

Spring 2016

Assembly 2016

Portland State University Art and Social Practice

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PORTLAND, ORE



MAY 12-15, 2016



ASSEMBLY



A CO-AUTHORED
SOCIAL PRACTICE CONFERENCE



ALL EVENTS ARE FREE +
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



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Hosted by the Portland State University
Art and Social Practice MFA Program

Doing More With Less (again and again)

For this year's Assembly we have tried to find even more painless (but still effective) ways to structure and organize a conference. Maybe it's not a conference, but it's too hard trying to come up with another more appropriate term for it, so let's just call it that. Anyway, what we did was just agree to a set of days, May 12-15th, and a schedule of times (mostly one hour blocks with a few deviations, and times for coffee and drinks and food, etc) then each student in the PSU MFA Art and Social Practice Program agreed to be responsible to create an event or activity etc. for two of the time slots, and that at least one of those projects would connect with a community partner (a local person, group or organization). We also included a few affiliated people in the mix—a grad student from the University of Oregon, our British Council Exchange artists, and a strange dude from Canada who is working on a project with PICA. Together it should make for a nice little set of public events and activities all with connections to art and social practice in one way or another.

Harrell Fletcher
Portland, Oregon
4.22.16

At this point I'm kind of thinking about Assembly as an alternative version of an end of year MFA exhibition, except instead of the students showing studio made objects in a gallery, the social practice students are creating participatory projects that happen all over the city. Working on the social practice program in general has been an interesting opportunity to examine the standard approaches to how traditional MFA education operates. We have slowly (but surely) been replacing, augmenting, and removing the normal elements of the system, and in their place have come up with a different framework, one that we hope will not only launch students out into the world to create amazing work (and support for that work, you have to pay the rent!) but will also facilitate creating that kind of practice while still in the three years of the program. Assembly has become an important piece in this new approach to understanding and formalizing what it can mean to be an artist in society today.

Darren O'Donnell

Lauren Moran

Independent Publishing
Resource Center

Yaelle Amir

Steve Davis

Emily Fitzgerald

Jim Lommasson

Beth Nakamura

Newspace Center for
Photography

LIKEWISE

Derek Hamm

Ariana Jacob

Roz Crews

Globalization First-Year
Experience Freshman
Inquiry Students

Emma Colburn

Project GROW

Anke Schüttler

Adam Carlin

Arianna Warner

Kimber Teatro

Aubrey Hight

Tanya Magdalena

Trevor Ward

Lindsay Carter

Getting To Know You(Tube)

Roya Amirsoleymani

Harrell Fletcher

Lisa Jarrett

Avalon Kalin

Renee Sills

Kimberly Sutherland

Seniors from the
Hollywood Senior Center

Youth from Beaumont
Middle School

Amanda Leigh Evans

Krysta Williams

Farida Hadid

Blanca Hernandez

Paula Hernandez

Jens Hauge

Leif J. Lee

Tonisha Toler

Padraic O'Meara

Anya Wild

Natalya Kolosowsky

Davina Drummond

Yara El-Sherbini

Paul West

Namita Gupta Wiggers

Daniel Duford

Nicole Gugliotti

Denise Mullen

Special thanks to Dave and Erika Cianculli and The Platt Family.

Thursday, May 12

2:00-3:00 PM
The Unknown
 Lauren Moran and IPRC
 IPRC

4:00-5:30 PM
The Mammalian SMYLE
 Darren O'Donnell
 PSU Neuberger Hall 255

5:30-6:30 PM
 Dinner

6:30-8:00 PM
Community Discussion:
The Ethics of Photography
 Yaelle Amir with Steve Davis,
 Emily Fitzgerald, Jim Lommasson,
 and Beth Nakamura
 Newspace Center for Photography

8:30 - 9:30 PM
The First Session
 Derek Hamm
 LIKEWISE

9:30-10:30 PM
Opening Conversation
 Facilitated by Ariana Jacob
 LIKEWISE

Friday, May 13

10:00-12:00 PM
Student Research with Free Lunch
Roz Crews with Globalization First-Year
Experience Freshman Inquiry Students
 PSU Broadway Residence Hall

1:00-2:00 PM
Williams Ave Mapping Circle
 Emma Colburn in collaboration
 with Project Grow artists
 Project Grow

3:00-5:00 PM
Portland Museum of Art & Sports Opening
 Anke Schüttler and Lauren Moran
Data Drafting
 Adam Carlin
 PSU Campus Rec Center

5:00-7:00 PM
 Dinner

7:00 - 8:00 PM
Ink Visible Public Event
 Arianna Warner, Kimber Teatro,
 Aubrey Hight, Tanya Magdalena,
 Trevor Ward, and Lindsay Carter
 Lucky Labrador Beer Hall

9:00-11:00 PM
Getting to Know You(Tube):
Influence's Influences
 Curated by Roz Crews with presentations
 from Roya Amirsoleymani, Harrell Fletcher,
 and Lisa Jarrett
 LIKEWISE

Saturday, May 14

10:00-11:00 AM
The Walking School Presents The Know Parade
Adam Carlin and The Walking School
 North end of the Park Blocks
 SW Park Ave & SW Salmon St

11:00-12:00 PM
Common Language
 Renee Sills and Kimberly Sutherland
 in collaboration with the PSU Site Dance
Class and Tere Mathern
 The Portland Open Space Sequence
 Beginning at The Source Fountain

