ACTIVATE Delegates: 2022 Cohort Biographies

Laura Brody sculpts for the human body and its vehicles. She developed and curates Opulent Mobility, a series of exhibits that re-imagine disability as opulent and powerful. Her art has been shown at the Ikouii Creative, ACE/121 Gallery, Brea Gallery, the Charles River Museum of Industry, Westbeth Center For the Arts, California State University Northridge, Gallery Expo, the Dora Stern Gallery at Arts Unbound, and The World of Wearable Art. Ms. Brody works as a professional costume maker and designer, an artist, and as an educator. She is passionate about reuse, sustainability, and re-imagining disability.

A’raelle Flynn-Bolden (she/her) is an actress, vocalist, playwright, and arts activist. She is a CalArts alum and is from/based in Los Angeles, the unceded territories of the Tongva, and Kizh people. As an arts activist, her focus is on the representation and amplification of the lives of BIPOC/PGM ( Black, Indigenous, People of Color/ People of the Global Majority ). Through her artistic work and advocacy she seeks to help mold a more equitable and rich arts landscape for BIPOC/PGM artists to freely create. She is a co-author of the Los Angeles Anti-Racist Theatre Standards, Co-Founder of BLKLST Los Angeles, is currently a playwright in the 30 Under 30 Playwrighting Cohort at IAMA Theatre and acts as the Artistic Associate at The Broad Stage in Santa Monica.

Alexis Hyde is currently working as an art advisor/dealer/curator/podcast host/whathaveyou, in Los Angeles, but you may have seen her most recently on TikTok, as the Director of the Museum of Broken Relationships , or as the Curator of the Quinn Emanuel Artist-in-Residence program.

Alma Juarez is a Mexican-born artist and educator currently living in Los Angeles, California. She received a Bachelor of Fine Art in Illustration Fine Art from Art Center College of Design. Alma works with various mediums but focuses mainly on painting and photography. Her work is inspired by personal experiences, emotions, human behavior, and her environment. Alma has served as an educator and mentor working with inner-city youth, students from immigrant and economically disadvantaged communities from elementary to adulthood, and post-secondary students. Carla acts as a liaison with key community partners, leads Levitt LA’s youth development program and builds community through music.
Anna Floersch: After graduating from UCLA, I entered the entertainment world to explore my passion for storytelling and television. I started at NBC Entertainment learning about TV development, production and primary research for primetime. I have been at the Walt Disney Company for the last two and a half years, where I help develop strategies to grow some of the biggest brands, franchises and stories around the globe. I came into this industry because I believe in the power of stories to change the world - to make us more compassionate, empathetic and deepen our relationships with the people closest to us. In my downtime I can most often be found reading my favorite journalists, spending time with my golden retrievers, or debating which ice cream shop is the best in Los Angeles.

Ashley Kruythoff is a versatile artist and communications professional. She’s a Caribbean-American photographer and designer based in Los Angeles who brings strong art direction to her creative work. She believes in the power the arts have to inspire minds and evoke societal change by elevating awareness of social, environmental, and cultural issues. To her, it’s important to share messages of support and hope for individuals who suffer from mental health conditions. As a marketing specialist at UCLA’s Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, she advocates for nature and the environment. Kruythoff believes that carrying out effective projects require more than just technical mastery: it is essential to be spiritually present, develop substantial knowledge about your subject matter, and build meaningful relationships with sensitivity. Kruythoff is a Getty iStock contributor. Her artwork has been featured many California galleries. She is a member of the Los Angeles Art Association and Climate Designers.

