Tomorrow

What strategies can we use to teach about the past, increase awareness of current community and individual needs, and support our students as they use this information to envision the world they want to create?

Sunday, May 19, 2019
#ActivistNY

The Teaching Social Activism Conference and education programs in conjunction with the exhibitions Activist New York and City of Workers, City of Struggle: How Labor Movements Changed New York are made possible by The Puffin Foundation, Ltd.

Activist New York is the inaugural exhibition in The Puffin Foundation Gallery, which is dedicated to the ways in which ordinary New Yorkers have exercised their power to shape the city’s and the nation’s future.

The Frederick A.O. Schwarz Education Center is endowed by grants from The Thompson Family Foundation Fund, the F.A.O. Schwarz Family Foundation, the William Randolph Hearst Endowment, and other generous donors.
So much of the history of this country and human progress across the world is inexorably connected to the efforts and struggles of ordinary people who come together to demand and fight for change. We hope this conference will offer resources and strategies for you to use to help bring these stories into the classroom.

We’re honored to support the wonderful work of the Museum of the City of New York for this important event. And we hope you’ll take the time to find out about a host of other Puffin-supported projects here at the Museum, intended to highlight the work of everyday folks who have led the efforts for women’s rights, labor rights, civil rights, and so many other social justice battles.

One of these projects is the Museum’s newest exhibition, City of Workers, City of Struggle: How Labor Movements Changed New York, which traces the social, political, and economic story of diverse workers and their movements in New York through rare documents, artifacts, and footage, and considers the future of labor in the city. Another is just down the hall from City of Workers, where you’ll find Activist New York, a gallery dedicated to exploring the city’s rich history of social activism.

We applaud all of today’s presenters and attendees and the Museum staff who’ve put this all together. We hope it will help inspire you to share the word about teaching social activism in the classroom and the wonderful resources available here at the Museum.

Perry, Gladys, and Neal Rosenstein
THE PUFFIN FOUNDATION

WELCOME, EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND ORGANIZERS, TO OUR SEVENTH ANNUAL TEACHING SOCIAL ACTIVISM CONFERENCE!

Education is at the very core of the Museum’s mission. Our Frederick A.O. Schwarz Education Center serves over 50,000 students, teachers, and family members annually – the majority from under-resourced public schools – through programs that make the city’s history compelling and accessible for all levels of learners.

Key to our mission is the Activist New York exhibition and programming for students and educators covering issues of immigration; gender equality; economic, civil, and political rights; and environmental advocacy, beginning with the struggle for religious freedom in Dutch New Netherland and culminating with the Movement for Black Lives. I encourage you to visit the exhibition to see our three newest case studies: Power to All Oppressed People: The Young Lords in New York, 1969 to 1976; “Take New York City Out of the War:” Protesting Vietnam, 1965-1975; and When Existence is Resistance: Trans Activism in New York, 1969-2019.

This important content is also available for classrooms via the Activist New York website – found at activistnewyork.mcny.org – that provides a sweeping look at the passions and conflicts that underlie the city’s history of agitation and the New Yorkers who have mobilized to fight for the city they want to see.

We also invite you to help tell the story of today’s activists by contributing photographs of activism across the five boroughs. Use the hashtag #ActivistNY during the conference (and in the future) to share what we know will be a day of inspiring conversations.

We remain deeply appreciative of The Puffin Foundation’s long-standing generosity and support, which enables us to create content and programs, such as this conference, addressing issues of great relevance now more than ever.

Whitney W. Donhauser
RONAY MENSCHEL DIRECTOR & PRESIDENT
MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

About the Museum of the City of New York
The Museum of the City of New York fosters understanding of the distinctive nature of urban life in the world’s most influential metropolis. It engages visitors by celebrating, documenting, and interpreting the city’s past, present, and future. It serves the people of New York and visitors from around the world through exhibitions, school and public programs, publications, and collections.