12:00-1:00 PM
 Lunch

1:00-3:00 PM
Some Time Between Us
 Emily Fitzgerald, Seniors from the
 Hollywood Senior Center, and Youth
 from Beaumont Middle School
 Hollywood Senior Center

4:00-6:00 PM
The Global Table: Tasting Party
 Amanda Leigh Evans and Krysta Williams
 in collaboration with Farida Hadid, Blanca
 Hernandez, and Paula Hernandez
 Zenger Farm

6:00 - 7:00 PM
 Dinner (Portland Mercado suggested)

7:00 - 9:00 PM
Collaborative Learning for Physical
Prowess (on the dance floor):
How to Dance Like a Boss
 Jens Hauge and Renee Sills
 with guest presenters Leif J. Lee,
 Tonisha Toler, and Padraic O'Meara
 Performance Works Northwest

9:00-10:00 PM
The People's (dance) Party
 Jens Hauge and Renee Sills
 Performance Works Northwest

Sunday, May 15

10:00-11:00 AM
Wearable Worlds
 Anya Wild and Natalya Kolosowsky
 Overlook Park

11:00-12:00 PM
Motherhood: A Social Practice, A Social Picnic
 Yara El-Sherbini and Davina Drummond
 Overlook Park

12:00-1:00 PM
 Lunch

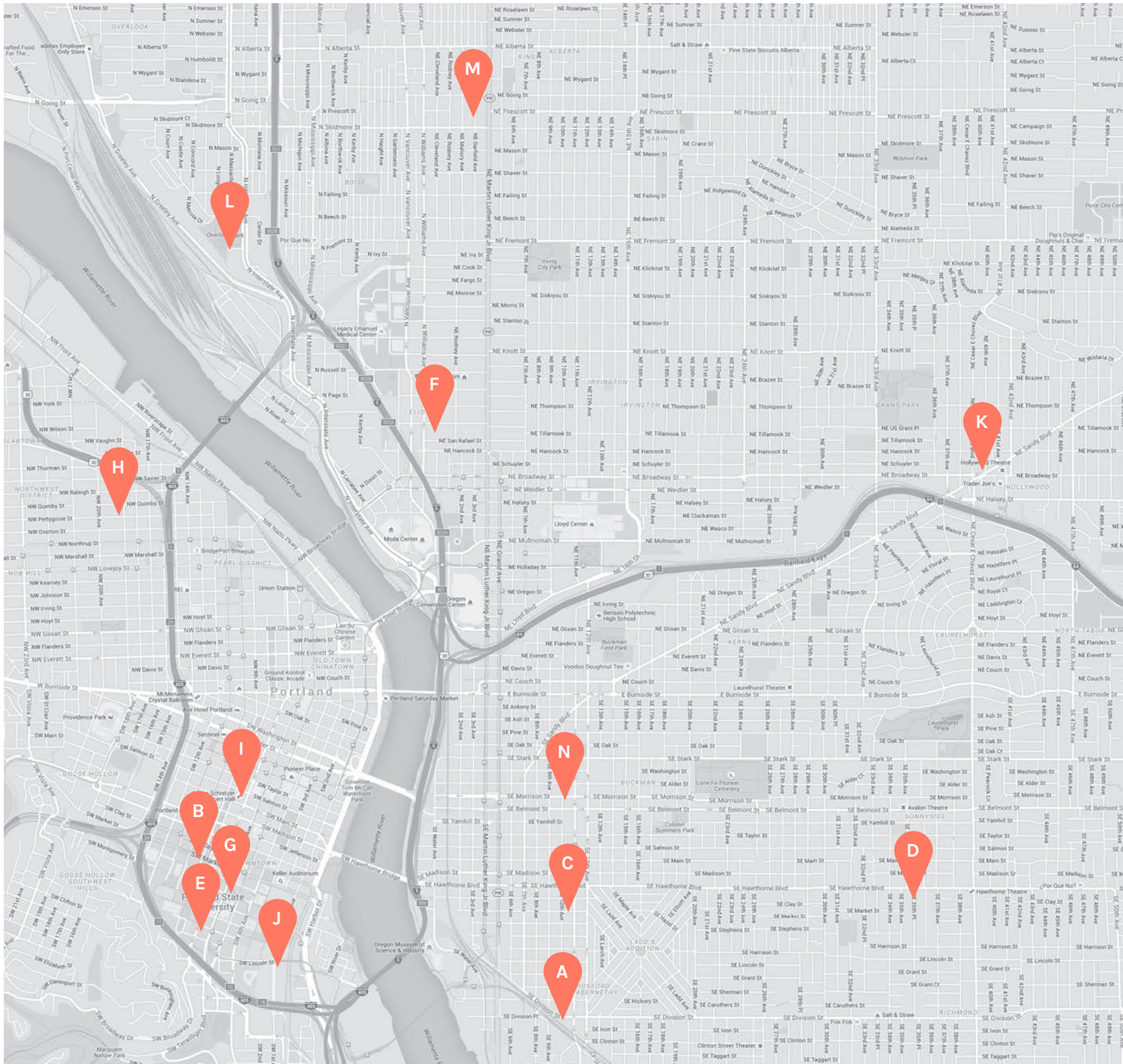
1:00-3:00 PM
Backyards
 Kimberly Sutherland and Paul West
 4535 NE Garfield Ave