Astrud Reed, Museum Professional / LA Arts Advocate. I am passionate about community engagement, enhancement, and empowerment. I believe participatory art and education, celebrating diversity and evolving urban design techniques, are the keys to achieving these goals. My Master of Arts in Museum Studies research on “Tactical Urbanism and the Dynamic Shift to Embrace Deviance and Diversity: The Beauty and Tone of LA Street Art in Twenty-first Century Communities” looks at revitalization without gentrification in LA’s Urban Core through short-term beautification projects (i.e. street art.) I am fascinated with contemporary “live” art, especially when it provides a voice on issues affecting the local population. I take advantage, whenever possible, to meet local/visiting artists to speak with them, watch them work, and observe how they connect with the communities in which they create and display their art so that I may advocate for their importance in the city planning sphere.
Blaze Bautista is a visual artist graduating from UCLA in March 2022 with a major in World Arts and Cultures and a minor in Visual and Performing Arts Education. With her concentration in arts activism, she has developed and facilitated student workshops that educate on using the arts for social justice and healing. She has worked with UCLA Arts Engagement, the Hammer Museum, the UCLA Prison Education Program, and the UCLA School for the Arts and Architecture. She is passionate about bringing the arts into communities, even virtually. Her biggest project was curating UCLA’s first interactive virtual “iartucla” gallery which featured 40+ student artworks. As a painter and digital illustrator, Blaze uses captivating visuals to engage audiences in social issues. She recently illustrated portraits of abolition activists including Angela Davis, Harry Belafonte, and Dolores Huerta which will be published in the book, Rebel Speak: A Justice Movement Mixtape in March 2022.

Brandon Karagozian is first-generation, low-income, Queer, Latine undergraduate student at Pomona College majoring in Public Policy Analysis with a concentration in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Additionally, he is minoring in dance performance. Brandon is passionate about gaining experience in the arts non-profit sector as well as providing an equitable and accessible arts education for all communities. Striving to become a ballerina at age 15, he has devoted much of his educational experience in providing art programs to communities of Los Angeles and supporting those pushed to the furthest margins. Brandon is currently the program and administration for LA based CONTRA-TIEMPO where he is responsible for assisting in arts management and facilitating processes that provide the arts for low-income communities of color based in an anti-racist context. Additionally, he serves in many leadership positions at Pomona to trailblaze a path for future queer, first-generation, low-income artists.

Ceci Moss is a curator, writer and educator based in Los Angeles, USA. She is the founder of Gas, a mobile, autonomous, experimental and networked platform for contemporary art. Her first book Expanded Internet Art: Twenty-First Century Artistic Practice and the Informational Milieu is released through the Bloomsbury series International Texts in Critical Media Aesthetics. Her writing has appeared in Rhizome, Art in America, ArtAsiaPacific, Artforum, The Wire, CURA, New Media & Society and various art catalogs. Previously, she was Assistant Curator of Visual Arts at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the Senior Editor of the art and technology non-profit arts organization Rhizome, and Special Projects Coordinator at the New Museum. She is currently a Lecturer in Curatorial Practice at California College of the Arts and she has held teaching positions at University of Southern California, Scripps College, the San Francisco Art Institute and New York University.
Chelsea Sutton is a playwright, fiction writer, director, and immersive experience creator. She was a 2016 PEN America Emerging Voices Fellow and is member of the Clarion UCSD “Ghost Class” 2022 Science Fiction and Fantasy Workshop. Chelsea was a 2018 Sewanee Writers Conference Playwright Fellow and a Humanitas PlayLA award winner, and her plays have been finalists for the Eugene O’Neill Playwrights Conference, Woodward/Newman Drama Award, Reva Shiner Comedy Award, and others. Her fiction has also appeared in Bourbon Penn, F(riction), Speculative City, and more. She is the Associate Artistic Director at Rogue Artists Ensemble where she co-founded and co-directs the Rogue Lab New Play Incubator. She holds an MFA from UC Riverside. ChelseaSutton.com