About the Teaching Social Activism Conference
The Teaching Social Activism Conference is an annual event at the Museum of the City of New York. Inspired by the content of the Museum’s groundbreaking exhibition Activist New York, this day highlights the best practices for teaching this important subject to students of all ages. Educators, youth, and scholars join together for a free, full day of engaging conversations, thought-provoking sessions, and gallery tours exploring the various tools and techniques used to engage students and communities in the history and practice of social change.

Thank you to the Conference Teacher Advisory Committee!
Chiara DiLello, Jessica Han, Adam Kinony, Peter Lapré, Lavern McDonald, Tykia Moore, Cory Schneider, Kimron Thomas
8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration
Lobby, 1st Floor, Museum of the City of New York

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
Ronay Menschel Hall, Ground Floor, Museum of the City of New York

WELCOME:
Maeve Montalvo, Education Manager, Museum of the City of New York
Pilar Jefferson, Education Coordinator, Museum of the City of New York

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:
Minju Bae is a current Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Predoctoral Fellow in the Museum’s Frederick A.O. Schwarz Education Center. She is a Ph.D. Candidate in the History Department at Temple University.

KEYNOTE: “CONFRONTING TODAY TO CREATE OUR TOMORROW”
Annie Tan is a special education teacher in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, writer, activist, and storyteller. A proud alum of NYC public schools, Annie fights for public education, teacher unions, and NYC tenants. Annie has been featured in The New York Times, Edutopia, the Huffington Post, and on the Moth Radio Hour. She is currently working on an epic book about her Chinese Asian American family in America.

10:10 – 11:10 a.m. Concurrent Sessions I and Museum Activations

11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. Concurrent Sessions II and Museum Activations

12:20 – 1:20 p.m. Lunch on own
You are welcome to bring food back to the Museum’s Ground Floor. Preordered lunches can be picked up in the Ground Floor Hallway

1:20 – 2:00 p.m. Panel and Museum Activations

2:15 – 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions III and Museum Activations

3:15 p.m. Concluding Remarks
Ronay Menschel Hall, Ground Floor, Museum of the City of New York

Restrooms are located on the Ground and Third Floors. Gender diversity is welcomed at the Museum of the City of New York. All are welcome to use the restroom that best fits their gender identity or expression. An individual, all gender restroom is located on the Ground Floor.

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK ACTIVATIONS:

Gallery Tour: Activist New York New Case Studies
Location: 2nd Floor; meet outside Activist New York exhibition

Gallery Workshop: Changemakers in 20th Century New York City
Learn how everyday New Yorkers have shaped the city.
Location: 1st Floor; meet outside World City exhibition

Gallery Dialogue & Digital Interactives: Future City Lab
Discuss current challenges facing New York City and try your hand at urban design.
Location: 1st Floor; meet outside Future City exhibition

PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, & PANELS:

Theatre for Social Change
WORKSHOP
Geovonday Jones, Performer, Director, Lecturer in Brooklyn College Department of Theater; Ashley Ann Jones, Dancer, Performer; Maria Mukuka, Actor, Lecturer; Carol Mazhuvancheril, Actor
Utilize the performance of literature and song to address our current world issues with the hopes of building a better tomorrow. In this interactive session, learn tools for developing your own point of view through performance and take part in exercises, discussion, and self-discovery of your socially active voice.
Location: Ronay Menschel Hall, Ground Floor

City of the Future: Teaching a People’s History through Imaginative Inquiry
PRESENTATION
Elaine Chu, Co-Founder, Institute for Imaginative Inquiry, Educator, Education Consultant; Ella Moran, Co-Founder, Institute for Imaginative Inquiry
Experience how Imaginative Inquiry engages students in social contexts that require critical thinking and moral choices to affect change. Using highlights from a Social Studies unit where students become time-traveling archaeologists on a top-secret mission, explore how Imaginative Inquiry helps students use their knowledge of the past to create a more sustainable, equitable future. This session will involve a presentation, Imaginative Inquiry exercise, and discussion.
Location: Classroom A, Ground Floor
Creative Conversation Culture: Building an Immigrant Rights Classroom through Art
WORKSHOP
Marissa Gutierrez-Vicario, Founder and Executive Director of Art and Resistance through Education (ARTE), Art Education Adjunct Lecturer, CUNY; Grace Webster, ARTE Program Coordinator