4:00-5:00 PM
The Useful Art Object
 Amanda Leigh Evans with Daniel DuFord,
 Namita Gupta Wiggers, Nicole Gugliotti,
 Lisa Jarrett, and Denise Mullen
 Yale Union Kitchen

5:00-7:00 PM
 Dinner

7:00-8:00 PM
Artist Talk
 Yara El-Sherbini and Davina Drummond
 LIKEWISE

8:30-9:30 PM
Closing Conversation
 Ariana Jacob
 LIKEWISE



- A IPRC
 - B PSU Neuberger Hall
 - C Newspace Center for Photography
 - D LIKEWISE
 - E PSU Broadway Residence Hall
 - F Project Grow
 - G PSU Campus Rec Center
 - H Lucky Labrador Beer Hall
 - I SW Park Ave & SW Salmon St
 - J Portland Open Space Sequence Beginning at The Source Fountain
 - K Hollywood Senior Center
 - L Overlook Park
 - M 4535 NE Garfield Ave
 - N Yale Union Kitchen
- to Zenger Farm & Performance Works Northwest

Thursday, May 12

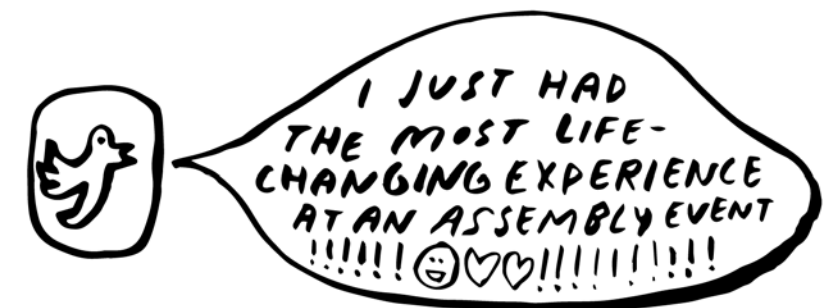
Ongoing

Thoughts on Assembly by Students from the Native American Youth and Family Center

**Darren O'Donnell and NAYA's
Art and Social Change Class**

Various Locations

The NAYA Art and Social Change students will be hanging out with Darren O'Donnell, checking out every moment of the Assembly, and letting everyone know what they think of it all via Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, and small notes on colored paper that they will leave scattered around Portland.





2:00-3:00 PM

The Unknown

Lauren Moran and IPRC

IPRC

1001 SE Division St

"Turning away from the brightly rendered version of your country as it has always declared itself and turning toward something murkier and unknown. It is still too difficult for most Americans to do this. But that is your work."

— Ta-Nehisi Coates

"Lately I feel like the edges around everything are beginning to blur and blend and be questioned collectively in a new way."

— my Aunt Sally

What is 'The Unknown' in our current collective social landscape? Is it frightening? Exciting? Daunting? How can we move towards an acceptance of difference and undefined-ness? How can we welcome the melting and blurring of boundaries around our diverse identities? How are those boundaries still affecting our lives? Based on conversational and collected research, in this workshop we will discuss ideas of the contemporary unknown and create a collaborative publication around our conversation utilizing the awesome array of resources at the IPRC. All mediums will be encouraged. The hope will be to create an interpretive document of our conversation that can be used as a resource to create continued exploration of the topic. Everyone who participates will get a bound copy of what we make by the end of Assembly.

4:00-5:30 PM

The Mammalian SMYLE

Darren O'Donnell

Hosted by the Portland Institute
for Contemporary Art

PSU Neuberger Hall 255

724 SW Harrison St

The Mammalian Succession Model of Youth Labour Engagement (SMYLE) is an approach to working with young people that considers them the successors to the those leading the activities. Created over the course of ten years in collaboration with a team of children who then became teens, and then adults. It is specifically designed to include populations of young people whose families tend not to bother with arts and culture. It's the ultimate in inclusivity methods and is based on the idea that full inclusivity of children is the most radical gesture possible.





6:30–8:00 PM

Community Discussion: The Ethics of Photography

Yaelle Amir with Steve Davis, Emily Fitzgerald,
Jim Lommasson, and Beth Nakamura

Newspace Center for Photography
1632 SE 10th Ave

The question of photographers' responsibility to their subjects has long been debated throughout the history of the medium. On May 12 we will discuss the relationship, motives, and nuances between the image-producer and subject through presentations by photographers who have documented communities other than their own. The conversation will address some of the following questions: is collaboration between photographer and subject possible? Is there a "right/wrong" way to document other communities? Is there such a thing as an objective image? How can exploitation be avoided? How can subjects be empowered through images?

The Community Discussion The Ethics of Photography is presented in conjunction with Newspace's current exhibition, Prison Obscura, about the U.S. prison industrial complex, and the Oregon Jewish Museum's current exhibition of work by lifelong photojournalist Ruth Gruber.



8:30–9:30 PM

The First Session

Derek Hamm

LIKEWISE
3564 SE Hawthorne Blvd

Spend an hour in the company of an onion in a guided meditative encounter. The first score of a recipe that serves eight persons four times.