Chinelo Ufondu is the Development and Communication Associate at Fathomers, a creative research institute based in Los Angeles dedicated to supporting artist-led projects, where she assists with funding research, external communication and executing public programs. She has written for print publications and has co-authored a paper for the Studio Museum in Harlem as part of the inaugural cohort of their Museum Professionals Seminar. Prior to her role at Fathomers, she worked as an arts educator and journalist. She holds a B.A. in Global Studies with an Art & Technology minor from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Claudia Mayoss is the Assistant Director of Enrollment Management for the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA, which represents UCLA’s visual and performing arts programs for undergraduate and graduate students to the public. She also serves as an assistant liaison for UCLA Arts and the main office for Undergraduate Admission and is a member of the Vice Provost for Enrollment Management’s Undergraduate Recruitment Committee. Claudia received her B.A in Dance and B.A in Political Science at UCLA, and recently earned her M.A in Contemporary Dance from London Contemporary Dance School.

Diana Castro (they/them) is an artist and cultural organizer located in Los Angeles, CA. Diana is the vice co-lead of OC MECCA’s Transtitional Age Youth (TAY) advocacy group, which strives to advocate for more mental health resources for youth 16-26. Diana specializes in community-centered arts activism projects that center self empowerment and sustainability models. Diana’s career trajectory is marked by administrative work in cultural institutions, direct service with transitional-age youth, and independent research projects. In their free time, Diana likes to read, create art, write, and travel on LA’s public transportation system. To learn more about current projects and past work, please reach out via www.linkedin.com/in/dc-astro
Edlin Velasquez was born and raised in South Los Angeles. After graduating from the University of Southern California with a BA in Psychology and a BFA in Ceramics she continued to focus on her artwork in ceramics and support administratively in arts education. She moved to New York in 2019 where she worked with the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Art and artist, Gabriel Garcia Roman, on a project showcased at the New York Pride Parade. Edlin also comes with a wealth of experience in counseling and tutoring youth. She is inspired to create a safe-space for students to expand their thinking and explorations from where they are to where they are inspired to go. Edlin is back in LA and it passionate about working with communities in an arts and educational setting and would like to continuing growing in this direction.

Estrellx Supernova is a queer, AfroIndigenous choreographer, performance artist, healer, and founder of an emergent ecosystem called Estrellx Supernova & The Cosmic Angels / The School(s) of Tenderness. Estrellx Supernova focuses on their solo choreographic work, The Cosmic Angels takes the form of a remixed dance company, choreographic healing collective, and The School(s) of Tenderness will be a network of (13) schools / global hive sites located near energetic earth centers. Each site will be its own respective architectural design project (using the beehive as its main organizing principle) composed of the following: CLUB, healing center, ritualistic performance venue, farm, innovation incubator. This vision will be created by and for BIQTPOC Creatives. Estrellx frames choreography as embodied excavation, as an intimate practice that opens up portals towards giving oneself radical permission to dissent, celebrate, grieve, and rest. Estrellx asks, "What do you really want and how exactly do you want it?"

Gabriela S. Grant is a quirky, introspective interdisciplinary movement artist from Prince George’s County, Maryland. Grant explores what it means to “be still” through movement to better understand her human being-ness beyond her ego and earthly aspects of her identity such as race, sexual orientation, gender, etc. She graduated from The University of Maryland, College Park, in May of 2020 with a B.A. in Dance and Social Change Through Dance. She made an impact on her community through her leadership in the Dance Department as a Creative and Performing Arts Scholar, as well as her work to use dance as a transformative tool for economically disadvantaged youth in the Prince George’s County Public School System and beyond. She recently moved to Los Angeles, California, and is pursuing a professional dance career here. Grant’s hope is that ACTIVATE will provide a foundation for her pursuit of using dance as a transformative tool in her Los Angeles community.
**Gaby Hernández** (She/Her/Ella) is an arts administrator, creative and first-generation graduate born & raised throughout Los Ángeles County. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Community Studies from The University of California, Santa Cruz, and an Associate’s degree in Communication Studies from Mount San Antonio College. She holds deeply seeded roots in advancing access to the arts, access to public spaces, and cultural equity. Currently, Gaby serves as the Programming Coordinator for Grand Park at The Music Center. There she has had the pleasure of working in the community with local and international artists, cultural organizations, and partners to provide LA County with accessible arts and culture programming. Gaby is a daydreamer who is enthralled with imagining and innovating a future where every human is granted access to creative experiences, possibilities to engage in arts disciplines, radical celebrations of cultural identities, and strong nurturing community bonds.