Through an examination of visual artwork, explore how to frame conversations in the classrooms to prepare students to better understand immigration and validate the experience of immigrant students.
Location: Classroom B, Ground Floor

The History of Education for Activist Educators and Students
WORKSHOP
Erin R. Santana, Public Historian, Doctoral Student in American Studies, Rutgers University; Xavier Bishop, Youth Development Professional; Maurice Blackmon, Member of Integrate NYC Leadership Council

How have those who came before us fought for more equitable schools? How can we learn from their successes and struggles? Join a historian of education and educator-activists who will lead a discussion about popular historical narratives that often keep us from seeing the paths that have been laid before us, and learn strategies for disseminating counternarratives that can help us build the future well informed by the past.
Location: Classroom C, Ground Floor

10 Questions for Young Changemakers
WORKSHOP
Gabriela Hernandez Estrada, Program Associate, Facing History and Ourselves

Learn about the 10 Questions Framework, designed to engage young people with ethical concerns of citizenship, focusing on equity, effectiveness, and self-protection to ease the burdens of participation. Examine two case studies of student activism – the 1963 Chicago Public Schools Boycott and the 2018 Parkland High School students’ movement against gun violence – and reflect on questions about student civic participation.
Location: Bruno A. Quinson Conference Room, 3rd Floor

Session II 11:20 A.M. – 12:20 P.M.

Museum of the City of New York Activations:

Gallery Tour: Activist New York New Case Studies
Location: 2nd Floor; meet outside Activist New York exhibition

Gallery Tour: City of Workers, City of Struggle: How Labor Movements Changed New York
Trace the story of diverse workers and their movements in New York and consider the future of labor in the city.
Location: 2nd Floor; meet outside City of Workers, City of Struggle exhibition

Gallery Dialogue: Transportation Focus: Cycling in the City and Future City Lab
Unpack the complex, creative, and often contentious relationship between New York and the bicycle and discuss the future of transportation in New York City.
Location: 3rd Floor; meet outside Cycling in the City exhibition

Drop-in Activity: Building Our Future City
Drop by to create a paper building to add to our communal city!
Location: Front Terrace, 1st Floor (Rain Location: Lobby, 1st Floor)

Presentations, Workshops, & Panels:

Youth Development Thru Youth Involvement: It Worked!
Panel
Kelly Villar, Director, Staten Island Urban Center; Ray Ramirez, Founder, Lyric Lab; Aldrin Bonilla, Manhattan Deputy Borough President; Nyoka Acevedo, Co-founder, Sweet River Consulting; Nina Saxon, NYCHA Manager, Office of NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer; Camara Jackson, Founder, Elite Learners Inc.; James “Buddha” Reddick, Program Manager, Save Our Streets

Take a retrospective look at the youth activism and leadership programs from the 1980s-1990s that brought youth to the forefront of social activism. Facilitated by the Staten Island Urban Center, this panel discussion will present the experiences of social-justice leaders who were youth activists in the 1980s and 1990s.
Location: Ronay Menschel Hall, Ground Floor

Using Sustainability to Lead Social Change in Schools
Presentation
Joy Rifkin, Sustainability Specialist, DOE Office of Sustainability

Learn how to ignite student’s passions to make changes in their school buildings with the NYC DOE Office of Sustainability, which works with school communities to increase recycling and composting, reduce energy consumption, and connect to broader sustainability issues in NYC. Examine school case studies, receive resources to begin a school sustainability action plan, and take part in a United Nations and Sustainable Development Goal activity.
Location: Classroom A, Ground Floor