9:30–10:30 PM

Opening Conversation

Facilitated by Ariana Jacob

LIKEWISE
3564 SE Hawthorne Blvd

Join us for an opening discussion to collectively gather and reflect upon the questions that matter to us now as we step into this year's Assembly.



Friday, May 13

10:00-12:00 PM

Student Research with Free Lunch

Roz Crews with Amber Dorich, Bryson Ramirez, Caitlin Patton, Caitlyn Malik, Camryn Martinez, Charles Powell, Emily Rice, Emma Brown, Evan Wiley, Gavin Schneider, Jake Schlack, Kiley Yuthas, Lily Harris, Marisol Altamirano, Mary Young, Megan Kirsch, Michael Richardson, Nam Le, Naureen Khan, Nicholas Nikas, Nicholas Solomon, Perry Taylor, Roosevelt Sowka, Sebastian Rosa, Shane Montgomery, Shira Ribakoff, Spencer Morrison, Wendy Mayhugh, Zach Pronath-Holden, and Zamora Baldwin

PSU Broadway Residence Hall
SW 6th Avenue and Jackson
Meet in front of the Starbucks

Student Research is an experiential education project that features a collaboratively developed public exhibition of research, *Globalization Through the Artist's Lens*, created for the Portland State University residence halls by first-year college students who live there and study globalization in the First-Year Experience Freshman Inquiry program. The students worked for several months with the University Housing and Residence Life artist-in-resident Roz Crews to learn about artwork from the Portland Art Museum (PAM), conduct research about a topic related to their globalization class, and create exhibition panels that connect the museum artwork to their research.

After the event, join the students for a free meal hosted by the PSU University Housing and Residence Life Department.



1:00–2:00 PM

Williams Ave Mapping Circle

Emma Colburn in collaboration
with Project Grow artists

Project Grow
2124 N Williams Ave

This event is the culmination to a series of mapping workshops that chart where moments signifying economic investment (and non investment) are visible in and performed by the spaces along North Williams Avenue today.

Join us for an informal afternoon of getting to know one another around (the sewing of) a large fabric map. This workshop will offer basic sewing instructions for beginners, and introduce several map-based embroidery stitches for intermediate sewers. No prior sewing experience is necessary! All ages and levels are welcome.



3:00–5:00 PM

Portland Museum of Art & Sports Opening

Anke Schüttler and Lauren Moran

Data Drafting

Adam Carlin

PSU Campus Rec Center
1800 SW 6th Ave



Opening celebration and tour with the museum founders and directors Lauren Moran and Anke Schüttler, check out the newest acquisitions to our permanent collection. Refreshments provided. Stay for Data Drafting with Adam Carlin after the opening.

The Portland Museum of Art & Sports is located at Portland State University's Rec Center.

An institution within an institution, the museum was founded in 2015 as a dynamic space dedicated to the exploration of two subjects that are rarely paired together: contemporary art and recreational sports.

Through installations, events and programming that showcase local to international artists the museum seeks to explore unconventional situations for engagement. Expanding an art establishment into the realm of recreation initiates conversation between these two practices, their practitioners and their audiences. The museum is ever-growing with new acquisitions. We invite you to observe, enjoy and activate the spaces where art and sports intersect.

Exploring team-based sports. Carlin's work re-contextualizes contemporary technologies as tools for artist working in the public sphere.

7:00–8:00 PM

Ink Visible Public Event

Arianna Warner, Kimber Teatro,
Aubrey Hight, Tanya Magdalena,
Trevor Ward, and Lindsay Carter

Lucky Labrador Beer Hall
1945 NW Quimby St

Ink Visible is a collaboration by Ariana Warner with tattoo artists who self-identify as having an invisible disability. This project illuminates invisible disabilities through tattoo culture. Each artist has created a temporary tattoo inspired by their experiences. The tattoos, accompanied by the artists' stories will be on display at this event and are also available for purchase in the online store (inkvisible.org). In addition, the public will be able to contribute their stories and drawings to the project at traveling Ink Visible events.

ILLUMINATE
INVISIBLE
DISABILITIES
THROUGH
TATTOO
CULTURE

9:00–11:00 PM

Getting to Know You(Tube): Influence's Influences

Curated by Roz Crews with
presentations from Roya Amirsoleymani,
Harrell Fletcher, and Lisa Jarrett

LIKEWISE

3564 SE Hawthorne Blvd

"The general format of Getting to Know You(Tube) is pretty simple – local people give 15-minute presentations about whatever they want, and however they want – as long as it utilizes YouTube in some way. After each presentation the audience can ask the presenter questions or show video responses, and once all of the presentations are complete for the evening, the floor is open for anyone at the event to introduce themselves and play their favorite YouTube picks with the crowd."

Roz Crews has invited three of her main local influences to give 15 minute presentations about their influences. Presentations by Roya Amirsoleymani, Harrell Fletcher, and Lisa Jarrett.



Saturday, May 14

PROJECTS

10:00-11:00 AM

The Walking School Presents The Know Parade

Adam Carlin and The Walking School

North end of the Park Blocks
SW Park Ave & SW Salmon St

In collaboration with The Walking School, the Know Parade is an educational procession that operates under the assumption that everybody has something to offer. Each attendee to the event is responsible for teaching something to other members of the parade. This non-traditional learning environment will also include hands-on activities, celebrations, and a touch of absurdity.

