

COMMON  
FIELD  
CONVENING  
PHILADELPHIA  
2019



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## SOCIAL

## MEDIA

Please share your Convening experience on social media!  
We encourage a collaborative documentation effort. Fun and creative posts will be highlighted on our accounts.

Please use #CommonFieldPhilly.

Instagram @common\_field

Twitter @common\_field

Facebook @commonfield

## COMMON

## FIELD

Common Field (CF) is a national network of independent visual arts organizations and organizers that connects, supports, and advocates for the artist-centered field. Founded in 2013 and launched in the fall of 2015, the Common Field network has 650+ members across 43 states. Programs include national convenings, grants, research, resources, forums, meet-ups and advocacy. Our vision is to increase understanding, involvement and knowledge of artists organizations and their value, and increase their capacity through national connectivity, dialog understanding and support.

Common Field's network includes contemporary, experimental, noncommercial artist-centric organizations and organizers including alternative art spaces, publications, digital exhibition venues, residencies, platforms, collectives, collaboratives, and individual organizers. These projects and spaces provide interdisciplinary and hybrid forms for art production, reception, and exchange. They generate independent, responsive, grassroots, artist-centered cultures. They support artists, connect artists with the public in intimate, experimental, and generative ways, and they are deeply involved in the shape and characters of the contexts where they work. Our members stimulate ideas, imagination, and innovation in their communities.

## COMMON FIELD CORE VALUES

We are a network of artists' organizations and organizers who embrace interwoven roles as artists, curators, administrators, and organizers. We build from the rigor, experimentation, risk-taking, and responsiveness of contemporary artistic practices.

We challenge dominant discourses and offer alternatives to the status quo. We put difficult ideas and imaginaries into the world. We support practices and projects that emerge from the ground up.

We organize as a field in order to strengthen one another through collective action, shared information, and mutual

support. We demonstrate equitable pay, self-determination, and healthy work environments.

We value difference in all its forms. We create structures, build platforms, and advance thinking that support diversity in identity, geography, history, orientation, perspective, and circumstance.

We support organizing that generates new contexts for creation, circulation, and critique. We engage with changing social, political, and economic conditions, prioritizing the role of art organizing within these broader concerns.

We use sharing, open communication, and problem solving as a way of modeling new forms of equity and power. We are transparent in our governance, decision making, communication, goals, and finances.

We foster a culture of collaboration. We are equally committed to listening, to self-critique, to feedback, and to modification and calibration as part of our collective evolution.

## THE

## CONVENING

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Common Field's Convening is an itinerant annual gathering that brings together arts organizers from across the US to explore the state of the field and to share resources, knowledge and methods for artist-led, artist-run, and artist-centered projects, spaces, and practices.

The Convening aims to develop local and national peer connectivity and to build knowledge from and for the field. Convenings connect the interests of the national Common Field membership to the issues and conditions specific to the location in which they are held through sessions and workshops, practical and social exchanges, meals, performances, and creative evening programs.

Common Field began laying the foundation for the Philadelphia Convening in late 2017, and have worked closely with an extensive network of advisors, network members and 14 Local Convening Partners to collaboratively and contextually shape this year's program.

The 2019 Convening features 23 break-out sessions selected from a free, open call for proposals. The Open Call ran from August 15 – November 5, 2018, and a jury comprised of three

local partners and three national Common Field community members met in December to make final selections. The 2019 Convening will support 84 presenters through these 23 sessions with a speaker honorarium as well as a travel stipend for those traveling from outside of Philadelphia. We are also honored to support as well as 18 local artists through projects featured during the Convening. All Together Sessions have been shaped by Common Field's board and as well as our local partners, and will provide shared experiences for all attendees.

This year's Convening will be the biggest one yet – we are so excited to share this program with you!

## CONVENING

## HISTORY

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The Common Field Convening, originally Hand-in-Glove, a localized gathering organized by Threewalls in Chicago in 2011, has been hosted in New Orleans 2013 Minneapolis 2015, Miami 2016, Los Angeles 2017 and now Philadelphia!

Common Field is committed to empowering local organizers and organizations to guide the Convening's content, program, and culture. The gathering has evolved from a series of panels to a diverse array of content formats, providing many opportunities to present, engage, connect, learn and share. Common Field is committed to providing opportunities for both value-driven discussions and practical tools and skills, a need expressed by Common Field members and the field at large.

To see full programs and content from past Convenings, visit [commonfield.org](http://commonfield.org).

## FRIENDS

## CENTER

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&

THE

QUAKER

TRADITION

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Friends Center:

The Quaker Hub for Peace and Justice in Philadelphia  
1501 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Friends Center is a hub for Quaker activity in Philadelphia and around the world. Philadelphia has a long, rich history of Quaker

organizing, and continues to have a large Quaker community presence. The Friends Center campus houses an active Quaker meeting, local, regional, and international Quaker organizations, and like minded groups working for peace and justice. The Friends Center campus has long been a center for organizing for peace and justice and for gathering people together to wrestle with the issues of the day.

The continuously active meetinghouse has served its congregation and the larger community for over 150 years. Important figures in the life of this building have included prominent women's right activists Lucretia Mott, Hannah Clothier Hull, and Alice Paul. In 1993 the Race Street Meetinghouse was designated a National Historic Landmark for its role in women's rights movement of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

It continues today as an organizing place for peace and human rights and a stepping off place for marches and vigils. Friends Center has hosted difficult and sometimes fractious groups, realizing the space would encourage dialogue by providing an atmosphere of respect and peaceful problem solving.

## NATIVE LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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We recognize that we stand on occupied land. Today, specifically on the territories of the Lenape. We recognize the continual displacement of Native people by the United States and are committed to working to dismantle the ongoing effects of this settler-colonial legacy. Please join us in expressing our deep gratitude and respect for the contributions Indigenous peoples have and continue to make to our communities, country, and world.

*Common Field thanks c3:initiative for sharing this language.*

## PARTNERS

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2019 Convening Local Partners have worked with Common Field to shape the Convening program, sites, commissions, and local goals. Partners are not only visionary leaders and deep collaborators on this project, but materially supported our work by sharing space, hosting events and meetings, and generously connecting this work to their constituencies and networks. The 2019 Philadelphia Convening Local Partners are:

### Asian Arts Initiative

Connecting cultural expression and social change, Asian Arts Initiative uses art as a vehicle to explore the experiences of Asian Americans and the diverse communities of which we are a part. Located in Philadelphia's burgeoning Chinatown North neighborhood, Asian Arts Initiative is a multidisciplinary arts center offering exhibitions, performances, artist residencies, youth workshops, and a community gathering space. Here, all people — across experience and skill levels, age, race, and class backgrounds — can view and create art that reflects our lives, as well as think critically and creatively about the future we want to build for our communities.

### BlackStar Film Festival

The BlackStar Film Festival is an annual celebration of the visual and storytelling traditions of the African diaspora and of global indigenous communities, showcasing films by black, brown and indigenous people from around the world.

### The Colored Girls Museum

The Colored Girls Museum is a memoir museum, which honors the stories, experiences, and history of Colored Girls. This museum initiates the ordinary" object—submitted by the colored girl herself, as representative of an aspect of her story and personal history, which she finds meaningful; her object embodies her experience and expression of being a Colored Girl. The Colored Girls Museum is headquartered in the historic neighborhood of Germantown in Philadelphia, an area renowned for its compliment of historic buildings and homes.

The Colored Girls Museum distinguishes herself by exclusively collecting, preserving, honoring, and decoding artifacts pertaining to the experience and herstory of colored girls.

### Grizzly Grizzly

Grizzly Grizzly is an artist collective in Philadelphia, PA. We are all practicing artists who also curate exhibitions, performances and alternative programming. Using the creative problem-solving skills needed in our daily studio practices, we create a meeting-ground for dialog and a space for innovative work without the constraints of institutional agendas or commercial interests.

We are a collective of sharp edges, committed to frank discussion and unexpected pairings. We do not strive for consensus; we do not show our own work in the space. We are artists curating other artists, supporting a community of makers from within.

Grizzly Grizzly's ongoing mission is to blur organizational lines, promote community, and –above all–take risks. In our intimate exhibition space, we build new connections between artists, curators and our greater community, here in Philadelphia and beyond.

### Icebox Project Space

The Icebox Project Space is an innovative and experimental contemporary arts platform where visual artists, musicians, film makers, and performers are able to work, think, and collaborate within a uniquely large scale and open structure.

Our mission is to facilitate projects that are a betterment of the community and to push for social change. We look to artworks, performances, videos, movement, and sound that have a sense of urgency and relevance in and around Philadelphia. We work with artists that are pushing against something, whether it is oppressive institutions, construction of identity, or even the creative process itself.

### Philadelphia Contemporary

Philadelphia Contemporary presents visual art, performance art, and spoken word across the city through a dynamic model of collaboration and partnership.