The New Deal’s Unintended Legacy: Understanding Historical Roots of Wealth Inequality
WORKSHOP
Rachel Hutchins, U.S. History Instructional Specialist, CUNY

Analyze primary-source documents in an inquiry-based activity taken from a lesson designed to teach high school students about the racially-exclusive provisions of the New Deal. Consider the consequences of historical decisions while brainstorming ways to adapt the proposed lesson to different audiences or student populations and build on such efforts to promote anti-racist pedagogy.
Location: Classroom B, Ground Floor

Suggested Grade Levels for Educators:

E = ELEMENTARY, M = MIDDLE SCHOOL, H = HIGH SCHOOL, C = COLLEGE
Youth welcomed in all sessions.
Cultivating Tomorrow by Gardening Today

WORKSHOP E/M/H
Ellen Bayer, Educator; Hal Eisenberg, Social Worker, Intervention Specialist; VittoriaVenuti, Educator, Scientist; Students: Dujuan King, Justin Rodriguez, Paula Otolora, Rosanili Delaguarda, Luisa Toro, Bryan Tjia, Alisson Argudo

Learn how a student-centered, teacher-created course, “Horticulture and Sustainability,” introduced students to the issue of unequal food distribution in NYC. Hear from students about their experience creating a project to address food waste in their school and how their actions changed the school environment and their neighborhood. Come away with a model curriculum, ideas for finding and successfully receiving grants, and suggestions for writing Common Core-aligned social-emotional learning curriculum.

Location: Classroom C, Ground Floor

Finding and Making the Space to Teach About Race

PRESENTATION M/H
Sean Conlon, School Administrator, K-12 Language Arts & Social Studies Supervisor
Students: Briana Gil, Cherry Goldszmidt, Ashley Kim, Sierra Mehlbrech

The schools we teach in reflect the broader racial injustices at play in the world and affect our students, our schools, and our communities. Explore what that means for those of us who strive to combat systemic racism, yet teach in settings that benefit from it, by hearing a case study about “Race in America,” an elective course centered on systemic racism developed over the last three years. Presenters will share the experiences of educators and students involved in this work and provide resources.

Location: Bruno A. Quinson Conference Room, 3rd Floor

SESSION III
2:15 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK ACTIVATIONS:

Gallery Workshop: Changemakers in 20th Century New York City
Learn how everyday New Yorkers have shaped the city.
Location: 1st Floor, meet outside World City exhibition

Gallery Tour: City of Workers, City of Struggle: How Labor Movements Changed New York
Trace the story of diverse workers and their movements in New York and consider the future of labor in the city.
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PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, & PANELS:

Building Equity in Schools: How Teens Are Taking Charge

PANEL M/H/C
Teens Take Charge: Sokhnadiarra Ndiaye, Operations Manager; Tiffany Torres, Direct Action Leader; Marvin Agyen, Growth Team Member; Sapira Cherfils, Growth Team Member; Ayaan Smith, Press Team Leader; Ashley Polanco, Policy Team Member; Toby Paperno, Social Media Team Leader; Allison Cachay Narva, Senior Advisor

Teens Take Charge is dedicated to elevating students’ voices in the education conversation. Hear students share their experiences of segregation and inequality in high schools through spoken word performance and their resolutions through a brief policy presentation. Students will sit on a panel to discuss their vision for the future of their schools and the city at large around the theme of “Building Tomorrow.”

Location: Ronay Menschel Hall, Ground Floor

Building Empathy through Found Object Instruments

WORKSHOP E/M
Dr. Bill Solomon, Musician, Educator

Explore the sounds of everyday objects as a way of building empathy in a session that focuses on student-centered creativity and imaginative performance. Through guided sound exploration, consider sounds from objects that are not usually defined as “musical” and move beyond initial assumptions about objects to build deeper resonances and connections. The session will conclude with guided improvisation and discussion.

