Engage Writing Journal

As you view our Farmer to Farmer Interview series, and watch our webinars; POINT OF VIEW: CULTIVATING BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT THROUGH STORY and THE AUTHENTIC "WHY" OF FARMING: ZEPHRINE HANSON OF HAMPDEN FARMS & PAIGE JACKSON OF GRASS GRAZED all found in our WFAN Engage space-- please use the following writing prompts to help name key themes emerging for you, and to identify areas of both resonation and tension -- and breathe life into the strides of your path.

Questions to Consider

1.) If you were called upon to demonstrate one great character strength of yours -- what would that strength be?
   a.) How did you develop this muscle?
   b.) Where in your life has this strength carried you?
   c.) What stories would you tell a child about this strength? A peer? A room of funders?

2.) Consider the idea of risk. Where have you taken risk and landed on the other side with measurable success?
   a.) How would you define that success?
   b.) Was there a time that you jumped into the unknown and found yourself further in uncertainty?
   c.) What practices helped you through this period?
   d.) Are you in such a place now? What words of comfort, motivation, or advice would you tell a friend in the throes of risk growing pains?

3.) Where do you see your skills and innovations intersecting with opportunity and need?
   a.) What is the story of your consumer base? What do they want?
   b.) Who do you want to be for yourself? Your family? Your community members?
   c.) What do you envision as benchmarks of success for your personal and professional growth?

4.) Imagine that your professional dream is a large, healthy tree in your home ecoscape. For illustrative purposes here, I will use a cottonwood tree as an example.
   a.) Imagine the vast community of plants, animals, insects, weather patterns, and soil types that all helped this tree to grow, to its present state, for years.
   b.) What resources, professional development opportunities, volunteer spaces, friends, news clippings, grants, jobs, references, partners--community systems--do you need and want to help your tree grow?
   c.) How can you begin to take steps now in order to reach the height of your dream?
      i.) Start with one step.
      ii.) Make a timeline.
      iii.) Stick to the plan.