### Slought

Slought is a non-profit organization on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania that engages publics in dialogue about cultural and socio-political change in Philadelphia, the world, and the cloud. We are a new form of institution that builds relationships and social trust through collaboration and the exchange of ideas. For over fifteen years, we have worked with artists, communities, and institutions worldwide to develop projects that encourage inclusiveness, advocacy, and the sharing of knowledge.

### Socially-Engaged Art at Moore College of Art & Design

The Socially-Engaged Art MFA and MA degrees began at Moore College of Art & Design in 2015. Faculty members include Hammam Aldouri, Grimaldi Baez, Asher Barkley, Carolyn Cher-

noff, Anna Drozdowski, Jane Golden, Robert Goodman, Asuka Goto, Jacque Liu, Ernel Martinez, Kristen Neville Taylor, Theresa Rose, Jennie Shanker, Shira Walinsky, Jonathan Wallis, and Wilmer Wilson IV. The program has been directed by Daniel Tucker and is organized around a partnership with Mural Arts Philadelphia as well as a series of public programs.

### Street Road Artists Space

Street Road was developed as an evolution of and with funding from a family real estate business, and hosts projects that relate directly to the problematic, capital-driven activity which produced its possibility. Challenges to received wisdom about property ownership, especially how this relates to social relationships, are the focus.

Located at the crossroads of Street Road and Gap Newport Pike in Pennsylvania, our name adopts the toponym by which we are located: etymologically 'Street Road' derives from 'via strata', or 'paved road', encoding histories of human and land intertwining, particularly human impulses to map, possess, and constrain the earth. In an area that lies between rural farmland, Amish country, horse country, land preservation efforts, towns impoverished by big-box proliferation, and, increasingly, suburbanization growing out from the cities of Philadelphia, Wilmington and Lancaster, Street Road is a laboratory for the consideration of humans' relationships with land - past, current and future.

### Li Sumpter

Li Sumpter, Ph.D. is a cultural producer and multidisciplinary artist based in Philly. She employs strategies of worldbuilding, D.I.Y media and gameplay to cultivate eco-awareness and community action around the "art of survival". Li's social practice and collaborative design initiatives address existential issues of diverse ecologies through speculative tools and sustainability projects that illuminate patterns and power of change. In 2017, Li was the Artist-in-Residence for the Urban Ecology Arts Exchange at Haverford College and recently completed the Leeway x NextFab Art and Technology artist residency in March 2019. Li also teaches curatorial studies and Afrofuturism at Moore College of Art and Design, directs MythMedia Studios and the Escape Artist Initiative, and is an active member of the North Philly Peace Park, Health Ecologies Lab at Slought/UPENN, and The Truth Telling Project and Common Field national collectives.

## Taller Puertorriqueño

Known as El Corazón Cultural del Barrio (The Cultural Heart of Latino Philadelphia), Taller Puertorriqueño uses art to promote development within its community and the Latino Diaspora and build bridges to the Greater Philadelphia region. Since its inception in 1974, Taller has been elevating and preserving Puerto Rican and Latino culture through arts and cultural programming. With its art-education programs, socially-conscious art exhibitions, book readings, and events, Taller engages the public in dynamic discussions that stimulate the mind, create opportunities and make connections between people and communities. The 2016 opening of the 24,000+ square-foot El Corazón Cultural Center, solidifies Taller's position as Pennsylvania's largest Latino arts organization.

## Temple Contemporary

Temple Contemporary's mission is to reimagine the social function of art. Our programming is determined by a thirty-five member advisory council comprised of neighboring high school students, university students and civic leaders representing a range of interests (nurses, farmers, philosophers, artists, community activists, historians, etc.). To each of our Advisory Council meetings every adviser brings one question of local relevance and international significance that they do not know the answer to. After all of the questions are discussed, the council votes for the questions that are anticipated to creatively address Philadelphia's greatest social and cultural needs. It is through this empathetic process of questioning and listening that Temple Contemporary has initiated a range of long-term commitments including Symphony for a Broken Orchestra, Funeral for a Home, 1000 Ways to Listen, and reForm.

## Daniel Tucker

Daniel Tucker works as an artist, writer and organizer developing documentaries, publications, exhibitions and events inspired by his interest in social movements and the people and places from which they emerge. He is currently the Graduate Program Director in Socially-Engaged Art at Moore College of Art & Design in Philadelphia.

## Ulises

Ulises is a bookshop and curatorial platform dedicated to artists' books and independent art publications. Performing the model of a quarterly periodical, each curatorial season invites contributors to present publications, workshops, lectures, artworks, and collaborations in response to a given theme.

The name Ulises is a tribute to the work and legacy of Ulises Carrión, a Mexican-born poet, conceptualist, and avant-garde artist who was an early pioneer and theorist of the artist's book, and the founder of the Amsterdam based bookshop Other Books and So (1975–78).

Ulises was founded in 2016 by Nerissa Cooney, Lauren Downing, Joel Evey, Kayla Romberger, Gee Wesley, and Ricky Yanas. Additional contributors include Tim Belknap, Jody Harrington, and Nabil Kashyap.

## Vox Populi

Founded in 1988, Vox Populi is a contemporary art space and artist collective that works to support the challenging and experimental work of independent artists. For three decades, Vox Populi has played a unique role in the cultural life of Philadelphia by bringing our audience a diverse range of programming and providing a supportive environment in which artists can take risks and gain valuable professional experience. With a rotating membership and a commitment to working collectively, Vox Populi is a vital forum for the development and exchange of artistic ideas. Vox Populi's comprehensive exhibition schedule includes solo shows of both member and guest artists, a curated video lounge, annual guest-curated shows, exchanges with peer organizations and group shows that provide critical exposure for under-represented artists.

# NETWORK

# MEMBERS

Common Field connects, supports, and advocates for our network of 650+ independent, artist-run, and artist-centered organizations and organizers across the nation. Philadelphia is home to 79 Common Field Members:

## Organizational Network Members

All That Philly Jazz	Neighborhood House
Artists U	Painted Bride Art Center
Asian Arts Initiative	People's Paper Co-op
Bartram's Garden	Philadelphia Contemporary
BlackStar Film Festival	RAIR
cinÉSPEAK	Slought
Collaborative Cataloging Japan	Street Road
Creative Resilience Collective	Taller Puertorriqueño
CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia	Temple Contemporary, Tyler School of Art
Esther Klein Gallery	Termite TV Collective
Extension or Communication	The Art Dept Collective
FJORD GALLERY LLC	the B(A)LM
Fleisher Art Memorial	The Colored Girls Museum
Fortress Arts Academy	The Halide Project
Garden of Forking Paths	The Maas Building
Grizzly Grizzly	The Philadelphia Student Union
Icebox Project Space	The Print Center
InLiquid	The Village of Arts and Humanities
Jefferson Humanities & Health (Thomas Jefferson University)	TheArtblog, Inc.
Jerry's On Front	Title Magazine
Just Act	Twelve Gates Arts
Lightbox Film Center	Ulisés
Little Berlin	Vox Populi
NAPOLEON	YallaPunk

## Organizer Network Members

Emily Artinian

Latyra Blake

Courtney Bowles

LaTreice Branson

Arielle Brown

Stephanie Bursese

Samantha Connors

Bailey + Dodds

Anna Drozdowski

Maria Dumlao

Lillian Dunn

Nyasha Felder

Sherman Fleming

Cari Freno

E. Maude Haak-Frendscho

Angelica Hue

Alison Kruvant

Natalie Lascek

Tiona Nekkia McClodden

Leah Modigliani

Heshima Moja

Brooke O’Harra

Daniel Park

Richard Patterson

Aislinn Pentecost-Farren

Tina Plokarz

Tania Maria Rios Marrero

Gerri Spilka

Julia Staples

Jim Strong

Li Sumpter

Daniel Tucker

Denise Valentine

Chanel Williams

Connie Yu

Luxin Zhang

## PROGRAMS

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Common Field's preparation for the Philadelphia Convening began in December 2017 a public meet-up at Slought, followed by a social in April 2018 at Asian Arts Initiative. Over the summer of 2018, Common Field supported a series of conversations to explore ideas, opportunities, and challenges of arts organizing in Philadelphia. Engaging with the core concerns of the local arts landscape through discussion and discovery, these public conversations developed through partnership with local arts leaders Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia Contemporary, Taller Puertorriqueño, and Ulises. These gatherings aimed to articulate and activate a local network of arts organizers to inform both the themes and programs for the 2019 Convening in Philadelphia, and the goals for local arts organizing ahead. Detailed notes from each conversation can be found on Common Field's website.

## CHECK-IN AT THE REGISTRATION + INFORMATION DESK

Upon arrival, please check in at the Convening Registration + Information Desk! Staffed throughout the Convening, the Information Desk has all of your registration and Convening materials, and is available to answer questions and offer help during the Convening.

