

Spring 2017

## Assembly 2017

Portland State University Art and Social Practice

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MAY 19-21, 2017  
PORTLAND, OR



# ASSEMBLY

A CO-AUTHORED  
SOCIAL PRACTICE CONFERENCE



ALL EVENTS ARE FREE  
+ OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



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

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## WELCOME

This is my third and final Assembly as a student, and each year has been a totally unique and strange experience. Each time, the structure and content emerges from our interests, the interests of students in the Art & Social Practice MFA program, with attention focused on crafting an educational, artistic experience for the variety of communities and people we partner with to make it happen each year. While no two Assembly's have been the same, they've all featured student organized events and activities as the central component, with no parallel sessions, and an emphasis on practice rather than theory. Each year, we try to rework the experience to make it more enjoyable for everyone involved, from organizers to audience, and we incorporate feedback and ideas from incoming students; it's fulfilling because it's nimble and amorphous, able to shift into whatever we want it to be. Assembly is a structure created by students to showcase student initiated collaborations with community groups and individuals all over Portland, and it unfolds into a decentralized exhibition of socially-engaged projects and research driven by site-specificity. All of which highlights how making artwork with and for your community can be invaluable.

We started off the year with a discussion of what went well about last year's events, catching up new students and evaluating our own work, and then we decided as a group how to approach this year's program. Early in 2016, our cohort collaborated on an exhibition in North Portland which galvanized a lot of partnerships and interpersonal relationships, so we decided to center the upcoming Assembly in North Portland, with all scheduled activities revolving around the Columbia River Slough and nearby locations. Because in the past we encountered issues with situating events across the city, we decided to keep things local and challenge ourselves to create site-specific programming based on a predetermined location. Right now as a group, we're working on a mural with inmates from the Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI) at the Oregon Food Bank (OFB), so we decided to host the opening night dinner and dance party at OFB with presentations about the food bank and our current work with people from CRCI. The next day of programming starts bright

and early, only a mile and a half from the site of our mural, at the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) who we've partnered with to host a day of Creek College workshops in and around the slough. Creek College (CC), a student led project, and the associated Saturday events are focused on connecting people with their natural environment via art related activities. For the final day of programming, in collaboration with the King School Museum of Contemporary Art and folks from Martin Luther King Jr. School, we are hosting a series of talks, tours, and activities related to art and education at MLK Jr. School in Northeast Portland. Both full days of Assembly include free lunch as part of a cafeteria exchange project between NAYA and MLK Jr. School facilitated by two students from our program. Throughout the weekend, we will offer free child-care hosted by artists who are also parents from our community. We hope this experience can be as inclusive, accessible, and welcoming as possible, so please let us know how we can help.

Through organizing and participating in Assembly over the last few years, I've realized that we all have amazing talents and interests as individuals, but nothing compares to what we can accomplish when we work together—especially when we work together with the incredible wealth of people and places that exist here with us in Portland.

Thank you to everyone from the King School Museum of Contemporary Art, Martin Luther King Jr. School, the Native American Youth and Family Center, Creek Colleges, the Oregon Food Bank, the Columbia River Correctional Institution, People's Food Co-op, New Seasons, the Columbia Slough Watershed Council and Portland State University who helped us make Assembly happen this year!

—Roz Crews  
Portland, Oregon

## PRESENTERS

Adam Carlin	KSMoCA
Alissa Hartman	(King School Museum of Contemporary Art)
Anke Schüttler	Lauren Moran
Amy Harwood	Lisa Jarrett
Anupam Singh	NAYA (Native American Youth and Family Center)
Ariana Jacob	Michelle Peake
The Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI)	Oregon Food Bank
Columbia Slough Watershed Council	PLAT
Creek College	Renee Sills
Eliot Feenstra	Roz Crews
Emma Colburn	Shoshana Gugenheim
Hannah Jickling and Helen Reed	Spencer Byrne-Seres
Harrell Fletcher	Taryn Tomasello
Jennifer Starkey	Xi Jie Ng (Salty)
Kimberly Sutherland	Yoko Silk

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

## SCHEDULE

### **Friday, May 19** **in collaboration with Oregon** **Food Bank & Columbia River** **Correctional Institution (CRCI)**

5:00–6:00PM

**Mural Kick-Off and Garden Happy Hour**

6:00–8:00PM

**Assembly Dinner & Talk**

8:00–10:00PM

**After Food Comes Dance**

### **Saturday, May 20** **in collaboration with Creek** **College, NAYA & Columbia** **Slough Watershed Council**

9:00AM–5:00PM

**Experimental Family Project Space with PLAT**

9:00–9:30AM

**Opening Ceremony with NAYA**

9:30–10:30AM

**Creek College Class 1: Whispering Soil**  
**with Anupam Singh**

10:45–11:30AM

**Morning Barter with Yoko Silk**

11:45AM–12:45PM

**Creek College Class 2: Writing Together and**  
**Alone In Public with Roz Crews**

12:45–1:45PM

**Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program: Lunch at**  
**NAYA with Spencer Byrne-Seres, Xi Jie Ng (Salty)**  
**in collaboration with cafeteria staff at NAYA**  
**and MLK Jr. School**

1:45–2:45PM

**Creek College Class 3: Creek Stories with**  
**Eliot Feenstra, Lauren Moran and collaborators**

3:00–3:45PM

**Afternoon Barter with Yoko Silk**

4:00–5:00PM

**Creek College Class 4: Canoe the Slough**

5:15–6:15PM

**Panel Discussion: Placemaking, Community**  
**& Environment**

8:00–11:00PM

**Karaoke at Chopsticks III on Columbia Blvd.**

## SCHEDULE

### **Sunday, May 21 in collaboration with Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary & Middle School**

10:00AM-5:00PM

**Experimental Family Project Space with PLAT**

10:00-11:00AM

**Place Based Knowing in a Branded World  
with Alissa Hartman & Shoshana Gugenheim**

11:15AM-12:15PM

**Helen Reed and Hannah Jickling**

12:30-1:30PM

**Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program: Lunch at  
MLK Jr. School with Spencer Byrne-Seres,  
Xi Jie Ng (Salty) in collaboration with cafeteria  
staff at NAYA and MLK Jr. School**

