Speaker 1:

On the next episode of Big Ideas TXST, actor, playwright and educator Eugene Lee discusses the Black and Latino Playwrights Celebration, why the annual program, now in its 18th year, remains an important outlet for marginalized voices and how it can contribute to healing the unrest and strife prevalent in society today.

Eugene Lee:

I'm convinced that what's ailing America's soul right now is not going to be fixed in a public moment. It's not. It's going to be 350 million private moments where people sit alone with their hearts and decide that they're going to take the hate out of their hearts. And that's what 350 million Americans, all of them, privately at some point doing that... It may be that a play is a catalyst for them sitting down and giving the fodder with which to change their souls, so to speak. There's a need for that on there. There's a lot of good people on both sides if I can quote 45. But I think you understand what I'm saying when I say that it's not going to happen in a public discussion. It's not going to happen at a play. It's going to happen when they go home after they see that play and they're sitting with just themselves and say, "Okay, I got to change."

Speaker 1:

To hear Eugene Lee's full interview, listen to Big Ideas episode eight, available now. Subscribe to experience more innovative, thought provoking content from Texas State University.