## MEALS

### Breakfast and Lunch

Friday and Saturday will feature complimentary breakfast and lunch buffets for Convening attendees prepared by Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering.

Breakfast will be served in The Cherry Street Room on the First Floor of the Friends Center. Pending weather, lunch will be served outside in the Courtyard.

### FRIDAY

Breakfast: 9:00am - 9:30am

Lunch: 1:30pm - 2:45pm

### SATURDAY

Breakfast: 9:00am - 10:00am

Lunch: 1:30pm - 3:00pm

*Please note: Food and drinks are not allowed in the Race Street Room.*

### About Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering

Fikira Bakery was founded in 2015 by Ailbhe Pascal in so-called “Philadelphia,” occupied Nitapèkunk Coaquanok Leanpehoking. Fikira is Thoughtful Food; delicious and deliberately political. Fikira makes sweets and meals alike, putting righteous ingredients in the oven, and offering the finished yums for barter, fair sale, or donation. We also publish radical recipe books, teach bread making workshops, and collaborate around town. We rent kitchen space from other businesses to deliver directly to you.

foodeveryonedeserves (f.e.d.) started in 2013. f.e.d. is more than just catering. I am always looking for ways to connect food work to organizing and social justice efforts. Being able to support community building with food is essential to maintaining the important work of building awareness and calling out injustices. It is my aim to provide quality catering that not only sustains this project, but also is able to lift up those around me.

### Coffee and Tea

Coffee and Tea from Franny Lou's Porch are available all day on Friday and Saturday in The Cherry Street Room, on the First Floor of the Friends Center.

### About Franny Lou's Porch

Franny Lou's Porch is a warm space engaging in community activism, cultural awareness, relational business practices, a vehicle for advocacy, and most importantly, a place of rest. Our desire is to be a place that is intentional in connecting to our neighbors and our products. It is a place to encourage those who want to be simple, healthy, and aware. We are a window and catalyst for the black community, as well as other marginalized peoples. We build rich community members by educating and voicing our human experience, as well as how we are designed to grow & support one another. Our hope is to continue to be a space where people can connect, rest, and mobilize.

*Drinks are not allowed in the Race Street Room, the location of All Together and select Break Out Sessions.*

## EVENING EVENT FOOD + DRINKS

PaperMill Food Truck, serving Spurritos, Bowls & Banh Mi, will be parked in front of Christ Church Neighborhood House on Thursday, April 25 to serve dinner for cash purchase to Kick-Off Party attendees. An open bar in the Theater will provide for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverage needs, alike.

Fruit, cheese, veggie, and dip platters from Carlino's Market will be made available in the Crane Arts Building for Closing Party attendees on Saturday, April 27. There will be open bars serving an array of drinks throughout the Crane Arts Building.

Drinks courtesy of Powers Irish Whiskey, and support from Franklin Beverage.

# ACCESSIBILITY

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Common Field believes in creating a fully accessible space for all attendees. If you find yourself in need of specific support during the conference, please share them with our Information desk.

## Parent/Caregiver Inclusion

Although Common Field is not able to provide childcare at the Convening, parents and caregivers of babies who do not require additional carers are welcomed to bring their little ones. Please reach out to Maude at [coordinator@commonfield.org](mailto:coordinator@commonfield.org) if you have any questions about space for breastfeeding and changing, or other questions or concerns about parenting at the Convening. If questions arise during the Convening, please check in with staff at the registration and info table.

## Friends Center

Our main Convening venue, Friend Centers, is an ADA-compliant building that offers ramped entry to the front of the building, elevator service between floors, and designated seating within the primary gathering space for wheelchair users. Although there is limited parking in front of Friends Center, there is a front loading zone near the corner curb cut for drop off.

*Friends Center Restroom Policy: All are welcome to use the restroom that best matches their identity, or that feels safest & most comfortable to them. Please help hold a safe space for everyone by not challenging or questioning others' restroom choices. Thank you for helping to make restroom spaces at Friends Center inclusive for everyone.*

There is seating located throughout Friends Center and in each session room. Chairs do not have arms or cushioning; Race Street Room seating consists of wooden pews.

## Quiet Room at Friends Center

There is a designated Quiet Room located in Room 135, First Floor (inside of Cherry Street Room). This is a small space equipped with chairs and outlets. We ask that you refrain from having conversations while inside the Quiet Room, although sounds from outside of the room might come in.

## Neighborhood House at Christ Church

Neighborhood House at Christ Church, where the Thursday evening event takes place, is a historic building with modern renovations. It is ADA-compliant, with removable ramp entry to the front door of the first floor up a short curb from a cobbled street. There is no parking in front of the building, and access to the ramped entry is recommended by vehicle drop off. There is an elevator to transport guests to the fourth floor Theater space for the event.

The streets leading up to Neighborhood House at Christ Church are old, uneven cobblestone streets. Please use caution.

## Icebox Project Space in the Crane Arts Building

Icebox Project Space in the Crane Arts Building is the location of our Saturday evening event. It has ramped entry to the front doors from a sidewalk with curb cuts, and designated parking spots for disabled attendees directly in front. The event will take place across the first floor of the building.

There will be loud sound and very large video projection in the Icebox space; earplugs will be available. There is bench seating located throughout the public areas in Crane Arts Building.

## GENDER

## NEUTRALITY

As we get to know one another, instead of assuming someone's gender by appearance or names, inquire respectfully about one's pronouns. Furthermore, attendees are encouraged to use gender neutral language in their presentations and discussions.

Gender inclusive bathrooms are located throughout the Convening locations.

The organizers of Common Field Convening strive to create an open and inclusive environment in which participants feel safe to take risks, and engage in challenging discussions. We see the need for safer spaces in all organizing and are committed to it as a part of our work. We encourage our attendees to learn how to create such spaces in each of our gatherings and adopt such practices pertinent to their own organizing. Below are some principles that guide our commitment to collective practice.

- Hold ourselves accountable first, and enter each space with a humble heart and loving criticality. Center care in our interactions with others and in representing our own needs.
- In order to grow a common field that is truly intersectional and inclusive, we need to recognize that inequity is systematic. Before entering each organizing space, take a moment to acknowledge our own differences and be honest about our own privileges and power. Make a conscious effort to resist ableism, racism, classism, ageism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia in our language, imagery, and examples.
- Prioritize listening is essential in creating inclusive space. When we listen, center the voices of people with disability, trans & queer, black & brown, low-income, non-English speaking or other non-white folks. Silence can be helpful especially when it means we are actively listening and processing.
- Rather than reacting to one's immediate need to manage disagreement or achieve perfection, give space for discomfort, mistakes, vulnerability and non-closure. It is often through mistakes and discomfort that we grow.
- Respect each other's privacy and personal boundaries, including confidentiality. Understand that safety, accessibility and personal boundaries mean different things for different people. The way to create a safer and more accessible space for everyone is to ask respectfully and learn from one another interpersonally.
- Have fun. Take breaks. Allow space for yourself and others to enter and leave according to their needs.

The planning of our convenings is always a collaborative and learning effort with many different parties involved. We welcome any suggestions and feedback that will help us to take better

care of each other intentionally and creatively throughout the convening and beyond. If you encounter any difficulties during the event, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at the front desk or email us at [hello@commonfield.org](mailto:hello@commonfield.org).

To learn more about safer space and other facilitation tools, please search: *Safe Space: a tool for allowing deep and consensual dialogue* by Berkeley Student Cooperative and Participants Agreement by Allied Media Conference

These are the types of programming that you will experience at this year's Convening:

## All Together Sessions:

These sessions bring all Convening attendees together into one space for a common experience.

## Announcements:

Common Field shares updates, announcements, and information.

## Break:

Free time to rest, care for your needs, connect with others, and prepare for the next session.

## Conversation:

Conversation sessions offer an opportunity to explore practical and theoretical topics through intimate group conversation.

## Dialogue:

These sessions feature two speakers in an intimate conversation, with time for discussion and questions with the audience.

## Meal:

Friday and Saturday will feature complimentary breakfast and lunch buffets for Convening attendees prepared by Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering.

## Panel:

Panel discussions feature a group of speakers who share perspectives and experiences, and include opportunities for questions and discussion with the audience.

## Party:

Socialize with fellow Convening-goers with a locally-curated program of music and performances during our parties on Thursday and Saturday evening.

### Pre-Convening Program:

Organized by local partners, Pre-Convening programs are an opportunity to explore more of what Philadelphia has to offer on Thursday, April 25th (additional registration required).

### Projects and Tours:

Artist projects, publications, and tours happening at the Convening site (Friends Center) and in adjacent neighborhoods.

### Reports from the Field:

These presentations highlight localized activity, organizers and organizations, and share larger themes and ideas that give Convening attendees a window into a specific geographic focus, projects, and topics.

### Satellite Dinner:

Local hosts open their homes and spaces for small groups of Convening attendees to connect over a shared meal. Assignments and details are provided as part of your registration packet if you opted in during registration.