The Walking School was founded in 2016 by Avalon Kalin and others, as series of walks that act as workshops on given subjects, initiated by an individual or group. The shared philosophy of The Walking School is that we find co-learning and the right to chose how and what one learns is a human right. We create safe spaces of knowledge-sharing for people of all ages, identities, and abilities who wish to co-learn with us. for more info see thewalkingschool.org



THE SOURCE FOUNTAIN



11:00–12:00 PM

Common Language

Produced by Renee Sills and Kimberly Sutherland, in collaboration with Victoria Perez, Sara Hursey, Summer Fry, Tristan Ahlschlager, and Katie Schmidt — students from the Site Dance class taught by Tere Mathern at Portland State University

Portland Open Space Sequence
Beginning at The Source Fountain
Pedestrian trail just northwest of
SW 1st Ave & SW Lincoln St

"People need to become aware of their environment as it really is — to experience it directly. When they have done this they build up a common language from which they can all operate and communicate."

— Lawrence Halprin

A participatory score utilizing movement and sculpture to deepen the connection between the building blocks of our bodies and the natural and urban spaces in which they inhabit. Situated in downtown Portland, Common Language will explore the Open Space Sequence — a series of interconnected fountains and parks designed by architect, designer, and teacher, Lawrence Halprin. Through exercises promoting awareness and integration, performance, and dialogue we will explore how our bodies and minds move through the everyday public spaces we encounter.

1:00–3:00 PM

Some Time Between Us

Emily Fitzgerald, Honnai Aguado-Nielsen, Delaney Alvord, Jackie Anderson, Antonia Beil, Cindi Burgos-Be, Brenda Culhane, Judith Ford, Harvey Garnett, Tom Getts, Frank Gorretta, Lanaireoje (Bubbles) Hayes, Raina Heilman, Jacqui Jackson, Allen Julian, Marel Kalyn, Benjamin Kirchoffer-Talbott, Ausha Lathan, Dolores M. Peters, Lucia Sanchez-Ventura, Jan Starnes, Maria Tran, Jackson Wolfe

Hollywood Senior Center
1820 NE 40th Ave

Some Time Between Us is a project initiated by Emily Fitzgerald and The Hollywood Senior Center to bring together a group of 22 middle school students from Beaumont Middle School and seniors from the Hollywood Senior Center. The intergenerational group spent six-weeks investigating their individual and cultural expressions of identity, independence and interdependence through storytelling, writing and photography. The public opening will be participatory and reflect the intergenerational exchange through photography, music, performance, poetry and dialogue.





4:00–6:00 PM

The Global Table: Tasting Party

**Amanda Leigh Evans and Krysta Williams
in collaboration with Farida Hadid, Blanca
Hernandez, and Paula Hernandez**

Zenger Farm
11741 SE Foster Rd

The Global Table is a series of four performative, programmed dinners in East Portland created in collaboration with chefs from local cultural communities. Each menu is formed and prepared by two chefs from recipes that are personally and historically significant. Activities throughout the series include ceramic plate glazing, directed conversation, recipe swaps, shared rituals, and the forming of a small publication. The Global Table seeks to create an opportunity for creative practice, dialogue, and community building between groups who may not typically have the opportunity to engage with each other. The project explores familial food narratives as a way to view our own migration stories, celebrate our community's knowledge, and begin to address larger systems of access in Portland. Activities include: samples of foods from the California Coast, Oaxaca, El Salvador, and Algeria, an exhibition of handmade plates, cooking activities, live music, story sharing, and the release of a recipe book.

7:00–9:00 PM

Collaborative Learning for Physical Prowess (on the dance floor): How to Dance Like a Boss

**Jens Hauge & Renee Sills with guest presenters
Leif J. Lee, Tonisha Toler, and Padraic O'Meara**

Performance Works Northwest
4625 SE 67th Ave

Knowing that many people would like to dance but feel too shy or inhibited to take dance classes, this project seeks to create fun, inclusive, and safe environments for people to learn to dance. These classes upset the power hierarchy of traditional dance classes by empowering anyone to become a dance teacher. A selection of people who are not professional dancers or dance teachers (but who like to dance) will research and present their favorite 'How To Dance' YouTube videos and lead us all in learning the steps/choreography. Jens Hauge and Renee Sills will host and facilitate warm-ups, cool-downs, and a mid-class surprise.



9:00–10:00 PM

The People's (dance) Party

Jens Hauge & Renee Sills

Performance Works Northwest
4625 SE 67th Ave

What makes an awesome dance party? Renee Sills and Jens Hauge have set out to investigate which elements stand out in the best dance parties and will strive to procure and include as many of them as possible in one unforgettable night. It's BYO (alcoholic) B but there will be FREE mixers, plenty of water, and snacks! Admission is FREE. See you there!



Sunday, May 15

PROJECTS



10:00-11:00 AM

Wearable Worlds

Anya Wild and Natalya Kolosowsky

Overlook Park by the Gazebo
1599 N Fremont St

Wearables function as a visible symbol of a self-construct and as a nonverbal method of communicating values to others. I use costumes as catalysts for shifting assumptions about sense and nonsense, conditioning portals of play, transformation, and reinvention of identity. Several costumes will be available for participants to wear and interact non-verbally with each other. Natalya Kolosowsky and I will facilitate actions and movement possibilities. Participants will have an opportunity to step into an invented social role and create a live event exploring different kinds of movement and action. Interactions will be recorded on video and used to generate future enactments and performative spaces.

