

IN THE CHAT WRITE: What are you excited about these days outside of school?

# Make Your Lessons Inclusive

Learn how to revamp & refresh your art lessons to feature BIPOC artists

June 29th, 4-5pm via Zoom

Earn 1 PD Credit Hour



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Presented by the IAEA EDI Committee



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# Make Your Lessons Inclusive

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Learn how to revamp & refresh your art lessons to feature BIPOC artists

Alaiyha Bryant  
Nick Hostert  
Jonathan Pruc  
Deanna Sortino  
Adriana Vonkgorad



# Conversation Expectations

- Actively de-center yourself + consider views and experiences of others
- Be prepared to experience discomfort
- Assume good intent
- Acknowledge we are all learning
- Don't be afraid to advocate for others
- Accept non-closure
- Critically reflect upon one's role and responsibilities as an educator
- Embrace these opportunities for learning, self-discovery and reflection
- We are all on our path toward Transformative Compassion: Understanding how to channel our empathy and new awareness to reduce harm, change systems & support each other.\*\*

# Welcome Activity

## OPTION 1

1. Who gave you your name? Why that name?
2. Do you know the ethnic origin of your name?
3. What is your preferred name?

## OPTION 2

1. Let us know a family tradition, your favorite cultural food that you eat, favorite holidays celebrate in your culture, languages you speak, OR any other interesting facts about your culture.



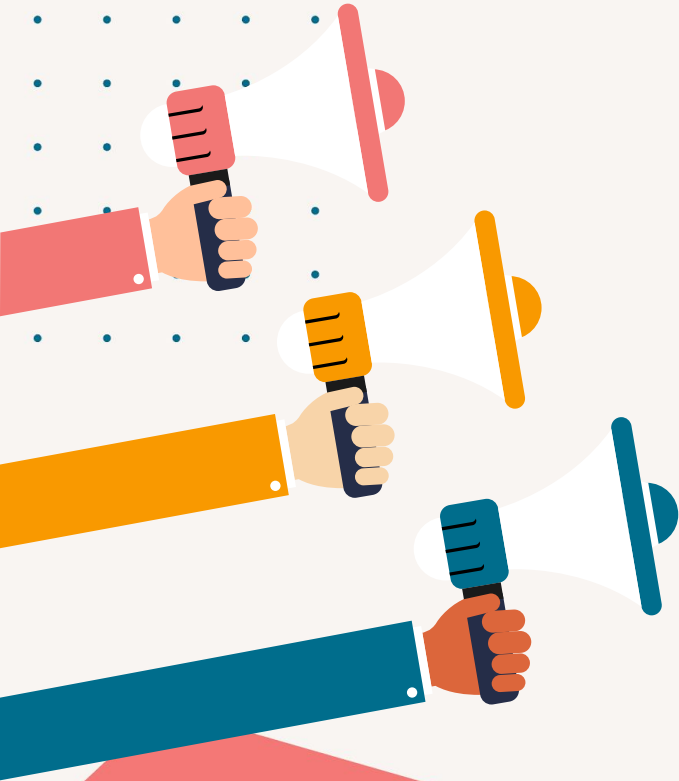
# “...but I can’t find any BIPOC artists”

- I kept using this as an excuse for why I didn’t include artists of color in my presentations
- After the murder of George Floyd, I knew I had to stop making this excuse and really dive deep into this work
  - Also, many artists started using their platforms to spotlight Black artists on their social media
- Jon Pruc and I started sharing new Black artists with each other that we found on social media
- Decided to start documenting it
- Created a list called Black Creatives Matter
  - Divided by media
  - Has anti-racist resources as well



# How are we continuing to revamp this resource?

- Add another 100 artists a year
- LatinX Creatives Matter
- Continuing to grow the team
- Continuing to add resources
- Share the resource
- Add to the lesson plans



# How do I use this list?

- Bookmark the list
  - [ILAEA.org](https://ilaea.org) → Professional Development → EDI →
    - [Black Creatives Matter](#)
    - [LatinX Creatives Matter](#)
      - Still in development phase
- Share with students (VIEW ONLY)
- Click on your preferred media
- Find images/artists that stick out to you
- RESEARCH THEM
  - Instagram
  - Website
  - Reach out to them
  - Find themes in their artwork



Can you show some concrete examples of how you used this resource??