### Workshop:

Intimate skill-sharing sessions where attendees work with practitioners to develop and discuss tools, gain hands-on experience, engage in specific types of training and exchange tactics.

Thursday, April 25, 2019

- 10:00am - 5:00pm Pre-Convening Program at The Colored Girls Museum
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Philadelphia Archives Tour
- 6:30pm - 10:00pm Convening Kick-off Party at Neighborhood House

Friday, April 26, 2019

- 9:00am - 6:00pm Registration & Information Desk Open
- 9:00am - 9:30am Breakfast available. Coffee available all day.
- 9:30am Introduction & Remarks
- 10:00am - 11:30am All Together Session
- 11:30am - 12:00pm Break
- 12:00pm - 1:30pm Convening Sessions
- 1:30pm - 2:45pm Lunch
- 2:45pm - 3:00pm Announcements
- 3:00pm - 4:30pm All Together Session
- 4:30pm - 5:00pm Break
- 5:00pm - 6:30pm Convening Sessions
- 7:30pm - 11:00pm Satellite Dinners around Philadelphia

Saturday, April 27, 2019

- 9:00am - 6:00pm Registration & Information Desk Open
- 9:00am - 10:00am Breakfast available. Coffee available all day.
- 10:00am - 11:30am Convening Sessions
- 11:30am - 12:00pm Break
- 12:00pm - 1:30pm Convening Sessions
- 1:30pm - 3:00pm Lunch
- 3:00pm - 3:30pm Announcements
- 3:30pm - 5:00pm All Together Session
- 5:00pm - 8:00pm Dinner on Your Own
- 8:00pm - 12:00am Closing Party at Crane Arts Building

Sunday, April 28, 2019

- 10:00am - 4:00pm Partner-Planned Programming across Philadelphia

## FRIENDS

## CENTER

Friends Center is a four-story building with a courtyard and garden. Convening programming takes place in on the first and second floor, in the following rooms:

### First Floor

Cherry Street Room, 200 person capacity

Lucretia Mott Room, 30 person capacity

Race Street Room, 600 person capacity

*No food or drinks are allowed in the Race Street Room*

Courtyard + Garden

### Second Floor

Room 21, 25 person capacity

### Third Floor

Martin Luther King Jr. Room, 70 person capacity

THURSDAY,

PRE-CONVENING

Arts, Displacement,

and Intentional Communities

10:00am - 5:00pm

Presenters: **Vashti DuBois, Michael Clemmons, Ian Friday,**  
**The Colored Girls Museum**

Location: The Colored Girls Museum

Address: 4613 Newhall St, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Type: Pre-Convening Program

This Pre-Convening program attracts artists and art organizers that face issues of displacement due to changing economies in neighborhoods that they work, create, and live in. How do we build communities intentionally that create sanctuary for the artist and the work they create while at the same time addressing the issues and concerns that are impacting the communities that these art institutions reside in? What are the responsibilities of art organizers and institutions to the communities that they want more engagement from while those same communities (artists included) are vulnerable to displacement in part because of the existence of those institutions?

The program for the day includes a tour of The Colored Girls Museum's current exhibition *In Search of the Colored Girl*, facilitated small and full-group conversations, and brief presentations from special guests, local arts organizers Betsey Casañas (A Seed on the Diamond Gallery) and Emily Carris (The Art Dept), Renny Molenaar & Rocio Cabello (Imperfect Gallery), and Christopher Rogers (Paul Robeson House).

Travel to and from The Colored Girls Museum from Friends Center and a boxed lunch is included in separate registration for this program. Meet in front of the Friends Center (1501 Cherry St, Philadelphia, PA 19102) for a 9:30AM departure by chartered bus for this 10AM program start time at The Colored Girls Museum in Germantown, Northwest Philadelphia. After the program, depart from The Colored Girls Museum at 5PM for a 5:30PM return to the Friends Center in Center City.

**Tour of Charting a Path to Resistance: An interactive mural  
at the Philadelphia City Archives** **3:30pm - 4:30pm**

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Presenters: **Talia Greene**

Location: Philadelphia City Archives

Address: 548 Spring Garden St, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Type: Tour

This tour, led by artist and Grizzly Grizzly member Talia Greene, is of her recently commissioned work at the Philadelphia City Archives exploring the history of redlining in the city. Join her for a tour and Q&A. Philadelphia City Archives are also open M-F, 9am-4:30pm for drop-in visits for those who aren't able to attend the tour or who would like to extend their time with the in-depth archival project.

Travel to Philadelphia City Archives is on your own to meet Talia on-site by 3:30PM. The Archives are accessible by public transit from much of the city.

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**Breakfast + Coffee (*coffee all day!*)** 9:00am - 9:30am

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Room: Cherry Street Room, First Floor

Type: Meal

Enjoy a seasonal breakfast prepared by Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering!

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**Common Field Announcements, Introduction**

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**& "Ode to Philly"** 9:30am - 10:00am

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Presenters: **Courtney Fink, Slought, Ursula Rucker, Valerie Gay**

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: Common Field Announcements

Common Field kicks off the Convening with exciting updates, announcements and information about the organization and what to expect this weekend.

Slought's Aaron Levy introduces this participatory project to contextualize and bridge the Quaker space we are gathered in with histories of social justice activism in Philadelphia. Poet/activist Ursula Rucker and musician Valerie Gay will then lead a performance of "Ode to Philly," weaving together spoken word performance with collective recitation and refrain among attendees gathered together in the space.

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**All Together Session #1** 10:00am - 11:30am

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Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: All Together Session

Stay tuned for more information!

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**Break** 11:30am - 12:00pm

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Take advantage of this free time to rest, care for your needs, connect with others, and prepare for the next session.

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## We Like Our Size, Thank You:

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### resisting organizational growth within capitalism

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Presenters: **Liat Berdugo, Dorothy Santos, Leila Weefur,  
Jerome Rivera Pansa**

Organized by Liat Berdugo, Living Room Light Exchange  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Martin Luther King Jr. Room, Third Floor

Type: Conversation

What does it mean to be an arts organization that resists growth? Can artists, collectives, and small organizations protect their current 'sizes' and foci from the pressures of capitalism? Anyone who has written a grant for the arts has likely encountered the 'growth' question: it asks how organizations or individuals will grow and expand with money. In other words, funding opportunities often ask for change.

This conversation, instead, looks at the radical act of resisting growth, and instead focusing on sustaining current endeavors. We ask what it looks like to be embedded and focused on communities; to need funding for ongoing initiatives; to need resources to better engage and support community; to grow from ground-up initiatives rather than top-down pressure. When does resisting growth become too much to handle? How does a group or collective know when it's gotten too far and away from the original intention?

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## The Company You Keep | The Role of Partnership in

### Artist Residencies

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Presenters: **Stephanye Watts, Recess; Nicholas Weist, Shandaken  
Projects; Nat Roe, Flux Factory**

Organized by Rethinking Residencies  
Selected Via Open Call

Room: Rufus Jones Room, First Floor

Type: Report from the Field

On behalf of the Rethinking Residencies working group, composed of thirteen New York-based residency programs, Recess, Shandaken Projects and Flux Factory will explore organizational partnership with other entities: municipal, civic, judicial, and even individual.

Concrete examples to be discussed include Assembly, a program by Recess and partners in the justice system that serves as an alternative to incarceration while empowering young people to take charge of their own life story and imagine a positive future; Flux Factory's partnerships seeking sustainability in their space; and Shandaken Projects' partnerships with larger institutions that establish new program areas while creating economies of scale. Particular

attention will be paid to the cultural and administrative shifts required within our organizations to develop and sustain these partnerships.  
rethinkingresidencies.org

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## Practices in Collective Care

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Presenters: **Dianne Loftis, Li Sumpter, LaTreice Branson, Andrea Ngan**  
Organized by Dianne Loftis, Creative Resilience Collective  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Lucretia Mott Room, First Floor

Type: Report from the Field

This session seeks to reflect upon the current state of care in Philadelphia, as it relates to local efforts to build more equitable and inclusive future care models through various forms of creative praxis. In researching the history, contemporary urgencies, and barriers to accessing mental health care, Creative Resilience Collective (CRC) finds itself continuously exploring models of arts organizing and art-making that can offer alternatives and collective visions for community care. This Report from the Field considers care from a collective perspective through the practices of CRC and friends LaTreice Branson and Li Sumpter. Leveraging CRC's multidisciplinary makeup to trace relationships between local initiatives in the fields of community organizing, design, cultural production, and social work, we will take stock of what we mean by care and its relevance to arts organizing in Philadelphia.