1:45-2:45PM

**KSMoCA Tour & All The Feelings (Sculpture Garden)  
with Anke Schüttler and collaborators**

3:00-4:00PM

**What We Make Together with Eliot Feenstra**

4:15-5:15PM

**Whispering Soil Story Circle Part 2 with  
Anupam Singh**

5:30-6:30PM

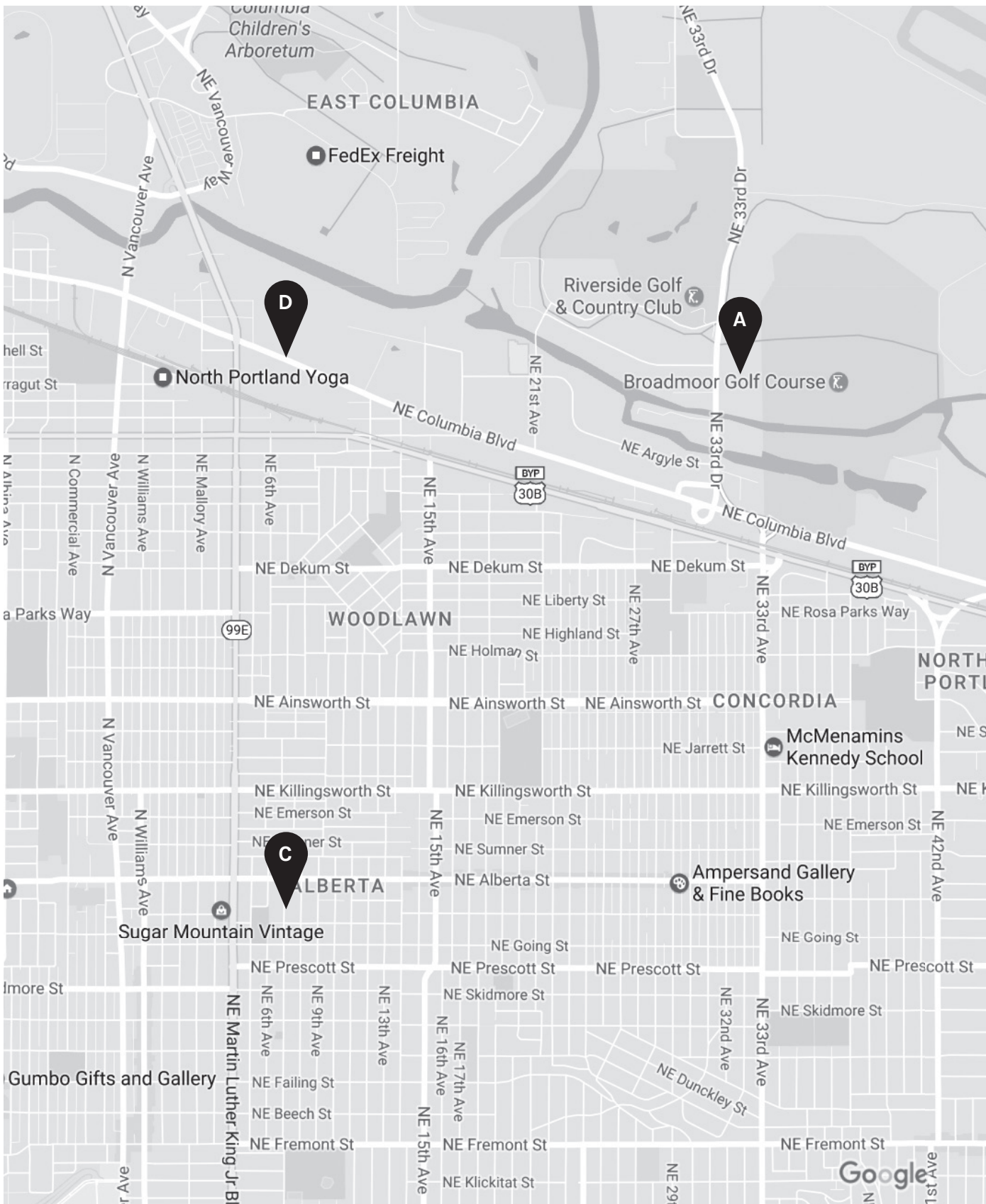
**The New Jim Crow Experiential Research Workshop  
with Anke Schüttler, Emma Colburn, Lauren Moran,  
Lisa Jarrett and Renee Sills**