Location: Ronay Menschel Hall, Ground Floor
SUGGESTED GRADE LEVELS FOR EDUCATORS:
E = ELEMENTARY, M = MIDDLE SCHOOL, H = HIGH SCHOOL, C = COLLEGE
Youth welcomed in all sessions.

CTLE Certification
The Museum is CTLE certified. Participation in the conference counts towards maintaining professional certification from the New York City Department of Education. To receive your CTLE hours, complete the following steps: Sign in to each session you attend. At the end of the day, complete the MCNY CTLE request form and return it to the Conference info desk or Ronay Menschel Hall at the end of the Conference. We will email you your CTLE form for the hours you attended.

Museum of the City of New York Educator Resources
Want more Activist New York? Access exhibition content and find lesson plans at: activistnewyork.mcny.org
Find additional lesson plans at: mcny.org/lesson-plans
Learn more about school, family, and professional learning programs at MCNY: collections.mcny.org

NOTES:

Inclusive Employment: Preparing Tomorrow’s Workforce
PRESENTATION
E/M/H/C
Dena Gassner, Professor, Towson University Department of Autism Studies, Adelphi University Department of Social Work
Discuss how disability justice and the inclusion of neurodiverse students in the classroom, community, workforce, and as the primary voices for policy change are crucial if we are to reduce the unemployment of autistic persons. This presentation will offer approaches for how students, families, and educators can help shift this inequality.
Location: Classroom A, Ground Floor

Teaching Tools for Tomorrow: Maker Education in the 21st Century
WORKSHOP
E/M/H/C
Danny Kirk, Manager of Maker Space Programs, New York Hall of Science
Using the New York Hall of Science Maker Space as a model, participants will explore maker-centered learning through reflective discussion and hands-on making. Participants will learn how making can support a learner’s ability to analyze complex systems, think creatively about solving problems, and develop skills to create unique solutions for the future.
Location: Classroom B, Ground Floor

Using Social-Emotional Learning to Jumpstart Institutional Equity Work from the Inside-Out
WORKSHOP
E/M/H
Carla Pugliese, Cofounder & Managing Partner, Beyond Delta Learning Group, Consultant, Coach
Hear how one school harnessed the tools of social-emotional learning to circumvent a lack of buy-in and assumptions around equity and inclusion work, in the process realigning their diversity and inclusion mission with student experience and community need. Then take part in a brainstorming session about how to bring the tools of social-emotional learning to your own communities.
Location: Classroom C, Ground Floor

Teen Activism: Reading in Action in School Libraries
WORKSHOP
M/H
Melissa Jacobs, Director of Library Services, New York City School Library System/NYC Department of Education; Marie Southwell, School Librarian, Graphic Arts High School Campus Library, NYC Department of Education
Learn about “The Teen Activism: Reading in Action (RIA)” grant, an opportunity that provides materials, professional learning, and funds to librarian-teacher collaborative teams who then support student-driven projects. Offered by the New York City School Library System, these grants help students in grades 7-12 design projects focused on contemporary social action topics in their schools and communities. Hear from grant recipients and learn about projects that helped students find their voice and take action.
Location: Bruno A. Quinson Conference Room, 3rd Floor

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Learn more about school, family, and professional learning programs at MCNY: collections.mcny.org

Upcoming Programs for Educators
Free Educator Evening
PRIDE: Photographs of Stonewall and Beyond & The Voice of the Village
Join the curators for a look at the photographs of Fred W. McDarrah. PRIDE is a companion exhibition to The Voice of the Village: Fred W. McDarrah Photographs and a critical component of the Museum’s Stonewall50 series of exhibitions and programming PRIDE = POWER!
For more information and to register, visit: www.mcny.org/events/educators

Summer P Credits
The Museum will offer three P Credit courses. For details, visit: www.mcny.org/education/p-credit-courses

SUNDA Y, MAY 19, 2019
7TH ANNUAL TEACHING SOCIAL ACTIVISM CONFERENCE
WWW.MCNY.ORG/EDUCATION