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## Out of Sight: A Conversation on Visual Arts Podcasting

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Presenters: **Dana Bassett, Tyler Green, Gonzalo Reyes Rodriguez, Agustina Woodgate**  
Organized by Dana Bassett, Bad at Sports  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 136, First Floor

Type: Panel

This panel brings together a diverse group of art podcasters and radio hosts to discuss radio and podcasting in the realm of contemporary art. Conversation topics range from podcasting as practice, the journalistic or archival approach, interview and narrative format, and technical concerns related to producing your own audio project.

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## Powerful Vulnerable

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Presenters: **Mary Magsamen, Carol Stakenas, Pia Agrawal, Denise Valentine**  
Organized by Mary Magsamen, Aurora Picture Show  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 21, Second Floor

Type: Conversation

Being vulnerable can be emotional, traumatic, and isolating. It is also a powerful catalyst for creativity, empathy and change. Consider the rise of “BlackLives-Matter”, #MeToo and the establishment of Time’s Up Legal Defense Fund, each raising awareness and culpability. Unfortunately, the contradictions, frustrations, and the too familiar denials have also remained a part of the socio-political landscape. Fortunately, women, those who identify as women, and their allies have united, spoken up, testified and marched all around the world. How do we use our personal experiences to create art, make political statements, speak our truths and be heard? This session, organized through an intersectional feminist lens, values everyone present as a contributor. Participants will form small story circles to share experiences.

Together, we will talk, listen and build trust as a way to fight isolation and silence, becoming a part of a growing community that values the power of being vulnerable.

## The (Re)Making of Memory

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Presenters: **Martina Dodd, Monique Muse Dodd, Tsedaye Makonnen, Tiona Nekkia McClodden**

Organized by Martina Dodd, Atlanta University Center

Selected via Open Call

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: Panel

History is like a ghost that haunts our present through memory, subjectivity, and temporality. It refuses to go away; yet at times it is forgotten, misinterpreted, and altered. Buried deep in the recesses of our minds and shelved away in the allegorical graveyard of the archive, moments of the past live on forever. It is the act of remembering and recontextualizing that resuscitates such moments and breathes new life into their stories.

The panel of artists and curators explore the politics and poetics of remembering and (re)imaging their familial legacy within the African Diaspora while revising its omission within the lens of American history. This panel will focus on the research methods and creative processes of visual artists and curators who utilize both personal and public archives to explore the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality. By examining the panelists’ interwoven roles of historian, archivist, and artist they will seek to critique and analyze the ways historical accounts are recorded and disseminated.

## Lunch

1:30pm - 2:45pm

Room: Cherry Street Room + Courtyard, First Floor

Enjoy a seasonal lunch buffet prepared by Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering! Pending weather, lunch will be served outside in the Courtyard. Alternatively, the meal will be served from the Cherry Street Room.

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## Common Field Announcements

2:45pm - 3:00pm

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

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## All Together Session #2

3:00pm-4:30pm

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: All Together Session

Stay tuned for full details.

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## Break Out Sessions:

5:00pm-6:30pm

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## Archiving for Now and Later

Presenters: **Cameron Shaw, Anna Perricci**

Organized by Cameron Shaw, Pelican Bomb + Common Field Board

Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 21, Second Floor

Type: Workshop

In this workshop, we'll discuss the ways that thinking about the future of an initiative (and even its proposed end) can inform the decisions one makes in the present. Part organizational assessment and part introduction to web archiving, the session will look at how consideration for archiving one's digital and physical assets can become an integral part of creative planning and day-to-day administration. The workshop begins with an introduction by Cameron Shaw, Executive Director and Founding Editor of Pelican Bomb in New Orleans. Shaw will discuss Pelican Bomb's decision to sunset after 8 years of operation and also present tools for organizational self-evaluation. Following Shaw's introduction, Anna Perricci, Webrecorder's Associate Director of Strategic Partnerships at Rhizome in New York, gives an introduction to fundamental concepts in web archiving and a hands-on demonstration for using Webrecorder, a free, easy-to-use, web archiving tool.

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## Collaboration without Fireworks

Presenters: **Sofía Gallisá Muriente, Michael Linares, Pablo Guardiola**

Organized by Beta-Local

Selected via Open Call

Room: Martin Luther King Jr. Room, Third Floor

Type: Report from the Field

Beta-Local will present its programs and day to day operations through the many forms of collaborations put into practice through the past years. The organization have a focus in creating new conditions from which to produce in and beyond established art and culture circuits. The work takes the form of a critical and practical workshop in Puerto Rico; departing from the conditions

of the tropics, the Caribbean and the present time. For Beta-Local is important to transcend the logic of the big event as the only format to share artistic and cultural work. The approach to collaboration presented on this report concentrates on the goal of developing long term relations based on the importance of everyday work and exchanges.

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## DIY Residencies in Non-Urban Environments:

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### Building visibility, diversity and sustainability

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#### outside an urban-centric art world

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Presenters: **Carolina Porras, Alicia Toldi, Elise DeChard, Rubina Martini**  
Organized by Carolina Porras and Alicia Toldi, Piney Wood Atlas  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 136, First Floor

Type: Conversation

What does it mean to exist as an alternative artist residency space outside of a major urban center? How do you facilitate a safe and equitable creative space for all, while simultaneously balancing local perspectives and maintaining global “art world” relevancy? How can we form collective systems of support among such distinctive spaces?

During this session, we will tackle these questions and explore the challenges of thriving in a non-urban environment while ensuring sustainability and inclusivity. Through collaborative discussion between Alicia Toldi and Carolina Porras of Piney Wood Atlas, DIY residency facilitators Elise DeChard (Tessellate Gallery) and Rubina Martini (Tomorrow River Homestead), and audience members, we will share skills and ideas from the rural, urban, and suburban experience. Join the conversation as we brainstorm strategies and leave with applicable action steps for residencies and residents to create supportive environments in non-urban spaces.

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## Practicing a Politics of Difference in Arts & Culture

Presenters: **Lizania Cruz, Kimi Hanauer, Lynnette Miranda**  
Organized by Kimi Hauner, Press Press  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Rufus Jones Room, First Floor

Type: Conversation

In response to a history of assimilation in the United States and its contemporary ramifications, artists and cultural organizers produce experiences and platforms that are engaged in a politics of difference and emergent visions of liberation. In this conversation, speakers and participants will explore cultural organizing practices that rely on embracing and accommodating individual and group differences as a means of solidarity, rather than traditional assimilationist approaches, when addressing urgent issues around immigration and structural

injustice in the United States. Through discussion around speakers' projects, including Press Press, Present Futures, and We The News, the group will unpack the various ways in which the assimilationist conception of liberation, or a vision of liberation that depends on the transcendence of group difference, may be dangerous to communities that exist outside of dominant culture. Speakers will share resources for understanding the history of assimilation in the United States and its relationship to white supremacy.

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## Legends from the Formation of the Field: NAAO & NCFE

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Presenters: **Joy Silverman, Charlotte R. Murphy, Penny Boyer**

Organized by Penny Boyer

Selected via Open Call

Room: Lucretia Mott Room, First Floor

Type: Conversation

A long time ago in a galaxy far far away, artists' organizations were formed, fought for, and flourished; artist-run spaces started, stopped and stood in the face of Congress; Culture Wars caused viewpoint discrimination, censorship, decency clauses, First Amendment violations. This will be a conversation about Common Field's predecessors--the National Association of Artists' Organizations | NAAO (1982-2001), and its offshoot, the National Campaign for Freedom of Expression | NCFE (1990-2000)--by founders and former staff. Myths will be dispelled, legends passed along and insights shared. With Joy Silverman, artist space pioneer, a NAAO founder and NCFE founding director; Charlotte R. Murphy, former Executive Director of NAAO; and Penny Boyer, former Associate Director of NAAO.

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## Can Artists Be Policy Makers?

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Presenters: **Darryl Ratcliff, Maya Crawford, Arnoldo Hurtado, Gwen Meharg**

Organized by Darryl Ratcliff, Creating Our Future

Selected via Open Call

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: Report from the Field

Creating Our Future has been grappling with the question can artists be policymakers for the last five years. We have gone from a group of artists and art lovers who had never been to a city council meeting to achieving citywide grant programs and directly shaping cultural policy in the city of Dallas, TX for the next decade. As we expand to other cities we want to sit and reflect on exactly how did this happen? What were the strategies we used? Where have we been strong and where have we failed? Is our success unique or are there lessons applicable to other parts of the country? Who else is doing this work and what might we learn from them? Perhaps most importantly can we as artists make lasting political change?

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Breakfast + Coffee (*coffee all day!*) 9:00am - 9:30am

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Room: Cherry Street Room, First Floor

Type: Meal

Enjoy a seasonal breakfast prepared by Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering!