7:00-9:00PM

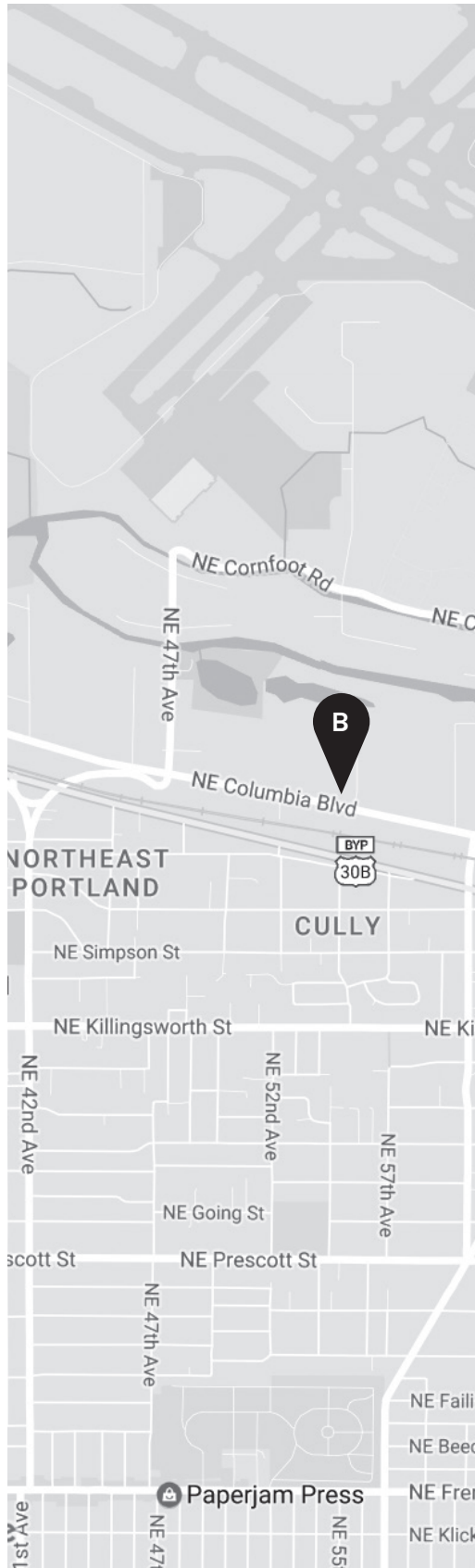
**Closing Conversation with Ariana Jacob**



MAP



MAP



**A** Oregon Food Bank

**B** NAYA (Native American Youth and Family Center)

**C** Martin Luther King Jr School

**D** Chopsticks III

**Friday, May 19**

**Location:  
Oregon Food Bank  
7900 NE 33rd Drive**

PROJECTS

5:00-10:00PM

## Opening night festivities at Oregon Food Bank

by Emma Colburn, Shoshana Gugenheim,  
Renee Sills & Xi Jie Ng (Salty) in collaboration  
with Oregon Food Bank Learning Gardens  
and Community Farm, and Columbia River  
Correctional Institute Resident Artists

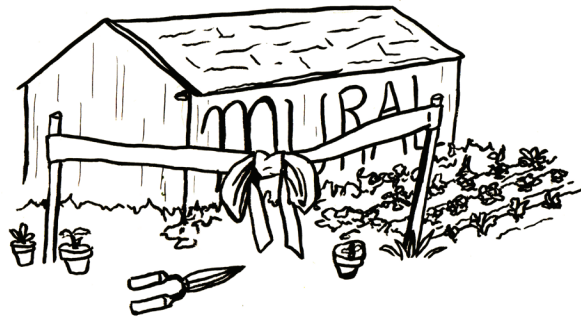


Friday at  
Oregon Food Bank

## PROJECTS

5:00-6:00PM

# Mural Kick-Off and Garden Happy Hour



You are cordially invited to the opening reception for Assembly 2017 weekend and summer gardening season! We will celebrate the diverse use-values that the Oregon Food Bank Learning Gardens and Community Farm provide to the region. Gather at 5pm for a ribbon cutting dedication of the collaborative mural designed by Resident Artists at Columbia River Correctional Institution, then relax into the evening with informal tours of the community gardens, green house, and barn. Take a plant start home to grow your own garden and remember our time together!



6:00-8:00PM

# Assembly Dinner & Talk

Join us at 6pm for a gardenside potluck dinner followed by a discussion at 7pm about a collaborative mural project between the Columbia River Correctional Institution Resident Artists and Oregon Food Bank.

The dishes we share for dinner will reflect diverse connections to gardening, urban spaces, cultural heritage and the social relationships produced within this intersection. Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 16th to bring a dish for 10 people to be shared in a potluck buffet. More details upon registering: [shoshana@shoshanagugenheim.com](mailto:shoshana@shoshanagugenheim.com)

## PROJECTS



8:00-10:00PM

## After Food Comes Dance

Join us for more merrymaking - stay on for a dance party with food-themed songs like The Supremes' Buttered Popcorn, Don Mclean's American Pie and The Chordettes' Lollipop! Music curated by Renee Sills and Xi Jie Ng (Salty), requests welcome! All ages, BYOB, some refreshments may be available for purchase.

**Saturday, May 20**

**Location:**

**NAYA (Native American Youth and Family Center)  
5135 NE Columbia Blvd**

PROJECTS



9:00AM-6:30PM

## Columbia Slough Creek College

**A collaboration between Creek College, NAYA,  
the Columbia Slough Watershed Council and  
PSU Art & Social Practice MFA students**

Creek Colleges are experimental schools that bridge art and environmental conservation. We offer a range of free art courses to local community in exchange for aid in the restoration of watersheds suffering from environmental degradation.

For Columbia Slough Creek College we will be offering a range of free art classes in exchange for participating in a 45 minute restoration activity lead by Portland Parks Co-ordinator Yoko Silk. Free lunch and childcare are included!





## PROJECTS

9:00AM-5:00PM

# Experimental Family Project Space

by PLAT

This is an ongoing learning space for the duration of Assembly that offers childcare for parents attending the conference and also explores the shifting conference sites through documentation. Drawing from similarities between radical education philosophies of Reggio Emilia and the Social Practice canon, we will use processes of recording our surroundings to deepen our inquiries of, and connections to, the landscapes surrounding us. You are welcome to drop in (and drop off) anytime! All ages are invited to participate. Materials will be provided. Pre-registration encouraged but not required. Ask questions or pre-register by contacting Emma at [ecolburn@pdx.edu](mailto:ecolburn@pdx.edu)

## PROJECTS

9:00-9:30AM

### Opening Ceremony with NAYA



9:30-10:30AM

### Creek College Class 1: Whispering Soil Part 1

with Anupam Singh

Documentation can allow an artwork to reach wider audiences and extend beyond its physical time and space. Some artistic processes produce experiential and intangible outcomes where documentation becomes the only way to access it. If we alter the process of documentation into an intangible one, how would it impact the afterlife of an artwork that is ephemeral in nature? Can artworks live through narratives or memories as alternative forms of documentation?

