



Artist Statement

I've titled this series of photographs *Answering the Question*.

The last book that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wrote - *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community* - was published in 1968. With all that has happened in the more than 50 years since he asked this question, I believe that we are now poised to answer it. However, I do not have the answer. I do believe that the moments captured in the photographs of this exhibit represent a way to begin to find the answer – *Chaos or Community?*

What is the beginning? Life is filled with questions; but answers are found within actions. The beginning is protesting, voting, open discussions, and asking “why?” There is no clear response as to whether it will be *Chaos or Community* – the only two answers. Together, we will either find a new meaning of unity or a new meaning of chaos and separation. Ironically, we will make this decision together.

To determine what you believe the answer will be - *Chaos or Community?* - you must ask yourself this question: “What is the is problem and what is the root of the problem?” This question will eventually be answered with one of these choices as the only solution. Where do we go from here?

Gordon Wallace is a young adult carving his own path in life. Serving as Sumner Hall’s Media and Communication Coordinator and founding his own digital marketing agency, Gordon is a recent graduate of Stevenson University (May 2019) with a degree in Digital Marketing. His company, *Pick 6 Digital*, seeks to deliver game-changing results to its clients. He is also involved in community-focused work through the *Chesapeake Heartland Project* and by co-curating an oral history art exhibit with Lani Seikaly, *Amazing People*, which celebrated the accomplishments, resilience and creativity of ten local individuals who succeeded in life in spite of having been raised in poverty. Learning about the potential of documenting honest and unheard voices, Gordon recently photographed local protests in Kent County Maryland, capturing the essence of current events in his home community.