Over the past 30 years, **Heidi Rhodes** has worn nearly every hat on and backstage in theatre and film. An actor, director, and producer, she has also performed as a singer-songwriter, a Modern and Argentine Tango dancer, and exhibited as a visual artist and designer. Fulfilling her passion for working with children, Heidi now serves as Program Director for The Young Shakespeareans (a nonprofit empowering 4-8th graders in underserved communities) and consults with Ava’s Heart, (a nonprofit providing lifesaving resources to organ transplant patients) as an events producer, grant and copywriter, and book editor. Additional administrative experience includes running a 50+ person theatre company, various interior design companies, and consulting for many small businesses. Heidi holds a BA in Psychology from UNH and a Master of Interior Architecture from the Rhode Island School of Design.

**Ilaan Egeland Mazzini** has an eclectic arts career as a dancer, educator, curator and convenier. She has performed across the United States; taught movement for children to college students; created a variety of arts programs for museums, theaters, schools and festivals; mentored artists and arts professionals; and works tirelessly to connect community with the arts. She is currently the Director of Program and Activations for The Broad Stage in Santa Monica. Prior to that, Ilaan served as Program Manager for Artist Recruitment and Engagement and Community Initiatives at the John Anson Ford Theatre, and Head of Family Programs at the Skirball Center. She holds a BFA in Dance from the California Institute of the Arts in dance, and an MFA in Dance, Department of World Arts and Culture, from UCLA.
October BLU is a Los Angeles native spoken word poet, educator & graduate student. In My Space of Honesty is her first collection of published poetry and prose published by World Stage Press in 2019. As a first-generation healer and generational curse breaker, October uses writing as a tool for understanding identity, processing trauma, moving through experiences of struggle, empowerment, growth, joy and healing. She has performed poetry from the KPCC’s UnHeardLA, FoxSoul, and the Pan African Spoken word and Arts Festival.

Jennie E. Park is a Korean American artist, writer and curator interested in interdisciplinarity and integrated approaches to honesty. (In)visibility and (in)vulnerability, and world-generating dynamics of entanglement and of truthful paradox, recur as practices, tools or puzzles she explores in relation to her project-based work. She is currently an MFA student in Art and Creative Writing with an Integrated Media concentration at California Institute of the Arts, and her prior graduate degrees in cognitive psychology and law inform her art and writing practices. She has written for Los Angeles-based Artillery and other arts publications, and her art, film and written works have received awards through film festivals, galleries and other exhibition venues since 2018. Prior to dedicating herself to artmaking, she ran the alternative dispute resolution and legal education programs at a local nonprofit for artists, after serving there as a UCLA School of Law Public Interest Fellow.

I am Jessica G. Ramirez and I am a Los Angeles-based artist. I was born and raised in Pacoima, CA. I graduated from the University of California Irvine in 2019 with a double major in Art (Studio) and Art History. I am currently working as a Line Manager for the Home Depot while I attend school. I am planning on pursuing a MA in Art Therapy and getting my Teaching Credential in Art. As an artist, I work in mixed media and working on projects focused on public art and community space.