Based on these questions, this workshop explores aspects of ephemerality and permanence in artistic engagement. Participants will create sculptures with found objects collected from the Columbia slough and inspired by the site. After completion the sculptures will be left at the site to decompose and reintegrate into the landscape. Instead of documenting our process or finished pieces through conventional methods, participants will share personal memories and narratives of the process in a story circle the next day at MLK Jr. School.

PROJECTS

10:45-11:30AM

## Creek College Morning Barter

with Yoko Silk



Portland Parks Stewardship Coordinator Yoko Silk will lead participants from the morning classes in an invasive species removal session on the Columbia Slough.



11:45AM-12:45PM

## Creek College Class 2: Writing Together and Alone In Public

with Roz Crews

Walking through landscapes, touching grass, seeing a dog, eating apples near a slough; these are some things that we can (and likely will) do in this class. We will work together to write critically about experiential engagement with public space, and we will practice generating meaning from shared moments. We will also talk about ways to participate in the subconscious by listening, looking and writing. People of all ages and backgrounds are welcome. Materials will be provided.



12:45-1:45PM

## Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program: Lunch at NAYA

with Spencer Byrne-Seres & Xi Jie Ng (Salty) in collaboration with Laura Booth, Monique Lopez and Irene Prasad from the Native American Youth and Family Center, and Ruby Sims-Suell and Virginia Mulbey from Martin Luther King Jr. School

The Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program is a project envisioned as a creative solution to providing lunches for Assembly. The goal is to bring together cafeteria staff from both NAYA and MLK Jr. School in an effort to develop conversation and reflection on nutrition, how to provide meals, high volume cooking, and our relationship to the food sources that surround us. Who are the staff working tirelessly at NAYA and MLK Jr. School? What is their relationship to food? How would they collaboratively design a menu for Assembly? Where do the recipes they use come from, and what might they cook if they could cook anything at work?

Members of the cafeteria staff from both NAYA and MLK Jr. School participated in a summit to develop a menu for Assembly. The project will culminate as lunches prepared for each day of Assembly, inspired by the recipes and ideas generated during the exchange. The project will be documented through custom paper placemats that we produce with notes, photographs and images from the project.

1:45-2:45PM

## Creek College Class 3: Creek Stories

with Eliot Feenstra, Lauren Moran and  
Collaborators

What are the stories we tell that connect us, and others, to a specific place? What are the tales or histories we have developed to grow symbiotic relationships between people and the natural world? What are the current and societal stories being debated?

The stories we tell ourselves and others shape what we can imagine and understand; what we believe has happened; and what we believe is possible – both individually and collectively. In the course of sharing stories, difficulties and truths of community and place can rise to the surface. Building on traditions of story circles and storytelling in many cultures and community arts practices, this workshop invites participants to consider how stories connect us to place through sharing and listening to stories about water (and creeks!) in our lives.



## PROJECTS

3:00-3:45PM

### Creek College Afternoon Barter

with Yoko Silk

Portland Parks Stewardship Coordinator Yoko Silk will lead participants from the afternoon classes in an invasive species removal session on the Columbia Slough.



4:00-5:00PM

### Creek College Class 4: Canoe The Slough

with Anke Schüttler, Shoshana Gugenheim  
and Jennifer Starkey

Come canoe the slough! After talking, writing, playing, learning and thinking let your brain relax and come enjoy a quiet journey on the water. In this class we'll be paying attention to the water, and listening to what the environment wants to teach us as we paddle in silence through the slough.

Launch point: Whitaker Ponds Nature Park, 7040 NE 47th Ave  
Canoes provided by Columbia Slough Watershed Council

## PROJECTS

5:15–6:15PM

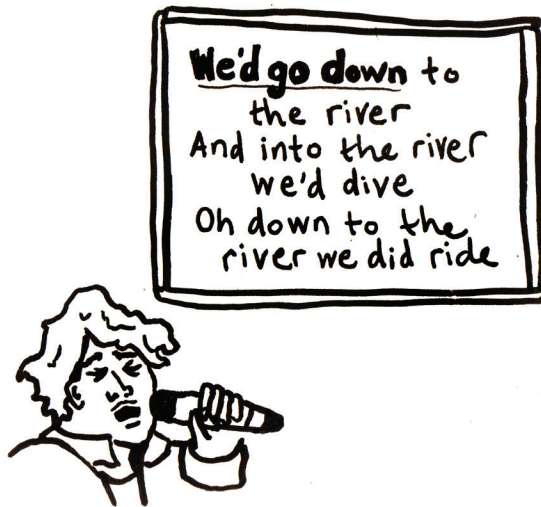
# Panel Discussion: Placemaking, Community and Environment

with Amy Harwood (Co-Director of Signal Fire), Jennifer Starkey (Education Director at Columbia Slough Watershed Council), a local ecologist and a representative from NAYA

A collaborative discussion focussing on two topics; Reciprocity between humans and nature, and community involvement in conservation practices. The discussion will highlight approaches and philosophies in each of our panelists respective fields. We will examine development and growth of these practices over time.

Location: Whitaker Ponds Nature Park in the Gazebo,  
7040 NE 47th Ave





8:00-11:00PM

## Karaoke at Chopsticks III

Unwind from a day of activity on the Columbia Slough with some karaoke right down the street. Join us from 8pm onward at Chopsticks III.