**ABSOLUTELY!**





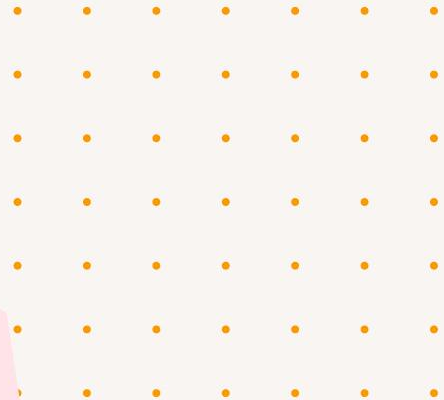


Deanna Sortino

BLM Summer Response Project

Portraits Revamp

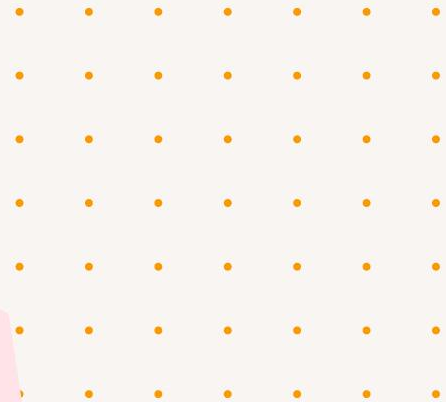
Ndubisi Okoye





Alaiyha Bryant  
Adriana Vongkorad

# Creating an Abolitionist Elementary Art Curriculum



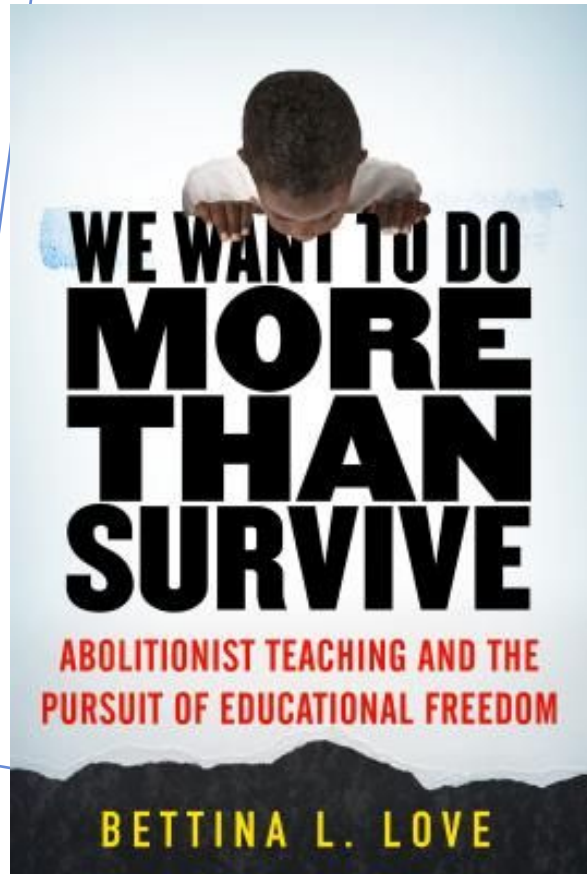
***FROM "DOING" TO "BEING":  
EMPOWERING STUDENTS  
THROUGH CRITICAL PEDAGOGY***



PRESENTED BY: ALAIYHA  
BRYANT & ADRIANA  
VONGKORAD



# **INTENTION | VULNERABILITY | EMPATHY | HONESTY**



*“Abolitionist teaching is refusing to take part in zero-tolerance policies and the school-to-prison pipeline. [...] Refusing the idea that children do not need recess and insisting that all children need to play.*

*Abolitionist teaching ensures that students feel safe in schools and that schools are not perpetrators of violence toward the very students they are supposed to protect.”*

# Latinx Heritage Month

## Alebríjes

**What is** **H** **LATINX** **HERITAGE** **MONTH** **?????**

- Appreciating and recognizing Latin-Americans' history, culture, and heritage.
- September 15th-October 15th

**What are Alebríjes?**

- Brightly colored Mexican folk art sculptures of fantastical creatures.
- Imaginary creatures that have elements from different animals such as dragon bodies, bat wings, wolf heads, and dog eyes.
- Created by Pedro Linares Loera

**Alebríjes... with Angélico Jiménez**



# IN THE CLASSROOM: *IN-PERSON* INSTRUCTION



Expressive Color !!

# REMOTE INSTRUCTION



- Encouraged more: student experience; student narrative; empathy and vulnerability; creative-thinking
- Connected to visual culture to learn about a Indigenous Latinx ceremony
- Intentionally created a space for art-making, building connections, and collective healing...all while deepening our learning about a topic exposed through (mainstream) artwork
- Honored student autonomy: students could focus on the technical skill, the concepts, or both, based on their interest and personal connections.