Jostin Grimes is an educator, storyteller, and community builder from Gordon, Ga. His passion and commitment to the arts has been evident since his early theatre, band, and choir days throughout 6-12th grade and undergraduate journey. Jostin is a graduate of Morehouse College (Atlanta, GA) and was a proud member of the Morehouse College Glee Club. During his time in the Glee Club, Jostin noticed the societal and cultural impact that the arts play in the world and especially across Black communities. As a former elementary educator, he made sure to find ways to creatively incorporate the arts in his teaching and interactions with his students. Currently, Jostin is an education specialist at Spotify on the Soundtrap for EDU team. In this role, Jostin is able to combine his love and commitment for music and the arts to inspire thousands of students across the west coast to become storytellers and creators that will shift cultures and develop narratives for communities.
Katie Lindsay is a writer, director, and producer of new plays, musicals, and theatrical experiences. During the pandemic, she created A Walk in My Neighborhood, an immersive audio experience in Atwater Village which the LAist called "genius." Katie is currently writing a musical in the Geffen Writers' Room, and was the 2019 Bill Foeller Fellow at Williamstown Theatre Festival, where she directed Orlando by Sarah Ruhl. Select directing credits include Red Emma & the Mad Monk by Alexis Roblan (The Tank, NY Times Critic's Pick), Bar Dykes by Merril Mushroom (Celebration Theatre), Keeping up with the Prozorovs by Lucy Gillespie (Hollywood Fringe; Encore Producers Award, Best Female Director nomination), and Harry & The Thief by Sigrid Gilmer (The Habitat). Katie is the Artistic Director of Big Little Theater Company which produces plays that are "epically intimate." She is also co-Founder of MeetCute, an evening of short plays that builds community in Los Angeles. Proud member of the Dramatists Guild and SDC and graduate of Dartmouth College.

Kevin Johnson is an arts administrator with a passion for expanding the scope and access of theatre and the performing arts. Originally for Schertz, Texas Kevin has lived in Los Angeles for 4 years completing an MBA / MFA in Theatre Management at Cal State Long Beach while working at nonprofit theatres in Los Angeles including Center Theatre Group, and the Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles' Will Power to Youth Program. He is currently the Audience Services Manager at the historic East West Players located in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

Kyndal McLyn has been working in the Los Angeles art scene for over six years. After studying Art History at CSULA she spent numerous years working at multiple art institutions including MOCA and the Hammer museum.

Lauretta Coumarbatch, M.D. is an emerging visual artist, writer, community encourager and disability advocate from the U.S. Virgin Islands. She is also a doctor and public health specialist with over 35 years experience in pediatrics, aging and wellness. Lauretta is focused on the dynamics of arts, faith and health disparities in minority communities especially during this pandemic. And she uses art to promote social justice and anti-racism. Lauretta is also passionate about creating space and inclusivity in the arts for female, older, BIPOC and disabled artists like herself. She co-founded an artist residency at a local arts non-profit, where she assisted in workshops, artist playdates, gallery exhibits and other events. She also helps musicians and actors to create public and performance art. Lauretta has grant writing experience and she participates in local and statewide arts advocacy. She also volunteers with youth arts nonprofits and she sings in choirs.
Maddie Chavez Rivas is a rising senior at UC Berkeley majoring in Ethnic Studies and minoring in Global Studies. They have volunteered at domestic violence clinics, interned with rent boards to ensure accessible, legible tenant petition forms, and have spearheaded efforts towards combatting sexual violence and sexual harassment within the Latinx community.

Who are you?’ said the Caterpillar. This was not an encouraging opening for a conversation. Alice replied, rather shyly, ‘I — I hardly know, sir, just at present — at least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have been changed several times since then.’

- (Carroll, 1865, Chapter V)

No Black woman writer in this culture can write ‘too much’. Indeed, no woman writer can write ‘too much’ ... No woman has ever written enough. - bell hooks – Remembered Rapture: The Writer At Work, 1999

Compassion and Empathy allow us to think of new ways for freedom to exist...only then are we allowed to have a conversation worth having. - Maeva Asare, 2021

An Important Note from the Author:
...And if you actually want to have a conversation with me, read my bio first...in its entirety: https://www.maevaasare.com/about-maeva/

[...because graduating with a 3.951 from UCLA’s College Honors Program is just as noteworthy as witnessing one of my shyest students blossom...which is just as significant as my creative practice and artistic works.]