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Break Out Sessions: 10:00am - 11:30am

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### Integration vs. Inclusion: an experiment in community

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Presenters: **Dominic Amarin, Carissa Burkett, Sonya Hamilton, Madeline Sorenson**

Organized by Carissa Burkett, Public Annex

Selected via Open Call

Room: Rufus Jones Room, First Floor

Type: Report from the Field

As a politically engaged group of professional Artists/Makers all along the ability spectrum in Portland, OR, Public Annex will share about how they are using art and urban farming as a means to evoke systemic change that promotes inclusion of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). Public Annex provides professional development and advancement opportunities to artists with I/DD through an Artist Residencies program, exhibitions and through weekly inclusive art and urban farming sessions that use a non-hierarchical model of learning-sharing-creating. This presentation will share Public Annex's pedagogy that questions the progressive studio model\* as an institution that continues to create separation between this population of makers from the greater community. They aim to encourage art communities to critically think about the ways that they engage with disabled artists and challenge the systems that create exclusion and separation.

*\*a communal studio where disabled artists share space and are assisted in creating artwork.*

### Race & Curation

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Presenters: **Kim Nguyen, Carmen Hermo, Ikechukwu Onyewuenyi, Divya Mehra**

Organized by Eunsong Kim, Northeastern University

Selected via Open Call

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: Panel

This panel seeks to discuss the dynamics of race in contemporary curatorial practices. Interventions into the racialization of contemporary exhibitions have often occurred on the premise of lack and addition (ie: X exhibition has X

number of non-white artists). Such critiques have been useful as initial interventions, but have yet to guide us to larger conversations regarding the structures that lead to such exhibitions, and the transformations required to envision other kinds of curatorial practices. As an interdisciplinary group of curators and community organizers, we will discuss our variegated approaches to grappling with questions of race and art, and the act of putting together critical exhibitions in this contemporary moment.

## The Art of Survival: Strategies of Creative

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### Resistance + Resilience

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Presenters: **Nyasha Felder, Samara Gaev, Richard Patterson, Li Sumpter**  
Organized by Li Sumpter, MythMedia Studios  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Martin Luther King Jr. Room, Third Floor  
Type: Workshop

The Art of Survival: Strategies of Creative Resistance + Resilience is part moderated panel and part skill-share workshop featuring Samara Gaev (Director of TruthWorker Theatre Company), Richard Patterson (MING Media), and Nyasha Felder (North Philly Peace Park Pavilion Project). Li Sumpter of The Escape Artist Initiative will moderate the conversation and support workshop engagement.

This session gives platform to local and national change agents with powerful stories and socially engaged practices that support resilience of mind, body and spirit in violent and uncertain times. Through brief presentations and performative demos, attendees are introduced to different means and methodologies for resisting and rising above what educator/activist Paulo Freire called “limit situations”. Food insecurity, police brutality, apocalyptic fears and daily stress all qualify as limit situations. Afrofuturism, hip hop theater, community-centered media and design justice are among the creative solutions and emergent strategies this program highlights as tools for surviving everyday threats of today’s world.

## Reconsidering Place: troubling the urban/rural binary for artist practices and organizations

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Presenters: **Emily Artinian, Fawn Daphne Plessner, Matthew Fluharty, Emelie Chhangur**  
Organized by Emily Artinian and Fawn Daphne Plessner, Street Road  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Lucretia Mott Room, First Floor  
Type: Report from the Field

The field of art is framed by a normative belief that urban spaces constitute a ‘center’ and rural spaces a ‘periphery’. This imaginary is increasingly challenged

by concepts that ambiguate conventional understandings of the 'urban' and the 'rural', as well as other framings such as 'suburban' or 'exurban'. Such designations don't capture today's variegated social and cultural spaces, comprised as they are of axes of relationships and mobilities amongst multiple places, including online spaces. This limited terminology reifies place through colonial vocabularies and concepts and thereby reinforces the racialization and industrialization of space, also leaving out important indigenous concepts and relations to place. Further, it can sustain immobilities, even as mobility and access are increasingly assumed. This session draws out speakers' and attendees' perspectives to examine working in multiple in-betweens, aiming to raise new questions about the cogency of claims to centrality and marginality.

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## The Problem with "Issues": Renegotiating the Pragmatics of Language in Common Space

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Presenters: **Extension or Communication, Nerissa Cooney, Rana Fayeze, Tania Maria Rios**

Organized by Ricky Yanas, Extension or Communication

Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 21, Second Floor

Type: Conversation

Extension or Communication members Grimaldi Baez and Ricky Yanas, along with presenters Nerissa Cooney (Ulises/ Mana Contemporary), Rana Fayeze (Yalla Punk) and Tania Maria Rios Marrero (Lillian Marrero Library) will host a conversation focusing on how we negotiate language in the spaces we keep.

This conversation aims to identify the problems of language we encounter in our institutions, organizations, and cultural communities and begin to collectively develop concrete solutions to these problems by focusing on four compound questions:

1. How are we negotiating language as a community?
2. What is failing? What is working? What are the blind spots?
3. How do rhetoric, politics, and scale play a role in how role in the development of our collective language?
4. What tools are being developed to help us manifest more effective, open language structures?

## Common Field Futures

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Organizers: **Anne Focke and Dana Bishop-Root, Common Field Board**

Room: Room 136, First Floor

Type: Conversation

What does Common Field mean to you? What could its aspirations be?

The essential heart and soul of Common Field is its network of members — YOU and questions, contexts, publics and resources from your own experience. As a network, we are a vital source of information and inspiration for each other and the organization. Two Common Field board members invite you to join them to discuss and imagine the future of Common Field. We will use a modified version of Open Space a participant-driven discussion process that puts you at the center. Join us to consider how Common Field will thrive as it continues to convene, publish, share resources, and connect arts organizers and artist-centered organizations.

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## Break

11:30am - 12:00pm

Take advantage of this free time to rest, care for your needs, connect with others, and prepare for the next session.

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## Break Out Sessions

12:00pm - 1:30pm:

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## Performing Identity: Artist + Curator + Activist

Presenters: **Khadija Nia Adell, Joyell Arvella, Precious Blake, Ashley DeHoyos**

Organized by Ashley DeHoyos, DiverseWorks and Precious Blake, Artist

Selected via Open Call

Room: Martin Luther King Jr. Room, Third Floor

Type: Conversation

Description: Imposter syndrome is especially rampant for creatives and activists of color who are constantly giving parts of themselves for public consumption. In a world where the personal is political; How do artists, activists, curators, and cultural producers navigate through intersectional oppression to honor their lived stories while creating new narratives?

In this panel, Khadija Nia Adell, Joyell Arvella, Precious Blake and Ashley DeHoyos share their experiences working in various creative sectors - nonprofits, galleries, academic institutions, and justice movements. The panelists explore how they've used artistic, emotional, and spiritual practices to discover and protect their authentic selves while combating racial and gender trauma in and outside of systems upheld by white supremacy. This kitchen table conversation unpacks how each panelist has explored identity-based healing practices that move them from surviving to thriving.

## Education for Arts Organizing

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Presenters: **Chloë Bass, Linda Earle, Anthony Romero, Daniel Tucker**  
Organized by Daniel Tucker, Socially-Engaged Art at Moore  
College of Art & Design  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: Panel

This panel is concerned with the question of education for arts organizers and comes from a recognition that many artists become “arts organizers” but it rarely figures into the curriculum of a typical art program. Panelists will consider how artist-run culture could be a “gateway” to the questions about curricular strategies for supporting aspiring arts organizers and for encouraging all students to consider their skill-sets in an expanded field that includes making things happen with other people. Nuts and bolts will be considered including the expanding tools that artists need in order to do fundraising, marketing, programming while also negotiating medium-specificity in education and the larger professional climate. Critical considerations will also be discussed, such as the ethics of community engagement and place-based practice, as well as working with and across social difference in a manner that is historically informed and socially-just. The panel will invite high levels of audience engagement.

## I’m Bleeding All Over the Place: Post No Bills, a conversation with Ross Gay and Brooke O’Harra on the uncultivated audience

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Presenters: **Ross Gay, Brooke O’Harra**  
Organized by Brooke O’Harra, The Dyke Division of the  
Two-Headed Calf  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Lucretia Mott Room, First Floor

Type: Dialogue

Poet and essayist Ross Gay and director and performer Brooke O’Harra will perform a conversation around a 20-minute reality TV show that they starred in called *A Dating Story: Episode 110*. In the 2001 episode, the duo used subterfuge to undermine, reframe and resist traditional narratives of heteronormativity, seduction and desire – frustrating the producers who assumed the episode to be a total disaster. Ironically, though not surprisingly, it became one of their greatest successes.

Gay and O’Harra together will interrogate the position of the assumed or imaginary audience in their process of making. Or more specifically will question the productiveness of imagining (and nurturing) your audience. They will posit that their work that has made the most impact and has drawn the largest community or audience has been work that they made inside of intimacy, or individuality or resistance to the “common” experience.

