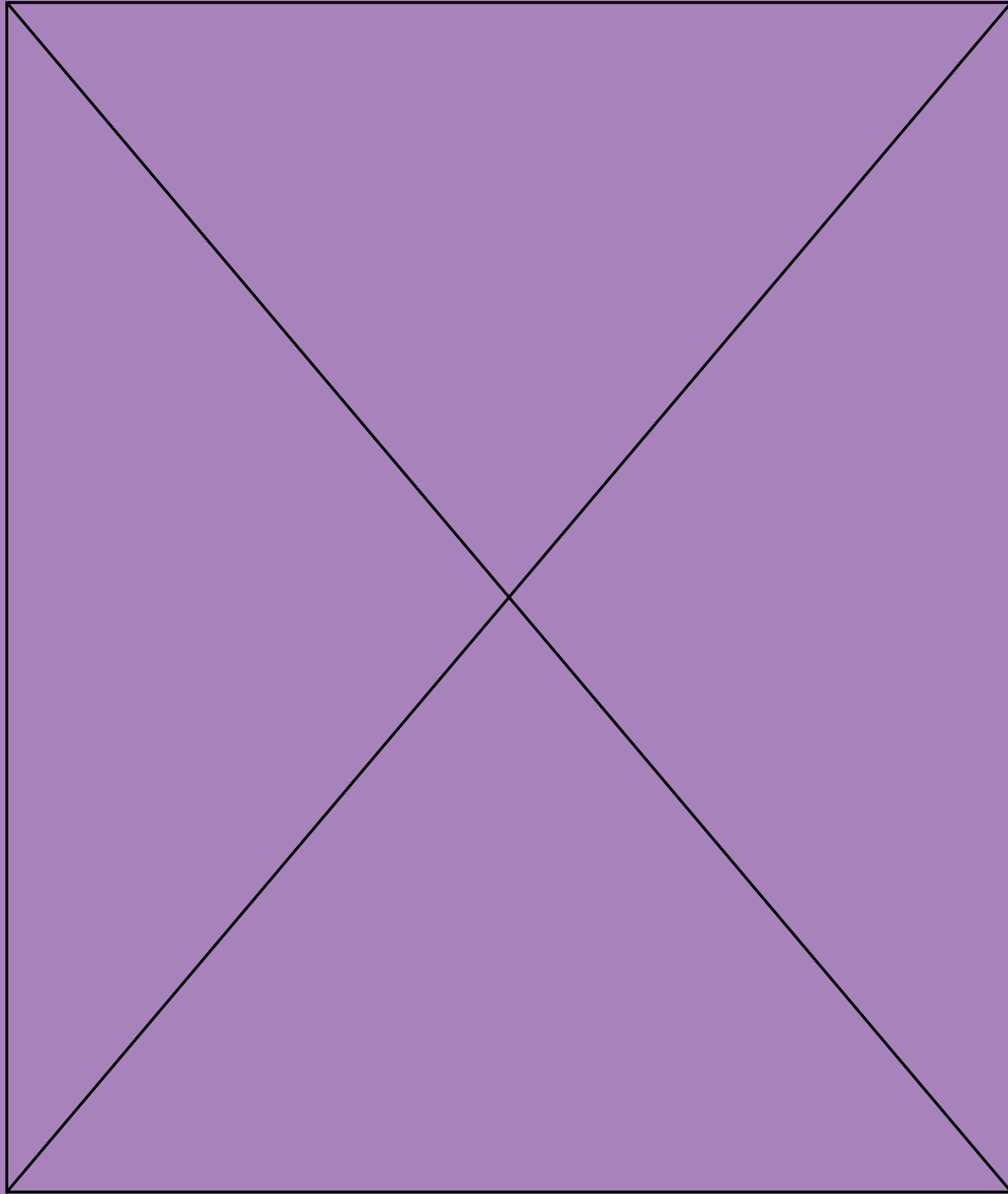
We are guided by the recognition of the wounds and trauma that arise within the context of oppression and Puerto Rico's colonial reality, and their impact on trans, queer, and gender-expansive people.

Since 2023

We have collaborated with Alkimia Eterra and Fire that Fuels, a Rhiza Collective program, to integrate their regenerative approaches into our programming. These models invite us to pause, recognize the systems of oppression we face, shift from reaction to intentional choice, and reclaim new possibilities for our lives and movements.







Our Impact

Total
redistributed **\$1.3M**

Organizations
impacted **25**

Leaders
impacted **103**