Location: 535 NE Columbia Blvd



**Sunday, May 21**

**Location:  
Martin Luther King Jr. School  
4906 NE 6th Ave**

## PROJECTS

10:00AM-5:00PM

# Experimental Family Project Space

by PLAT

This is an ongoing learning space for the duration of Assembly that offers childcare for parents attending the conference and also explores the shifting conference sites through documentation. Drawing from similarities between radical education philosophies of Reggio Emilia and the Social Practice canon, we will use processes of recording our surroundings to deepen our inquiries of, and connections to, the landscapes surrounding us. You are welcome to drop in (and drop off) anytime! All ages are invited to participate. Materials will be provided. Pre-registration encouraged but not required. Ask questions or pre-register by contacting Emma at [ecolburn@pdx.edu](mailto:ecolburn@pdx.edu)



## PROJECTS



10:00-11:00AM

## Place Based Knowing in a Branded World

with Alissa Hartman & Shoshana Gugenheim

Robin Wall Kimmerer, acclaimed author, professor of biology and member of the Potawatomi Nation, once noted that children growing up in today's commercial world can identify over 100 logos and fewer than 10 plants! This workshop shifts our attention to the inter-relationship between living beings and away from the commercialism that life in a city often fosters.

In our time together, we will test Kimmerer's theory, exploring commercial logos and the wild plants growing in and around the King School neighborhood. We will give focused time and attention to identifying edible and other plant species on in the neighborhood plant walk.

## PROJECTS

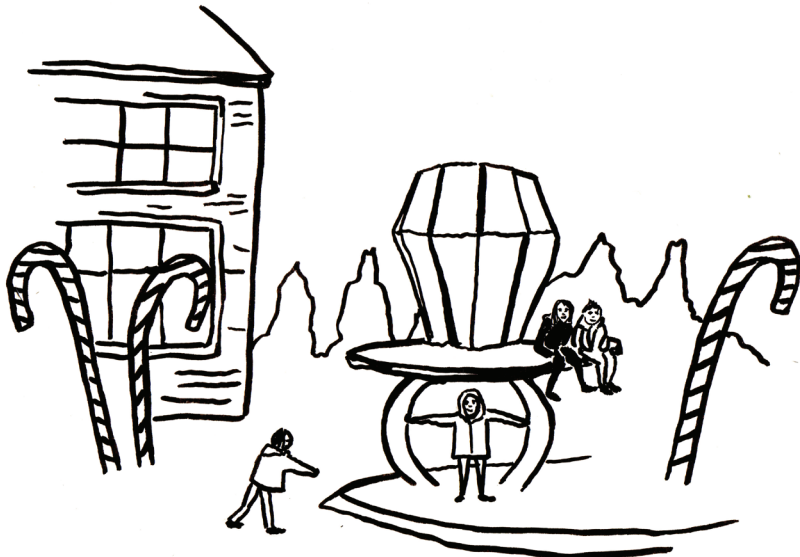
11:15AM-12:15PM

# Big Rock Candy Mountain

Helen Reed and Hannah Jickling

Helen and Hannah will discuss their long-term project Big Rock Candy Mountain (BRCM), produced in collaboration with students of Queen Alexandra Elementary School in East Vancouver, Canada. As a flavor incubator and taste-making think-tank, the project takes its name from a folk song that reflects a comic utopia, where we hear a '...buzzin' of the bees in the peppermint trees, 'round the soda water fountains.' BRCM is a post-proportionate world where adults and rationality no longer define the rules and limits of what is possible.

BRCM is comprised of meandering workshops, edible editions, artist invocations, strange conversations, school ground installations and an Instagram conveyor belt of evolving ideas. Rather than investing in a single result, BRCM privileges the school as a kind of (candy) factory, engaged in a wide range of productive capacities and processes. Here, smaller projects intersect with the larger context of economy, labour, taste-as-power and culturally defined objects of desire.



## PROJECTS

12:45-1:45PM

# **Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program: Lunch at MLK Jr. School**

**with Spencer Byrne-Seres & Xi Jie Ng (Salty) in collaboration with Laura Booth, Monique Lopez and Irene Prasad from the Native American Youth and Family Center, and Ruby Sims-Suell and Virginia Mulbey from Martin Luther King Jr. School**

The Cafeteria Staff Exchange Program is a project envisioned as a creative solution to providing lunches for Assembly. The goal is to bring together cafeteria staff from both NAYA and MLK Jr. School in an effort to develop conversation and reflection on nutrition, how to provide meals, high volume cooking, and our relationship to the food sources that surround us. Who are the staff working tirelessly at NAYA and MLK Jr. School? What is their relationship to food? How would they collaboratively design a menu for Assembly? Where do the recipes they use come from, and what might they cook if they could cook anything at work?

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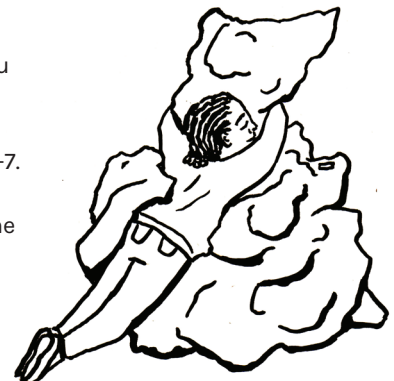
## PROJECTS