11:00-12:00 PM

Motherhood: A Social Practice, A Social Picnic

Yara El-Sherbini and Davina Drummond

Overlook Park by the Gazebo
1599 N Fremont St

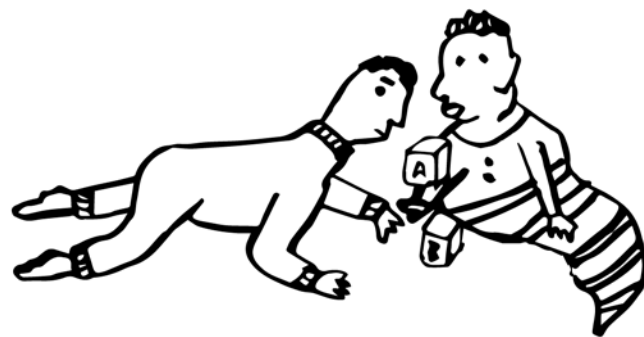
Motherhood can be inspiring, exhausting, perspective changing and isolating, and whichever one of these it is we believe putting the social into it helps.

Come, share food, and talk about what we need from each other to not only sustain but develop each other's practices.

The picnic conversations will be the start of Motherhood: A Social Practice, an online support group where, we, the members, commit to actively helping each other by working together to share networks, critique work and ideas, read proposals ... and what else?? Come join the conversation.

All mothers and their families are welcome to join, no RSVP required.

Hosted by artists Davina Drummond and Yara El-Sherbini as part of their British Council Fellowship.



1:00-3:00 PM

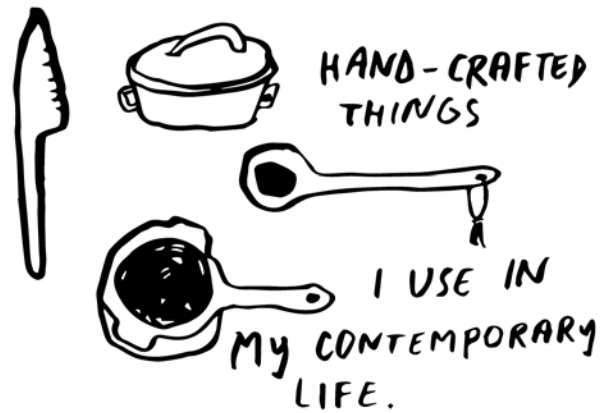
Backyards

Kimberly Sutherland and Paul West

4535 NE Garfield Ave

A walking tree tour and music show in Northeast Portland with longtime resident, arborist, and musician, Paul West.

Participants will join Paul on an educational walk through his neighborhood exploring local trees, their medicinal qualities, and their role in urban space - our collective backyard. Afterward, there will be a live concert featuring Paul and his bandmates, Diamond, Sly, and Striknine, in his backyard in NE.



4:00-5:00 PM

The Useful Art Object: Considering Critical and Socially-Engaged Craft Practices

Amanda Leigh Evans with Daniel DuFord, Namita Gupta Wiggers, Nicole Gugliotti, Lisa Jarrett, and Denise Mullen

Yale Union Kitchen
800 SE 10th Ave

How is the future of craft shaped by the recent closing of the Museum of Contemporary Craft and the resurgence of craft practices in contemporary art and design? Additionally, how does the communal nature of craft continue to inform socially engaged and participatory forms of art? This conversation focuses on the opportunity for craft to define a distinct critical, aesthetic, and cultural field. Leaders in the Portland art community will engage in a critical roundtable discussion on contemporary crafts-based practices and how those practices have been informed by pivotal moments in craft history.

The conversation is free but seating is limited to 50 people. Please reserve a seat at <http://bit.ly/1riGDUK>.

7:00-8:00 PM

Artist Talk by the 2016 British Council Fellows

Yara El-Sherbini and Davina Drummond

LIKEWISE

3564 SE Hawthorne Blvd

Davina and Yara will present consolidated versions of two recent works. Davina will run a Therapy Session for Feminists. Yara will host a trivia night, offering you a chance to win great prizes. The night hopes to provide opportunities for collective confidence to grow and laughs to be shared.

Artists Davina Drummond and Yara El-Sherbini are at Assembly as part of the British Council Fellowship, an exchange between British artists and alumni of the PSU Art & Social Practice Program.



8:30-9:30 PM

Closing Conversation

Ariana Jacob

LIKEWISE

3564 SE Hawthorne Blvd

Join us to reflect upon what we saw, felt, thought, heard, tasted, reconsidered and realized over the past 4 days of Assembly. All levels of Assembly participants welcome, whether you attended 1 or all of the events.



People & Places

Darren O'Donnell

Darren O'Donnell is an artist, writer, actor, and city planner. He is the director and founder of Mammalian Diving Reflex, and the author of Social Acupuncture. O'Donnell is the Artistic and Research Director of Mammalian Diving Reflex, a "research-art atelier" that produces performances, community-based events, and theoretical texts. The organization's programs work to dissolve boundaries between art and life in an attempt to create an aesthetic of civic engagement.