Marty Preciado is a cultural policy advocate. For over a decade, Marty has developed arts programming in the interest to deepen power, representation and access between cultural sectors and audiences; from curating inclusive programing to community initiatives focused on arts and culture; Preciado's research and curatorial projects focus on transcultural exchange of politics and gender, with an emphasis on music, arts, and culture. Preciado is currently researching implementation of cultural policy as a conduit of accessibility and equity between constituents and the arts sector. Marty is a graduate of the Executive Program in Arts & Culture at University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy & Practice.
Megan Ruble is a professional actress based out of Los Angeles. Whether acting, singing, writing, or producing, she is committed to the art of storytelling and the change it can elicit in the world.

Michaela Bulkley is continuously building a collaborative and sustainable performing arts ecosystem focused on community-driven leadership development. She is passionate about organizational infrastructure in the arts. Her focus on sustainability, long-term planning, and creative problem solving has naturally drawn her to a career in producing, project management, and advocacy. Michaela's mission is to create an environment in which theatre leadership is values based and equitable, which will help artists thrive and more diverse stories to be told.

Nadia Chrisanto is a passionate arts administrator and highly self-motivated with a demonstrated history of working in mission-specific museums and nonprofit organizations serving individuals in the arts, history and culture. She was the 2016 Getty Marrow Undergraduate Curatorial Programs Intern at the California African American Museum (CAAM), where she developed her passion in the arts and nonprofit administration. After the internship, she continued working at CAAM as a curatorial & program assistant, then as program assistant for the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI), and as Administrative Assistant for LACMA's Education & Public Programs Department. She recently rejoined CCI as their Assistant Operations & Digital Assets Manager. Nadia has extensive experience in project management, programming, curatorial research, exhibitions planning, grantmaking, and arts administration. She is committed to supporting works of under-resourced BIPOC artists and communities, and using art & history to promote diversity and cultural history. Born in Jakarta and moved to Los Angeles in 2002, Nadia received her B.A. in History from California State Polytechnic University Pomona and A.A. in History, Humanities, and Social & Behavioral Sciences from Pasadena City College. Nadia enjoys delicious sweets, cooking, playing games, and spoiling her two cats, Boba and Mochi.
My name is Paola Lopez, LA native born and raised in Echo Park. I am a passionate go getter always looking for opportunities for growth and taking my community along with me for the journey. I love my city and have been part of the nonprofit and union sector in Los Angeles for 7 + years. With a love and dedication to the arts and freelance in the ever evolving world of events & entertainment. Honored and proud to be able to uplift and be given the opportunity to be entrusted to amplify the many talents and voices of LA based community artists as well. As part of the Grand Park team, as Social Media Manager and Programming PA. Currently attending LATTTC Community Planning/ Economic Development Leadership program. I am committed to uplifting, protecting, and acknowledging the voices in my communities with access to the arts and resources for all. My goal and dream for Los Angeles is a cultural, equitable, accessible, community preservation, community building city for all Angelenos with access to free public programs and resources. It is an honor to be part of this year’s 2022 ACTIVATE Delegates Program cohort. I look forward to building long lasting relationships and activating my leadership power.

Paola Perez is a recent college graduate with a Master's Degree in Education with a focus on Bilingual/Multicultural Education. She is committed to her community through volunteer work which began in college. Paola obtained her BA in Art History from UC Berkeley, where she volunteered at the school's museum and studied abroad in Berlin. After graduating, she became a docent at LACMA, combining her love for art and teaching. From this experience, she learned the value of art education and recognized its transformative impact and extensive need. She wants to focus her work on making art education more accessible for underserved communities through alternative mediums like distance learning.