## Latinx Heritage: **Papel Picado**



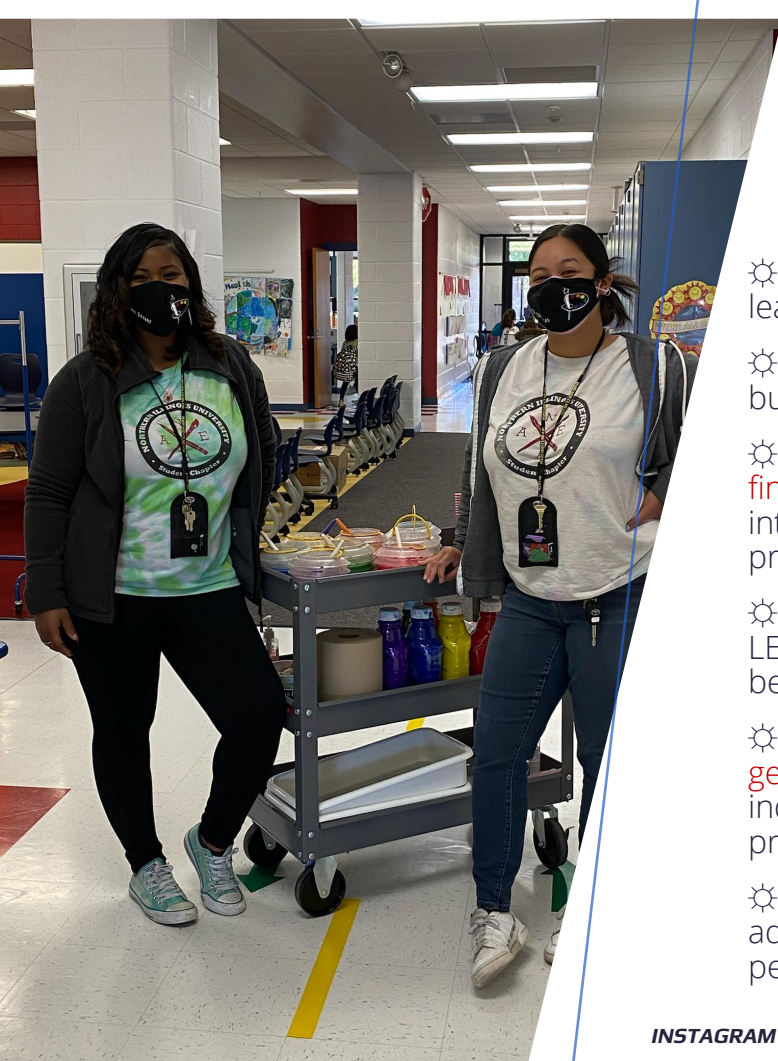
How does papel picado art tell a story?



Artist: *Danny González*

- + Creates **papel picado** artwork to talk about important issues
- + Donates the money he makes from his artwork to organizations that fight for the Indigenous communities!!





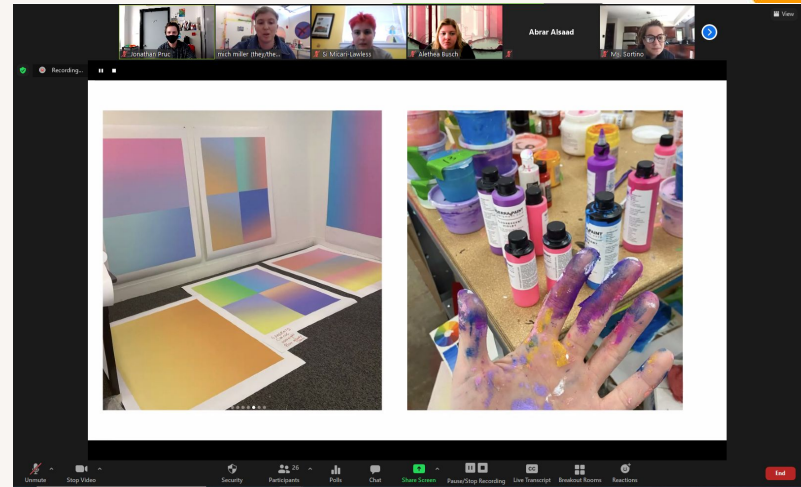
## ADDITIONAL PRACTICE

- ☀ Offered art-making prompts that encourage imaginative thinking ( play = learning )
- ☀ Prioritized routines & lessons that centered conversations to connect and to build a loving + empowering learning community
- ☀ Focused on the creative-thinking process instead of hyper-focusing on finished products (1. to connect and further engage students who are not as interested in art; 2. to create more opportunities to hear other folks' thought process so that we model how influential we are when we share our thoughts)
- ☀ Grounded in the main goal of school outside of institutional oppressions: LEARNING (which looks different for everyone, is fluid and ongoing, and should be individualized)
- ☀ Honored student autonomy so they created work they connected to and genuinely enjoyed rather than forcing them to complete tasks (this helps to individualize learning, enhances engagement, and offers more opportunities to practice creative problem solving skills)
- ☀ Researched ways to practice anti-racism (in general and in our practice) to advocate for and to support each and every one of our students in success and personal growth.