Lauren Moran

Lauren Moran is an artist originally from Connecticut, currently living in Portland, Oregon. Through conversation, printmaking, publication, curation, teaching and interdisciplinary projects she works to make significant connections and experiment with the systems we are all embedded in. Her work seeks to create situations of openness, questioning and non-hierarchical learning. She was previously living and working in Tucson, Arizona where she helped establish the Tucson Community Print Shop, curated exhibitions and events at Tiny Town Gallery, taught art, and developed a gallery/work-training program through ArtWorks at the University of Arizona.

Independent Publishing Resource Center

The IPRC's Mission is to facilitate creative expression, identity, and community by providing individual access to tools and resources for creating independently published media and artwork. Since its inception in 1998 the center has been dedicated to encouraging the growth of a visual and literary publishing community by offering a space to gather and exchange information and ideas, as well as to produce work.

Newspace Center for Photography

Newspace Center for Photography is a multidimensional photography resource center and community hub for students, working artists, professional photographers, educators, and photo-enthusiasts of all types.

Derek Hamm

Derek Hamm is a designer, educator, and socially-engaged artist. He was born and currently lives in rural Kansas where he creates cultural spaces for others to share in his search to understand what it means to be a part of a place and a community.

Ariana Jacob

Ariana Jacob makes artwork that uses conversation as medium and as a subjective research method. Her work explores experiences of interdependence and disconnection, questions her own idealistic beliefs, and investigates how people make culture and culture makes people. She received her MFA in Art & Social Practice from Portland State University. Her work has been included in the NW Biennial at the Tacoma Art Museum, Disjecta's Portland 2012 Biennial, The Open Engagement Conference and the Discourse and Discord Symposium at the Walker Art Center.

Roz Crews

Roz Crews is an artist living in Portland, OR (b. Gainesville, FL). She designs and implements socially-engaged art and curatorial projects that facilitate relationships, collaboration and dialogue. Roz is the 2015 - 2017 artist-in-residence at Portland State University's University Housing and Residence Life department where she is currently working on a suite of projects inspired by the FYE-FRINQ program at PSU.

Globalization First-Year Experience Freshman Inquiry Course

Important historical, cultural, and ontological questions about immigration, migration, and belonging (IMB) frame the yearlong discussions in the Globalization First-Year Experience Freshman Inquiry course taught by Oscar Fernandez. The topics that arise from class discussion and readings inform formal academic research assignments and community-based learning projects and actions throughout the year.

Emma Colburn

Emma Colburn plays with the space between bodies, geography, and law to disrupt narratives of safety and belonging. Her creative practice is guided by a curiosity towards the relationship between the self (ego) and space (geo) as negotiated in specific moments of time. She uses processes of painting, collage, performative geographic research, collaborations, and personal migration to investigate systems that structure micro and macro cosmic realities.

Project Grow

Port City's Project Grow provides a space for artists to explore personal expression through an array of artistic mediums, as well as gain skill and experience working on a chemical-free farm with an emphasis on sustainability. ProjectGrow aims to create a shared art experience by connecting individuals with other artists in the community and in the greater art world. Trips to galleries, museums, and other art studios provide inspiration and foster engagement and collaboration with fellow artists in the community.

Anke Schüttler

Anke Schüttler is a multidisciplinary visual artist specializing in photography. She likes to foster social interactions by asking questions and challenging existing situations with humorous responses. Collaboration and collective thinking are important to her practice. Originally from Germany, she has lived in the Netherlands, UK, France and now the US.

Adam Carlin

Adam Carlin is a first year in the PSU Social Practice program and is currently the Visiting Curator at Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina. In his practice he investigates the needs of a community and reconciles, changes, or challenges these needs through social engagement. In addition, Carlin also re-contextualizes contemporary technologies as tools for artist working in the public sphere.

Arianna Warner

Arianna Warner is a current Art and Social Practice MFA candidate at PSU. Since being diagnosed with a chronic pain illness in 2007, Warner began studying art as a form of survival and as a means of coping; this, in turn, has heavily influenced her work.

Roya Amirsoleymani

Roya Amirsoleymani (M.A.) oversees community engagement, education, and public programs for the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA) and teaches in PSU's Art & Social Practice Program. She is most inspired by the inquiries and possibilities that arise when artists, audiences, activists, and academics come together to critically and collaboratively explore our current cultural moment.

Harrell Fletcher

Harrell Fletcher received his BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and his MFA from California College of the Arts. He studied organic farming at UCSC which impacted his work as an artist. He has produced a variety of socially engaged collaborative and interdisciplinary projects since the early 1990s. Fletcher is a Professor of Art and Social Practice at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon.

Lisa Jarrett

Lisa Jarrett's work is typically centered upon deconstructing, defragmenting, and, in turn, reconstructing and reassembling her personal experiences as a Black woman in America into a visual expression that asks viewers to consider their own roles in present-day race relations. Jarrett maintains a studio in Portland, Oregon, where she teaches classes in art at Portland State University's School of Art + Design.

Avalon Kalin

Avalon Kalin is an artist who makes documentary and social art connected to everyday life. He was the co-author of The Subconscious Art of Graffiti Removal film produced by Matt McCormick and he studied under the first Social Practice MFA program with Harrell Fletcher at Portland State University. His work has shown in institutions and perhaps more importantly between friends. Recently, he has begun collaborating with his wife Posie Kalin designing installations and products.