## Keeping Women Free: from Banners to Bail Outs

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Presenters: **The People's Paper Co-op featuring Faith Bartley, Latyra Blake, Courtney Bowles and Mark Strandquist**  
Organized by Courtney Bowles and Mark Strandquist,  
People's Paper Co-op  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Rufus Jones Room, First Floor

Type: Workshop

In 2018, the People's Paper Co-op collaborated with the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund on their Mama's Day Bail Out campaign. The PPC organized exhibitions, parades, press conferences, and events to raise awareness and funds for their campaign while sharing the stories, dreams, and demands of formerly incarcerated women with thousands of Philadelphians. \$97,000 was raised in two weeks and 15 women were bailed out before Mother's Day.

For 2019, we are expanding this collaboration and fight for the freedom and rights of women across Philadelphia. Our interactive workshop will include;

Reflections from the project project followed by stories, poetry, and calls to action from women in the PPC program.

The workshop will end with a participatory silk screen party where you can print your own t-shirts and posters, using designs by formerly incarcerated women.

Extra prints will be distributed for free during the 2019 "Free Our Mothers" parade.

## Gentrification, Resistance and Cultural Heritage

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### Preservation

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Presenters: **Faye M. Anderson, Arielle J. Brown, Sherman Fleming, Denise Valentine**

Organized by Faye M. Anderson, All That Philly Jazz  
Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 136, First Floor

Type: Panel

The first enslaved Africans arrived in colonial North America in 1619. As the nation commemorates 400 years of African American history, we are mindful the African American story cannot be told without Philadelphia. The current development boom lays bare a tale of two cities: a glistening Center City and a few gentrifying neighborhoods. Gentrification has a disparate impact because racial segregation and redlining confined African Americans to certain areas.

As gentrifiers move in, longtime residents are pushed out and African Americans' presence is erased from public spaces. The panel of socially engaged artists will focus on how art can be used as a platform for social change. The conversation will revolve around issues of displacement, identity, representation,

public memorialization, community empowerment and spatial justice. There will be an open dialogue on how artists amplify voices of the disempowered, envision the resistance, and reimagine a more just society.

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## Instituent Practices: on founding and succeeding an arts organization

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Presenters: **Jackie Clay, Shey Rivera, Dr. Carmen Febo San Miguel,**  
**moderated by George Scheer**

Organized by George Sheer, Elsewhere

Selected via Open Call

Room: Room 21, Second Floor

Type: Conversation

Our spaces begin with vision, values, and sometimes place. Our missions offer models for aesthetic and social practice. Over time, our organizations evolve, build culture, serve needs, develop programming and leadership. Because our ecosystems are fragile, we are also building strategies to thrive.

At the Convening last year we spoke about organizations sun-setting. This year we'll consider ways of emerging and maturing. This moderated conversation is shared between our audience and four directors who have founded and succeeded leadership at organizations ranging in size, region, and age.

We welcome artists and arts-organizers to discuss institutional imaginaries and the politics of organizational practice. We'd like to hear from veteran administrators and artists who administer their art jobs and art practice. We want to know what it's like to transition roles or have your role transitioned. We especially welcome members of ALAANA organizations who can address specific challenges for sustainability and growth.

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## Lunch 1:30pm - 3:00pm

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Room: Cherry Street Room + Courtyard, First Floor

Enjoy a seasonal lunch buffet prepared by Fikira X foodeveryonedeserves Catering! Pending weather, lunch will be served outside in the Courtyard. Alternatively, the meal will be served from the Cherry Street Room.

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## Common Field Announcements 3:00pm - 3:30pm

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Presenters: **Courtney Fink**

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor

Type: Common Field Announcements

## All Together Session #3: Field Futures? 3:30pm- 5:00pm

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Presenters: Eva Aguila, Coaxial (Los Angeles, CA)  
Eepi Chaad, Art League Houston (Houston, TX)  
Jenna Crowder, The Chart (Portland, ME)  
Andreana Donahue, Disparate Minds (Chicago, IL)  
Vashti DuBois, The Colored Girls Museum (Philadelphia, PA)  
Kristen Kennedy, PICA (Portland, OR)  
Aaron Levy, Slought (Philadelphia, PA)  
Conrad Meyers and Willis Meyers, Aggregate Space Gallery (Oakland, CA)  
Jessica Moss, The Roll Up CLT (Charlotte NC)  
S. Rodriguez, Paraspace Books (Houston, TX)  
Ekram Serdar, Squeaky Wheel (Buffalo, NY)  
Christina Vassallo, SPACES (Cleveland, OH)  
Mary Welcome, Cabin-Time, Camp Little Hope, M12 Studio, Art of the Rural (Itinerant)  
Nicholas Wylie, Public Media Institute (Chicago, IL)

Organizers: Aurora Tang, Center for Land Use Interpretation (CLUI),  
Common Field (Los Angeles, CA)  
Courtney Fink, Common Field, (Los Angeles, CA)

Room: Race Street Room, First Floor  
Type: All Together Session

This All Together session explores the future of our field, from a wide range of perspectives and voices. Fourteen arts organizers from around the country share statements on their big picture visioning, manifestos, existential questions, speculative thinking, and dreams for our field of artist-centered, innovative, and responsive arts organizing in America.

*If we do our job, what will change? What needs to change? What would the field look like? What should the field look like?*

Following these provocations, audience members are invited to contribute their forward-thinking, future-oriented visions for the field.

How can we shape the narrative and propose ideas for our evolving form and purpose? How can we build an even brighter and better field?

## Dinner on your Own 5:00pm - 8:00pm

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Take a break and explore the many dining options around Philadelphia before heading over to the Closing Party. See you there.

Recommended eats near Crane Arts include: Cheu Noodle Fishtown (1416 Frankford Ave.), Fette Sau BBQ (1208 Frankford Ave.), Johnny Brenda's (1201 Frankford Ave.), Original 13 Ciderworks (1526 N American St.), Que Chula Es Puebla (1356 N 2nd St.), St. Benjamin's Brewing Company (1710 N 5th St.), and Sutton's (1706 N 5th St.).

# ARTIST PROJECTS AT FRIEND'S CENTER

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## Ode to Philly

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### **Organized by Slought**

Date: Friday, April 26

Time: 9:45am - 10:00am

Slought's Aaron Levy introduces this participatory project to contextualize and bridge the Quaker space we are gathered in with histories of social justice activism in Philadelphia, led by musicians Valerie Gay and Ursula Rucker. Rucker's "Ode to Philly" weaves together first-person enunciation through song on their part with a collective recitation and refrain among attendees gathered together in the space.

## Mama's Day Bail Fund Poster and Tee Printing

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### **By People's Paper Co-op**

Date: Saturday, April 27

Time: 9:00am - 10:00am and 1:30pm - 2:30pm

In 2018, the People's Paper Co-op (PPC) collaborated with the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund on their Mama's Day Bail Out campaign. Women in the PPC's Women in Reentry Program worked with artists and activists to organize exhibitions, parades, press conferences, and events to raise awareness and funds for their campaign while sharing the stories, dreams, and demands of formerly incarcerated women with thousands of Philadelphians. In two weeks, \$97,000 was raised and 15 women were bailed out before Mother's Day.

For 2019, PPC is expanding this collaboration and fight for the freedom and rights of women across Philadelphia. In an effort to expand these efforts and create entry points for Common Field participants into this local campaign, PPC leads this interactive silk screen project. Prints made in this workshop will be displayed on-site, taken home by Convening participants, and become rally posters for the upcoming Free Our Mothers parade in May.

## Why Philly?

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### **Organized by Ulises and Daniel Tucker**

Ulises and Daniel Tucker collect and share this publication of responses to the question *Why Philly?* Responses add layered, multivocal dimensions that underscore the many Philadelphias — experienced, understood, and navigated differently depending on subjectivity, geography, and many other factors in this deeply fractured and old city. This publication was developed with the Common Field Convening in mind, with hopes that there can be a dialogue between longtime Philadelphians, new locals, and visitors to the city alike.

## THURSDAY

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### Kick-Off Party

6:30pm - 10:00pm

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Location: Christ Church Neighborhood House

Address: 20 N American Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Featuring performances by artist, activist, and poet Marissa Johnson-Valenzuela—who will do a live remix of her “conceptual reggaeton” album *\*No Otro Lado\**—musician and educator Alex Shaw (Intercultural Journeys), and DJ Precolumbian.

Food will be available from the food truck PaperMill on-site for cash purchase, and an open bar in the space will provide for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverage needs, alike.

Travel to Christ Church Neighborhood House is on your own, and is a venue accessible by public transit from much of the city.

## FRIDAY

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### Satellite Dinners around Philadelphia 7:30pm-11:00pm

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Common Field is excited to announce the Philadelphia edition of the Satellite Dinner project on Friday, April 26, 2019 as a part of our Convening programming. We’re working with organizations across the city to collaborate on this initiative—one that will bring arts organizers from across the country into network members’ spaces for a shared meal. Catch up with an old friend, meet someone new, or connect with an organizer whose work you’ve long admired in an intimate, unusual Philadelphia art space. Once registered for the program, you’ll receive your Satellite Dinner assignment details as part of your check-in package.