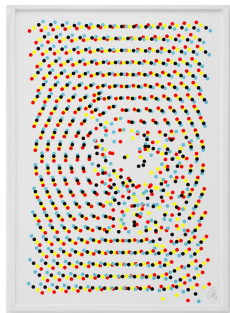


## Jonathan Pruc

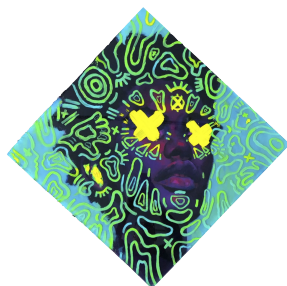
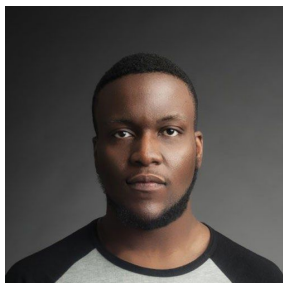
- Why I chose to incorporate Artist Talks
  - Inclusion straight from the source
  - Engaging in-class activity that breaks up everyday routine
  - Facilitates real meaningful conversations where students advocate for themselves, feel empowered/inspired
  - Because they're fun



# Artist Talks



**Peim van der Sloot** (1986) grew up in Argentina, graduated from the art academy in Utrecht (HKU) in 2010 and has since been working in the lively niches between visual arts, design and performance. Through a range of graphic techniques including sticker-collages and silkscreen he developed a very characteristic style. His optical illusions portray a strong urge for disorder. Within fixed grids he manages to introduce an unexpected flair of anarchy. With strong contrasts and vibrating colors, compositions are created full of movement, where the thin line between order and chaos is distorted. This same playfulness is applied to the sale of his works. He questions the assumptions on which our economy is based on, but also his artistic practice, constantly challenging both.

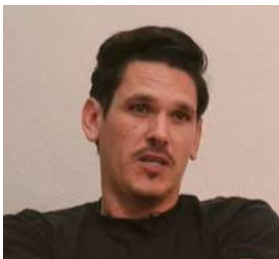


**Oscar Joyo** (b.1992, Lilongwi, Malawi). At a young age, he was introduced to art by his mother but his passion grew through animation, comic books, video games and film. He moved to the United States in 2000 from Malawi and lived in South Bend, Indiana. In 2011, Oscar moved to Chicago to attend the American Academy of Art and explore the creative Chicago art scene. He graduated with a BFA in life drawing at the American Academy of Art in 2015. Oscar currently lives in Chicago and has been involved in many artist exhibitions around Chicago.

# Artist Talks



**Ndubisi Okoye** is a multidisciplinary artist with a passion for art and design that tells a story. No matter what medium I am working with, I want to create unique stories to motivate, represent, and inspire people, especially those throughout the African Diaspora. The combinations of hand-lettering, geometric shapes, vibrant color palettes, and tribal patterns create an improvised rhythm throughout my work to uplift and motivate the viewer. I draw inspiration from many areas of my life, including anime, movies, music, poetry, and graphic design. I hope to create art that reflects the African Diaspora, my faith in God in the presence of indifference, and call attention to political issues. I want to show the power, beauty, and complexity of blackness.



**Ian Howorth**, was born in Peru to a British father and Peruvian mother, he moved to England aged 16. His photographs come from a generation that was born into an analog world but grew up in a digital one. Howorth photography ranges from cinematic to documentary and street tied to the quest for authenticity. Howorth imbues his shots with a bit of mystery and complex lighting that add a feeling of isolation and forgotten highlighted often by shadows.