Renee Sills

Renee Sills is a socially engaged performance artist whose work synthesizes techniques in improvisation and physical conditioning with mindfulness practices, and kinesthetic and emotional awareness. Her work engages questions of purpose, power, politics, and the inherent discomfort and contemporary crises of the human body in a technologically dependent world.

Kimberly Sutherland

Kimberly Sutherland is a graphic designer exploring systems thinking and the interconnections between us and our natural environment. With a focus on activating a connection to place, her practice utilizes design, art, and education to facilitate experiences that prompt participatory engagement with the spaces we inhabit.

Emily Fitzgerald

Emily Fitzgerald is a photographer, artist and storyteller. Her work explores the nuance and complexity of personal identity and its relationship to family, community and culture. She uses text, video, photography and socially engaged forms to create work that values collaboration, co-authorship and ethical-representation.

The Hollywood Senior Center

The Hollywood Senior Center strives to promote the health, independence and well-being for adults 55 and older. They provide services and activities for all older adults across a full spectrum of interests and needs.

Amanda Leigh Evans

Amanda Leigh Evans is a socially-engaged artist and educator who works in ceramics and collaborative, interdisciplinary public projects. Her work centers around reforming systems of access, radical hospitality, alternative pedagogies, and conversation between diverse publics. Amanda lives and works in Los Angeles and Portland.

Krysta Williams

Krysta Williams is a community educator and organizer with a passion for food justice and education. She works with community groups around issues of access and equity through PARCEO— a community-based research center, and as the Community Education & Engagement Manager at Zenger Farm.

Jens Hauge

Jens Hauge is an educator and labor activist in Vancouver, WA. In his spare time, he thinks up million dollar ideas that he's willing to share. He grew up Sweatin' to the Oldies, and still loves to cut a rug.

Anya Wild

Born into a family of Eastern European artists, Anya Wild is steeped in Russian folktales, fantasy and science fiction. She develops symbolic narratives through wearables and print media. She holds a BFA from University of Minnesota and will graduate with an MFA from University of Oregon this June.

Natalya Kolosowsky

Natalya Kolosowsky has an extensive background in dance and movement, including experience in physical theater and circus arts. Fascinated by the intersection of art and science, she holds an MFA in Costume Design from the University of Oregon, a BFA in Visual Communication, and a BS in Psychology from the University of Arizona.

Davina Drummond

Davina Drummond works at the intersection between socially engaged art and art education and at times therapy, purposely blurring the boundaries between these disciplines and in doing so questioning the function of art today. Her current projects include 'Therapy for New Feminists' for WOW, Southbank Centre and 'Take a Joke' for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Yara El-Sherbini

Yara El-Sherbini's playful practice engages people into debating social and political issues through play and humour. Currently she has her mini golf at the NAE, Nottingham, and she is part of Wastelands at Es Baluard Contemporary Arts, Spain and Rebels, at Musee Bargain, France. Her solo show, The Current Situation will open in Gallery Oldham, UK in May.

Paul West

Paul West is an arborist, musician, community leader, and long-time resident of Northeast Portland.

Namita Gupta Wiggers

Namita Gupta Wiggers is a writer, curator, and educator based in Portland, OR. She is the Director and Co-Founder of Critical Craft Forum. Wiggers teaches in MFA Applied Craft + Design, co-administered by OCAC and PNCA. From 2004-14, she served as the Director and Chief Curator, Museum of Contemporary Craft, Portland, OR.

Daniel Duford

Daniel Duford is an artist and writer based in Portland, OR. His ceramic and print/illustration work has been exhibited widely at major institutions in the US. His work has been featured in Artweek, The NY Times, The Village Voice, Artforum, Sculpture Magazine and Art Papers. Duford has taught in Portland at PNCA and Reed.

Nicole Gugliotti

Nicole Gugliotti is an artist based in Olympia, WA. Her work has been exhibited throughout the US and Japan. Born in Florida, Gugliotti lived in Tokyo, Japan for 3 years before completing her MFA at the University of Florida in 2014. She teaches at South Puget Sound Community College.

Denise Mullen

Denise Mullen is the president of the Oregon College of Art and Craft in Portland, OR. She has held prestigious teaching and administrative positions at institutions including the Alberta College of Art & Design in Calgary and The State University of New York at Purchase. Mullen has been recognized for her bold, visionary steps in rethinking the study of craft.

Portland State University MFA in Art + Social Practice

PSU's Art and Social Practice MFA is a 3-year, flexible residency program that combines individual research, group work, and experiential learning. The program's blend of critical and professional practice, progressive pedagogy, collaborative social engagement, and transdisciplinary exploration produces an immersive educational environment.

The 90 credit, 3-year course encourages students to shape the direction of their own education and continually develop the program as a whole. Students connect their art practice to research in the field of Social Practice through electives and community partnerships, promoting cross disciplinary engagement. Graduating students each produce a public graduate thesis project, an in-depth written text exploring a relevant connection to their practice, and a public artist lecture that surveys their work in the program. Each student may also produce a book for the Social Practice Reference Points series on a prominent theme, person or as a workbook.

The program accepts approximately six students annually. The deadline for applying is January 8th. Interested persons are encouraged to make arrangements to visit the program.



Design by Derek Hamm
Illustrations by Roz Crews

psusocialpractice.org/assembly

ART +
SOCIAL
PRACTICE