

# TO THE WITCHES WHO CAME BEFORE US

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**FAVORITE MEMORIES FROM ADPD INCLUDE: EXPERIENCING OUR CO-HORT'S BEAUTIFUL CREATIVITY AND HEART, PICNICS BEHIND GUND, AND OUR ADVENTURE TO THE NEW MUSEUM IN NEW YORK.**

What is a witch but a woman who stands within the realm of her own agency? What is a witch but a woman who, even if briefly, recognizes the power of her own truth? Witches have been characterized as evil, menacing, dishonest, and dangerous for centuries. At some point, witches choose to speak the truth even when they know they will face certain death. Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, and before her Anita Hill, chose to speak their truth even though they knew they would be burned at the stake politically. They chose to grapple with the terror of toxic masculinity in front of the entire nation.

A memorial is constructed so that we may hold in our collective memory a person, an effort, a group, or an event that shaped history. Memorials allow us to grapple with the reality of our pasts as we envision the future. In their remembering we are able to better understand the context of our present, and thus perhaps move into tomorrow differently than we have before. We have created this project as a memorial to all the women who have given testimony, defied the shackles of misogyny, and told their truth knowing the physical, social, and political consequences they would face. Their stories intersect with our stories- with the women and men across the world who have also faced the terror of sexual assault. This is a memorial to those who have been rendered silent by oppressive forces and the unchecked recklessness of toxic masculinity.

Through a series of video projections and interactive audio, this project sought to capture the stories of those who have survived sexual assault. The projected images lit up the trees in the Harvard Law School courtyard, where Justice Brett Kavanaugh taught from 2008 to 2015.