# Artist Talks



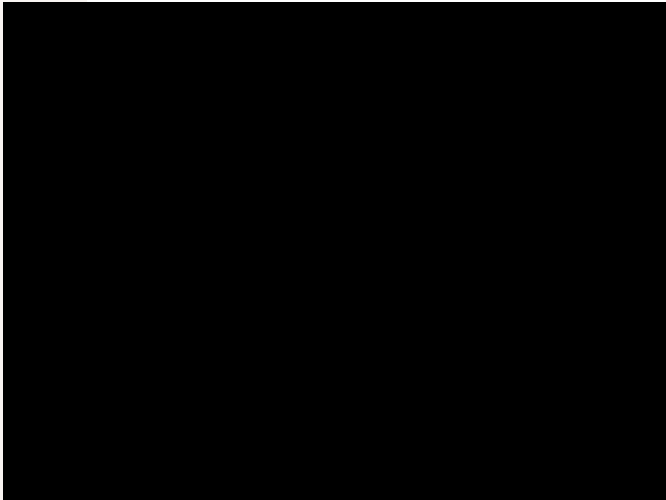
**Mich Miller** THEY/THEM (b. 1992, New York) is a Los Angeles-based interdisciplinary who works in the mediums of painting, printmaking, design, and installations as part of their practice. Miller earned their BFA from School of the Artist institute of Chicago in 2015 and just finished their MFA at Yale University. Miller has exhibited work in both solo and group shows at various spaces nationally, their work has included installations and murals for major media brands such as Pitchfork Music Festivals, Vans Skateboarding, and Facebook. Through abstraction, Mich Miller investigates the dynamics of gender and queerness through playful color, form, and language.



**Karen Navarro** is an Argentine-born multidisciplinary artist living and working in Houston. Navarro works on a diverse array of mediums that includes photography, collage, and sculpture. Her image-based work centers around the topic of identity, self-representation, and belonging. Navarro has a background in fashion design and completed the certificate program in photography at the Houston Center for Photography. Her constructed portraits are known for pushing the boundaries of traditional photography, the use of color theory, surreal scenes, and minimalist details.

\*canceled due to scheduling conflict, new date TBD

# Artist Talks



## How to Invite Artists to Your Class

- Follow and engage with their social media
  - Like-Comment-Ask Questions
    - This will help gauge the Artist's responsiveness
- Politely ask if they would do an Artist Talk with your class
  - Keep it general and brief, invite the "No"
  - Mention that they will be compensated
- If they agree, set up a pre-meeting
  - This will allow you to get to know each other, schedule the talk, go over expectations, timeline, etc.
- Invite classes, administrators, colleagues, and any other groups who could benefit from the lecture

# These are great! Any more tips?



## Change up your Instagram

- Start following artists from the lists
- Use #blackcreatives #latinxwomendesigner
- College groups (MIAD Black Designers)

## Find Lists

- Top 50 Latino Designers I should know, etc.

## Ask your school for professional development

- Attend as many BIPOC artist talks
- Spend a day researching

## Do the research

- Read articles and websites! Feel prepared

# What is our Ask?

## TRY IT OUT!

- Go the list and find an artist or artists who inspire you or your students - 5 minutes
- What made you choose this artist / How might you use their work in your lesson? (*invitation to share*)



# What is our Ask?

## NOW WHAT?

- Revamp a lesson to include an artist from these resources work OR create a new lesson inspired by their artwork
- Add your lesson to the Black Creatives or Latinx Creatives Matter List
- ***\*Volunteer to present a 5 min short about your lesson/artist at the IAEA conference\****

## I'M SCARED! What if I fail??

- We are here to answer all questions you might have
- We will meet as a group again in September to see where you are in this journey
  - Is your lesson ready to go?
  - Any questions?
  - How did it go?
- We're here to support you along the way!
- Start with the research so you feel more comfortable



# Any Questions?



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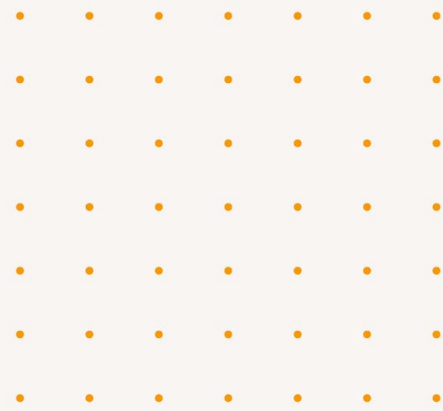
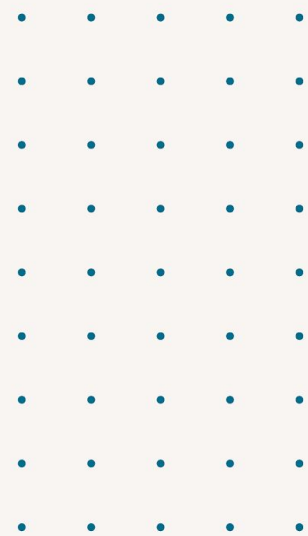
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# How I Revamped My Lesson



# Thanks

We look forward to seeing you in September!

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