Raven Sanchez is an artist and organizer that has lived and worked in San Francisco for over 10 years, where she studied Sociology and Latin American Studies at the University of San Francisco - while simultaneously daydreaming and re-imagining the potential of community arts in her hometown West-Whittier - Los Nietos an unincorporated region of Los Angeles County. Raven’s family lineage spans generations in East Los Angeles which significantly impacts the depths of her connection to LA and its people. Raven maintains her link to the Bay Area through her work in nonprofit leadership. Raven studied visual arts and painting at the City College of San Francisco and from 2018 - 2020 initiated an artist-run project named Whittier Levantate that addressed community arts and social/local issues as a way to cultivate collaboration amongst artists and local organizers in her community. Raven now lives in Los Angeles and is dedicated to innovative methods of incorporating a social lens into her art practice and grounding future projects with abolitionist frameworks and community centered outcomes.
Sam Campbell is a sophomore at Cal State LA where she is studying Mass Communications with an emphasis in advertising and public relations. An Angeleno born and raised she has been involved in a variety of LA based nonprofits over the years including WriteGirl, Inner-City Arts, and Young Storytellers. Most recently she was part of the 2021 cohort of the Los Angeles County Arts Internship program where she served as a programs and communications intern for Create CA, a nonprofit organization which advocates for equitable arts education for all K-12 students throughout California. Sam lives in Northeast Los Angeles and enjoys exploring her creative side through tap dance and indulging in sour strawberry belts.

Sharon Senko is a small business and economic equity advocate who is passionate about community-led development and ownership. She currently serves as a business counselor with a collaborative of six community-based organizations dedicated to empowering low-income and immigrant entrepreneurs with the resources to start and grow their businesses. Her work also includes policy research and strategies to address displacement and design innovative models for access to capital. Art and music are an integral part of her daily life, and drive her desire to collaborate with creative communities to build power and provide impactful solutions. In her spare time she enjoys volunteering with food justice mutual aid organizations, experimental music, and late night dance parties.

Sophia Bautista is a Program Coordinator for Youth Leadership Institute, where she teaches youth in Long Beach storytelling, campaign strategies, and zine making enshrined in social justice values. She previously worked in programming for the Feminist Center for Creative Work in Los Angeles, working at the nexus of feminist practice and creative work. Her previous research projects with UCLA featured narratives of laborers who are frequently neglected and live at the furthest peripheries of our structures.

Veronica Popovic is a Chicana/Latina, Scholarship Consultant, raised in Atwater Village. As a college student she had a passion for photography and was mentored by the artist, Harry Gamboa Jr. She was a member of his international performance troupe, Virtual Vérité. Veronica graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Cal State Northridge. After college, she moved to New York to volunteer with AmeriCorps at Rochester Community Television. She empowered youth to produce a TV show on the topics of race relations and regional history. She graduated from USC with a Master of Education in PostSecondary Administration. She has worked in higher education for the past 16 years – at USC, Cal State Northridge, Cal State LA, and most recently as an Admissions Evaluator for UC Irvine. Her area of expertise is in scholarship management. Veronica has won the Scholarship Provider of the Year Award from the National Scholarship Providers Association!
Vinita V. Pugal has over 25+ years of experience in Master Planning, Experiential Design, Landscape Architecture, and Architecture. She is the founder of Designodal, Inc., a collaborative forum for designers. The vision of Designodal Inc. is to connect people and transform the world through design by integrating art, nature, culture, and storytelling. Vinita has worked for over fifteen years on designing various prestigious projects in the United States & abroad. Working closely with people around the globe has made her a culturally responsive designer. Born and educated in India, she had the privilege of working on the design of multiple projects in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa before moving to California. She believes that telling the story of the people helps build community engagement and activates spaces. The art of storytelling inspires her as a medium of design. Qualification - BArch, MArch, PLA, ASLA, LEED AP

Vivian Glazier is an actor, writer, and vibrant creative from Fort Worth, TX. She graduated summa cum laude with a BFA in Drama from the University of Oklahoma, where she was awarded the Van Hefflin Award and the Mary Gray Thompson Award and was recognized on the Letzeiser Honor List. She self-published two poetry books: one whole world and 100 OVER FOUR. She firmly believes that art has the power and responsibility to change the world.