1:45-2:45PM

# KSMoCA Tour & All The Feelings (sculpture garden)

with Anke Schüttler, Michelle Piek, Amanda Evans, Erika Dedini, Shawn Creeden, Eddie Garland, Lisa Jarrett, Audra Appel, James Casey, Ema Corona, Curtis Dunlap, Karoline EauClaire, Hana Gustafson, Nicholas Haase, Jennifer Holloway, Trish Kalidonis, Margaret Lansing, James Liao, Jenna Mackowiak, Andrea Maldonado, Keisha Leigh Mateo, Ting Ying Tiffany Ng, Devin Ruiz, May Walker and Martin Luther King Jr. School students, Semaj Baldwin, Eduardo Zurita Gapar, Jasiah Black, Celeste Hernandez-Gudino, Selena Alvez-Jimenez, Alan Cerriteno-Apolonio, De'naya Clark, Samuel De Leon-Juan, Iona Dennerlein Manson, Jason Ferguson, Eleazar Gomez Pascual, Arianna Hunt, Valerie Jimenez-Ferrusca, Katherine Martinez, Luhndyn Matthews, Lizeth Meza-Pulido, Elliot Perez, Lizbeth Reynel-Alfaro, Jasmine Rojas, Antho Rosas Velazquez, Janat Salama, Jeremy Sebastian, Chance Taylor, Cur'jayshia Waters, Zanea Wiley, Deandre Allan, Aliyah Carter, Maria Diego-Gaspar, Ny'emah Hall, Aswan Ibrahim, Marshall Lockridge, Miracelda Mendoza, Zaryn Muhammad, Aline Nyiramahirwe, Antonio Palmer, Dayla Porter, Amyiah Robinson, Precilla Rodgers, Antwaun Spencer, Luis Torres-Hernandez, Chance White, Ronald Woods, Jayshawn Allen, Erica Butler, Malachi Byrd, Isaiah Carter, Ana Chico-Dominguez, Nathen Davis-Thomas, Pascual Diego Gomez, Gianna Groner, Styles Johnson, Louis Kinnaman, Jordyn Mathews, Eriya Mughisha, Clayton Neal, Yuliett Rangel Nino, Lizet Torres, Diana Torres Granados, Nori White, Aneras Williams, Barry Williams, Charles Windom, and Anthony Wright

What are all the feelings you are feeling? What do you do with all those feelings? If there was a sculpture to receive and help you process your feelings, what would the sculpture look like? The sculpture garden at Martin Luther King Jr. School is a result of working through these questions with King students in grades 3-7. Their ideas were passed along to artists who created the actual structures of the sculptures and finished in collaboration with the students of MLK Jr. School.



## PROJECTS

3:00-4:00PM

# What We Make Together

with Eliot Feenstra

This is a performance workshop. This is an exploration of the question how do we collaborate? Using tools from collaborative performance techniques and Augusto Boal's Theatre of The Oppressed, participants will engage in embodied research about collaborative art-making, including creating short performance vignettes. No experience necessary, all ages welcome.

Location: Cafeteria



4:15-5:15PM

# Whispering Soil Story Circle Part 2

with Anupam Singh

On Saturday, sculptures were created during Creek College with found objects collected from the Columbia slough and inspired by the site. After completion the sculptures were left at the site to decompose and reintegrate into the landscape. Instead of documenting our process or finished pieces through conventional methods, participants will share personal memories and narratives of the process in a story circle at MLK Jr. School.

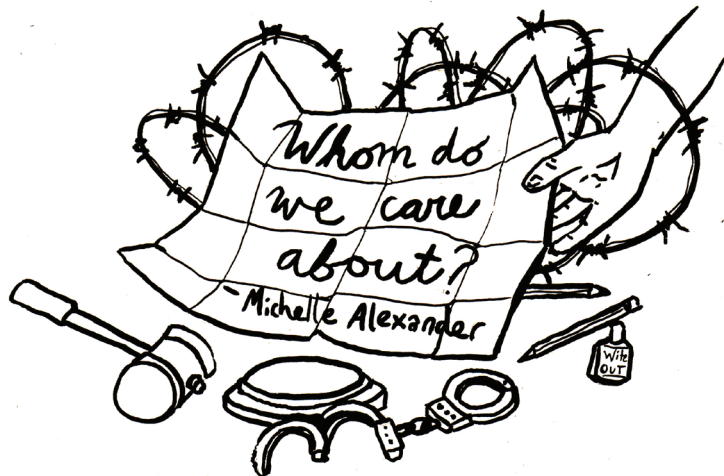
## PROJECTS

5:30-6:30PM

# The New Jim Crow Experiential Research Workshop

with Anke Schüttler, Emma Colburn,  
Lauren Moran, Lisa Jarrett & Renee Sills

In this hour we will focus on collectively conducting Experiential Research Strategies to better facilitate communication between communities that can't be together. We will gather ideas and questions to explore our shared feelings, thoughts, and inclinations about race and mass incarceration in the United States. This session also includes critical engagement with texts and discussion through writing and storytelling. The workshop is the initial phase of a larger project that uses Experiential Research Strategies to connect people and sites by questioning 'colorblindness' and its impact on the systems we live within locally and nationally. The conversation is inspired by Michelle Alexander's book *The New Jim Crow-Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*.





7:00-9:00PM

## Closing Conversation

with Ariana Jacob

As Assembly comes to a close for this year let's reflect together on what we saw, felt, thought, heard, tasted, reconsidered and realized over the past days. All levels of Assembly participants welcome, whether you attended one or all of the events. This lightly structured conversation invites us to begin synthesizing our Assembly experiences and imagining the ways they might influence what we do next.





# People & Places

## **Alissa Hartman**

Alissa Hartman, BFA M.Ed is an artist, gardener and owner of Seed Garden Designs. Alissa's ethics are rooted in sustainability. She believes the earth should be treated with as much care and respect as humans like to be treated. Seed is an active member of the Oregon Association of Nurseries and a certified Oregon Minority, Women and Emerging Small Business.

## **Amy Harwood**

Amy has been involved in forest conservation and public lands advocacy since 1998. She has worked at Bark, a watchdog group for Mt. Hood National Forest in various roles for over fifteen years. She has led hundreds of hikes and backpacking trips, educating people on the threats that face our ancient forests. In addition, she has developed and led trainings for activists to learn how to engage in public land decision-making and continues to help Bark's efforts to hold federal land agencies accountable to environmental laws. She splits her time between Portland, OR and Tucson, AZ. She is a certified Wilderness First Responder and co-director of Signal Fire.

