My Narrative

Drawing inspiration from the following quote, begin writing your own narrative. As you read the quote, consider all the challenges Pauli Murray faced to reach each “plateau” in their life. How did they overcome these challenges? How did they use these adversities as catalysts for their work in social justice?

As you brainstorm, consider the following questions to guide your writing:

* Describe characteristics of your own identity. Consider your Race, Ethnicity, Nationality, Gender, Religious affiliations, etc.
* What other important parts of your identity, experiences, personality, likes and dislikes, make up who you are?
* Do you find that some of these characteristics of your identity intersect or overlap with each other?
* Are there any challenges you face based on these identities?
* What practices or actions are you taking to face these challenges? Are you still discovering these aspects of yourself?

*“I had come to my present plateau by small, positive accretions - periodic recognition of myself as a person of worth interspersed with desolate periods of suffering, bewilderment, anger, rage, and self-doubt - often finding myself so hemmed in by suffocating walls of exclusion that my only safety valve against frenzy was the act of pouring out my feelings through the written word.”*