Travel to host Satellite Dinner locations is on your own, though Common Field will facilitate a meeting place at Friends Center for each dinner group if they wish to travel together.

### Late Evening Program Options

10:30pm - 12:00am

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Philadelphia is a vibrant arts city with many concurrent late night programs on Friday, April 26, 2019. If you’re in the mood to explore, we recommend these events to fill your evening:

### Common Field Sneak Preview Opening: Vox Populi’s

#### 30th Anniversary Exhibition

6:00pm - 11:00pm

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Special performance at 10pm

Location: Vox Populi Gallery  
Address: 319 N 11th St, 3rd Fl

An exhibition of intergenerational and collaborative installations featuring the work of current and former Vox Populi members: Robert Chaney, Laura Heyman, Nadia Hironaka, James Johnson, Kelsey Halliday Johnson, Erin Murray, Erica Prince, Katie Rauth, Jim Strong, Mark Stockton, Matthew Suib, Paul Swenbeck, Linda Yun, and Luxin Zhang. [voxpathuligallery.org](http://voxpathuligallery.org)

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## Hot Bits Queer XXX Film Festival 8:30pm - 10:30pm

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Doors open 8pm, show 8:30-10:30 pm

Location: Lightbox Film Center, International House Philadelphia  
Address: 3701 Chestnut St

Hot Bits is a 2-day erotic short film, live performance, and visual arts festival celebrating queer, trans, and BIPoC pleasure. [hotbitsfilmfest.com](http://hotbitsfilmfest.com)

Late seating is allowed to these shorts programs unless they are sold out.

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## ICA Spring Opening 2019 6:30pm - 9:00pm

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Location: Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania,  
Address: 118 South 36th St  
Website: [icaphila.org](http://icaphila.org)

On View: Tony Conrad: An Introduction  
Opening: Deborah Anzinger: An Unlikely Birth  
Colored People Time: Quotidien Past  
Open Video Call 2019

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# SATURDAY

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## Closing Night Party 8:00pm - 12:00am

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Organizers: Icebox Project Space, Grizzly Grizzly, Vox Populi, and  
Li Sumpter

Location: Icebox Project Space + Crane Arts Building  
Address: 1400 N American St, Philadelphia, PA 19122

Help celebrate the conclusion of Common Field's 2019 Convening with a building-wide party centered at Icebox Project Space, and sprawling throughout the Crane Arts Building Complex. Other participating galleries that will have their doors open include Fjord Gallery, InLiquid Gallery, Philadelphia Photo Arts Gallery, Postscript Gallery, Spillway Collective, and Tiger Strikes Asteroid Philadelphia. We'll conclude our Convening programming here with music, performance, video, cocktails, and closing remarks.

Drummer and community activist LaTreice V Branson will create an improvisational, percussive soundscape performance of *Don't Dis My Ability*; Jacopo de Nicola will perform an acoustic set, lama/lama, the collaborative of composers Quinn Collins and Paul Schuette, will create lo-fi sounds while viDEO sAVant, the duo of Loraine Wible and Charlie Woodman, present their latest live cinema piece *Now: Zero*; SCRAAATCH, the sound and performance art duo of MHYSA and lawd knows, will perform *Tower of Babel (Performance I)*; interdisciplinary artist Luxin Zhang will sing her recent performance work *You Were Here with Me*, and DJ Rashid Zakat will perform.

Travel to Icebox and Crane is on your own, and is a center accessible by public transit from much of the city. Small bites will be available, as well as alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

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Anna Drozdowski

Connie Yu

## CONVENING COLLABORATORS

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Tiffany Tran  
Designer

Constance Mensh, Kait Privitera, Bob Sweeney  
Imaging Team

Special thanks to the nearly 40 individuals from our partner organizations who have spent the past year collaborating with Common Field:

**Asian Arts Initiative:** Dave Kyu, Cat Ramirez, Julia Shaw and Carol Zou

**BlackStar Film Festival:** Maori Holmes and Patrice Worthy

**Grizzly Grizzly:** Talia Greene, Amy Hicks and Maggie Mills

**Icebox Project Space:** Tim Belknap and Ryan McCartney

**Philadelphia Contemporary:** Kerry Bickford, Harry Philbrick, Nicole Pollard and Nato Thompson

**Slought:** Aaron Levy

**Street Road:** Emily Artinian

**Li Sumpter**

**Taller Puertorriqueño:** Rafael Damast and Carmen Febo-San Miguel

**Temple Contemporary:** Rob Blackson and Nicole Pollard

**The Colored Girls Museum:** Michael Clemmons, Vashti Du Bois and Ian Friday

**Daniel Tucker**

**Ulises:** Nerissa Cooney, Lauren Downing, Gee Wesley, Ricky Yanas, Kayla Romberger

**Vox Populi:** Maddie Hewitt, Danny Orendorff, Makeba Rainey, Jim Strong and Luxin Zhang

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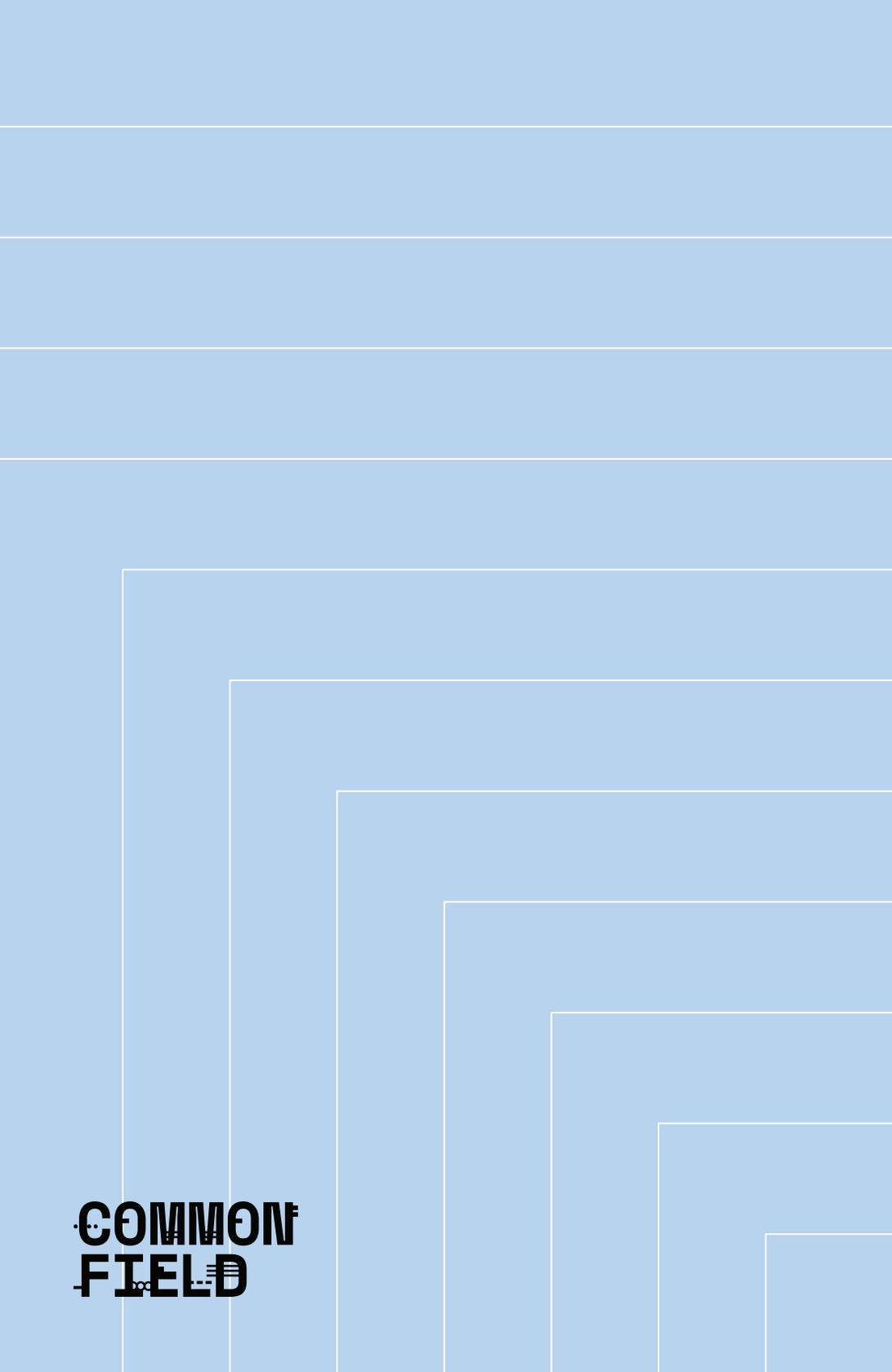


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