## **Anke Schüttler**

Anke Schüttler is a multidisciplinary artist from Germany, specializing in photography and Social Practice. With a sensibility that ranges from poetic to humorous and absurd, her work strives to foster social interactions by asking questions and challenging existing situations. Collaboration and collective thinking are inherent to her process which is about learning from and giving back to the people she works with. [www.ankeschuettler.com](http://www.ankeschuettler.com)

## **Anupam Singh**

Anupam is an artist interested in the interconnections between ecological and cultural sustainability. He is the founder of the Centre for Arts and Social Practice (CASP - India) which facilitates workshops, conversations, screenings, community partnerships and socially engaged projects. He also engages in ideas and practices of safe farming technologies.

## **Ariana Jacob**

Prior to becoming an artist and academic Ariana Jacob managed a farmers market, worked in a cabinet shop, co-ran a secret cafe out of her apartment, and fished for salmon commercially. While being an artist and academic Ariana also does union organizing and group facilitation work, alongside being a partner, friend, family member and wonderer. Ariana teaches the history of social practice art as a part of the PSU Social Practice MFA program.

### **The Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI)**

CRCI is a low-security men's prison located less than a mile from the Oregon Food Bank and gardens. In spring 2017 the Art and Social Practice MFA program at PSU launched an artist residency program and weekly class at CRCI so that incarcerated artists can expand their artistic practices through a residency during their prison sentence. The collaborative mural design is an extension of this residency.

### **Columbia Slough Watershed Council**

The Columbia Slough Watershed Council is a diverse group of neighbors, property owners, businesses, environmental groups, recreation advocates, and government agencies who work to restore and enhance the 60 miles of waterways known as the Columbia Slough, located in Portland, Gresham, and Fairview. The Columbia Slough Watershed Council is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Our Vision for the Watershed: An urban watershed rich in clean water and healthy habitats that supports the needs of fish, wildlife, plants and people

### **Creek College**

Creek Colleges are experimental schools that bridge art and environmental conservation. We offer a range of free art courses to local community in exchange for aid in the restoration of watersheds suffering from environmental degradation. Our goal is to create an experiential learning environment that combines art and stewardship with a focus on accessibility and inclusivity. It is a project by Adam Carlin, Kristina Dutton and Kimberly Sutherland.

### **Eliot Feenstra**

Eliot Feenstra is a community-based theatre-maker who dances between rural and urban Oregon (and sometimes beyond). Recently he has been focused on the poetics of work, the role of the arts in civic engagement, talking across divides, and bouffon & fool archetypes. He loves poetry, queer dance parties, growing food, and reading books.

### **Emma Colburn**

Emma Colburn is an artist founded in 1986 to investigate systems that structure micro and macro cosmic realities, while stimulating improvisational relationships to these ordering systems.

### **Hannah Jickling and Helen Reed**

Hannah and Helen have worked together for 10 years. Atypical forms of distribution, entrepreneurial scheming and audience-seeking are important strategies for supporting and disseminating their work. They are currently fascinated with the 'contact high' intrinsic to collaborative work, especially in their recent projects with children.

### **Jennifer Starkey**

Jennifer Starkey joined the Columbia Slough as Education Director in April of 2016. A sincere enthusiast about the natural and cultural history of our region, Jennifer has been an educator in Portland since 2007 and is passionate about making change to help all students access the outdoors. Jennifer gained her proclivity for outdoor learning and teaching from MESD Outdoor School, where she participated as a 6th grade student, high school student leader, and staff member. She has also taught with Caldera Arts, David Douglas High School, and most recently with the Portland Water Bureau's Education Program. Jennifer is a licensed teacher in the State of Oregon, holds a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Lewis & Clark, and a BA from Wellesley College. In her spare time, Jennifer bakes, picks up garbage in the street, and eats lunch with her grandma at the Village Inn.

### **Kimberly Sutherland**

Kimberly Sutherland is a graphic designer and artist exploring the interconnections between us and the natural world. Her work examines relationships and creates opportunities to connect with the systems we move through and are part of. She has worked at The New York Times Magazine and Project Projects with clients ranging from The Museum of Modern Art, Columbia University, Phaidon, and Gagosian Gallery. She has a BDes from Emily Carr University and is currently a candidate for an MFA in Art & Social Practice at Portland State University. Raised amongst the Canadian Cascades, Kimberly currently lives and works between New York, Portland, OR and Vancouver, BC. [www.kimberly-sutherland.com](http://www.kimberly-sutherland.com)

### **KSMoCA (King School Museum of Contemporary Art)**

KSMoCA is a contemporary art museum within the walls of a functioning K-8 public school in NE Portland, OR. It is a collaborative project by PSU faculty Lisa Jarrett and Harrell Fletcher who work alongside students from King elementary school and Portland State University's College of the Arts. The project creates an unusual pairing between early education and internationally renowned artists and their work. Students at the school learn through experience about museum practice and careers as they are facilitated through the roles of curators, installers, publicists, copywriters, registrars and docents. KSMoCA re-imagines the way museums, public schools, and universities shape people, culture, and perspectives by cultivating a space for art to educate within and beyond the classroom.

### **Lauren Moran**

Lauren Moran's practice centers around interdisciplinary projects that are often participatory, collaborative and co-authored, aiming to investigate and question the systems we are all embedded in. By organizing situations of connection, openness and non-hierarchical learning, they are interested in creating sites for accessibility and nonbinary examinations of the multiple truths we encounter. Lauren is excited to be working collaboratively with the nonprofit Public Annex and on an artist residency project called Field of View. [www.laurengracemorán.com](http://www.laurengracemorán.com)

### **Lisa Jarrett**

Lisa Jarrett was born in 1977 in Morristown, New Jersey. Growing up as a Black American who moved with her family to various, often conflicting political climates in cities in Texas, Minnesota, and New York, the influences of her upbringing in a post-Civil Rights and increasingly so-called 'post-racial' America are apparent in her work, which confronts ideas of racial difference and perceptions of racial equity. Jarrett lives and works in Portland, Oregon, where she is Assistant Professor of Community and Context Arts at Portland State University's School of Art + Design.

### **Michelle Peake**

Michelle Peake has been a school counselor for 15 years and loves working with kids. The focus for her programming at Martin Luther King Jr. School is teaching self-regulation and mindfulness. The students MLK Jr. School practice these skills throughout their day

### **NAYA (Native American Youth and Family Center)**

Founded by the community, for the community, NAYA is a family of numerous tribes and voices who are rooted in sustaining tradition and building cultural wealth. We provide culturally-specific programs and services that guide our people in the direction of personal success and balance through cultural empowerment. Our continuum of lifetime services create a wraparound, holistic healthy environment that is Youth Centered, Family Driven, Elder Guided.

### **Oregon Food Bank (OFB)**

Oregon Food Bank (OFB)'s mission is to eliminate hunger and its root causes. OFB distributes food to agencies that feed people who are hungry throughout Oregon and Clark County, Washington, while also working to address the root causes of hunger through public policy advocacy, community food systems, and education programs. OFB's Learning Gardens and Community Farm creates access to nutritious food by engaging community members in urban food production. This year, OFB is partnering with MudBone Grown at their Unity Farm to provide culturally-appropriate, hands-on education, training and capacity building that will empower the local community to grow healthy food. MudBone Grown believes in creating kinship, fostering cultural pride and community through the cultivation of land ownership, food production, and community asset building. OFB is also partnering with the Oregon Inter-Tribal Breastfeeding Coalition to establish a First Foods Garden to engage community members around traditional foods and seed saving. The gardens are located between the Columbia Slough and river, and are open to the public.

### **PLAT (Parent Lead Art Time)**

PLAT is an experimental arts programming space in SE Portland that features collaborations between adult and children artists. By blurring the lines between adult and child art spaces, we produce PLATforms that support the intersection of visual and performance art.

### **Renee Sills**

Renee Sills is an author, educator and multidisciplinary artist. Her work explores mindfulness, agency and the adaptive processes of the human body in contemporary landscapes. She works primarily with video, sound, dance, writing and collaborative questioning. Renee has been the Artist in Residence at Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) for the past two years where she has been researching kinesthetic and creative learning approaches to science. [www.reneesills.com](http://www.reneesills.com)

### **Roz Crews**

Roz Crews creates situation-specific projects that require participation and involve social engagement as a method of research and production. She is the 2015-2017 Artist-in-Residence in the Portland State University Housing and Residence Life Department, works in the curatorial department of the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, and co-organizes Sunday Painter Press, a publishing platform dedicated to sharing work by social practice artists. [www.rozcrews.info](http://www.rozcrews.info)

### **Shoshana Gugenheim**

American/Israeli artist, explores the tension between public and private ritual bringing individuals together in unexpected ways in order to do so. Her most recent works in the Jewish community address gender equality, death and dying, ritual bath and ethically sourced parchment making. A former environmental educator and mother of two, she is currently navigating the shifting landscape of place based 'knowing'.

### **Spencer Byrne-Seres**

Spencer Byrne-Seres is an artist and art worker based in Portland, OR. Spencer makes research-based and socially-engaged projects about the intersection of broad systems with the daily and the personal. Spencer is interested in city infrastructure, international time standards, protest movements, superPAC's, fish hatcheries, and home shopping networks. [www.spencerbyrne-seres.info](http://www.spencerbyrne-seres.info)

### **Taryn Tomasello**

Taryn Tomasello is a writer, curator, organizer and artist. Her practice is centered on memory, risk and difference inside human geography. The work takes place between video, performance, text and relational sculpture, exhibiting a dense, variable texture, stoic resemblances and mythic attributes, and a deep sympathy for the uninvited.

### **Xi Jie Ng (Salty)**

is from the tropical metropolis of Singapore. Her work explores the inherent possibilities in the poetic, eccentric and infinite everyday. She makes collaborative encounters that are intimate, semi-fictional paradigms for the real and imagined lives of humans. She is interested in seniors as their own cosmos, the role of clown in relation to our deepest selves, the intersection between art, nature and spirituality, and performance that transforms the everyday. [www.saltythunder.net](http://www.saltythunder.net)

### **Yoko Silk**

Yoko works in parks and natural areas in the Columbia Slough watershed in North and Northeast Portland. She has over 14 years of youth work and outdoor education experience, including time as an environmental educator, a backpacking instructor and raft guide, and as a caseworker at a crisis shelter for homeless and runaway teens. Yoko has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon. In 2010, Yoko joined the Parks family as the lead teacher for the Jr GRUNT program with the Environmental Education department. Yoko is passionate about connecting people to nature and is committed to serving under-represented communities and creating opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage in nature in meaningful and impactful ways. In her free time, Yoko enjoys going on outdoor adventures, playing cello, juggling and rock-climbing.

## 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 disciplinarily engagement. Graduating students each produce a public graduate 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 five students annually. The deadline for applying is January. Interested persons are encouraged to make arrangements to visit the program.



We'd go down to the river  
And into the river  
We'd dive  
Oh down to the river  
We did ride



# THANK YOU



Sunday at  
Martin Luther King Jr. School  
(KSMoCA)



Saturday  
Creek College in  
collaboration with  
NAYA at the  
Columbia Slough



Illustrations by Lauren Moran



[psusocialpractice.org/assembly](http://psusocialpractice.org/assembly)

**ART +  
SOCIAL  
PRACTICE**