



THE SCHOLAR & FEMINIST CONFERENCE XXXVIII

UTOPIA

Friday, March 1–Saturday, March 2
Diana Center, Barnard College
3009 Broadway

UTOPIA

“I write because life does not appease my appetites and hunger. I write to record what others erase when I speak, to rewrite the stories others have miswritten about me, about you.”

—Gloria Anzaldúa, “Speaking in Tongues: A Letter to Third World Women Writers”

“It was part of women’s long revolution. When we were breaking all the old hierarchies.”

—Marge Piercy, *Woman on the Edge of Time*

“We are impossible people... We’re being told that we’re politically unviable and impossible, we’re told that constantly, and yet I think there’s a space of possibility that exists in part because we are not yet included or recognized.”

—Dean Spade, “Trans Politics on a Neoliberal Landscape”

Utopia challenges us to imagine the impossible. Feminists have for years spoken of dreams, of excess, of revolution. Creating a space outside of what society makes available can be an act of survival in a culture that selectively grants and withholds the designation of full humanity. While many have shied away from the term “utopia,” wary of its uses as a cover for eugenics and other distinctly dystopian endeavors, this year’s Scholar & Feminist Conference argues that there is a consistent power that comes from confronting our desire—our “appetites and hunger”—for “spaces of possibility,” making “women’s long revolution... breaking all the old hierarchies.”

In concert with this theme, the conference format this year focuses on participation and collaboration. First, we turned to our community for ideas on what you wanted to see and were delighted at the wonderful range of ideas you submitted, including a number that became a part of this conference. Then, we asked artists, scholars and activists to work together on creating keynote presentations that expressed a slice of Utopia. Finally, we worked with our incredible workshop facilitators to develop a number of intimate, participatory spaces for creativity and organizing.

We don’t expect today’s event to be a utopia in the traditional sense of the word. But we hope that together we can spark something that will continue to inspire and drive us as we find our way together, working towards justice.



@bcrwtweets #sfutopia

We’ll be livetweeting the conference with the hashtag #sfutopia. Join the conversation and follow along @bcrwtweets.

Blog

Check out our blog for links, further information, and followup: bcrw.barnard.edu/blog/

Cover art

Hope Dector, \$5.40, intaglio print, 2009

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

6:30–8:30 PM

Film Screening: *Wildness*

Featuring a conversation with Wu Tsang and Roya Rastegar

Set in the historic Silver Platter, a Los Angeles bar that has been a home for Latin/LGBT immigrant communities since 1963, *Wildness* follows what happens when a group of young artists create a weekly performance art/dance party called Wildness, which explodes into creativity and conflict
Event Oval, The Diana Center

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

9:00–10:00 AM

Registration

Ground Floor Lobby, Diana Center

10:00–10:30 AM

Opening Remarks

Event Oval, The Diana Center

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Morning Keynotes

- Building Utopia: Stitching the Lessons from Stories and Visions of Women in our Lives
PAM MCMICHAEL, HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER
MELANIE CERVANTES, DIGNIDAD REBELDE
- Utopian Design? Feminism and Critical Design
SHAOWEN BARDZELL, INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS AND COMPUTING
YOUNGSUK ALTIERI, INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS AND COMPUTING

12:00–12:20 PM

Pick Up Lunches

Lower Level Lobby and 5th Floor Lobby

12:25–1:45 PM

Workshops Session 1

- Utopia and Literature
Room LL104

- Creating a New Feminist Framework for K-12 Education
Room 504

- Prison Abolition
Room 502

- Desiring Change
Room LL103

- Addressing Poverty
Room 501

- Climate Change
Room 308

2:00–3:00 PM

Afternoon Keynotes

- Queer Pedagogies in Public Places
JENNIFER MILLER, CIRCUS AMOK!
- Learning from Tip to Top: Tilting Education and the Outraged Movement
MARISA BELAUSTEGUIGOITIA RIUS, UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO

3:15–4:45 PM

Workshops Session 2

- Talking Back to Culture Through Feminist Remix
Room LL104
- Beyond “Food Fights”: Re-imagining Food Justice
Room LL103
- Design for America
Room 308
- Open Education: Transformational Learning
Room 504
- Another World is Possible: Creating Communities that Reinvent Ourselves as We Reinvent the World
Room 501
- Feminism and Parenting: A Workshop for Parents, Caregivers, and Allies
Room 502

5:00–6:00 PM

Reception

Event Oval

Workshop Descriptions

Addressing Poverty

Valery Jean, Room 501

There can be no utopia without addressing structural issues of racism, classism and sexism. In this workshop, grassroots organizers from Families United for Racial and Economic Justice (FUREE) share their approaches to developing grassroots leadership and facilitate community brainstorming about how to build power and change systems of oppression, particularly around economic justice.

Another World is Possible: Creating Communities that Reinvent Ourselves as We Reinvent the World

Kavitha Rao, Room 501

"People are aware that they cannot continue in the same old way but are immobilized because they cannot imagine an alternative. We need a vision that recognizes that we are at one of the great turning points in human history when the survival of our planet and the restoration of our humanity require a great sea change in our ecological, economic, political, and spiritual values." —Grace Lee Boggs

In this workshop you'll hear about Common Fire's vision for creating communities that manifest in the here and now the more just and sustainable world we all dream of. Co-founder of Common Fire, Kavitha Rao will share about CF's 12 years of research in to best practices of intentional communities, ecovillages, anti-oppression work, personal growth, conflict resolution, healing, and alternative economies, and their 7 years of tremendous successes and harrowing challenges in trying to put that theory into practice and build actual multicultural communities committed to personal and cultural transformation. You will have space to reflect and share about the underlying values of your dream for a just and sustainable world and hear examples of how people are engaging in this radical experiment today.

Beyond "Food Fights": Re-imagining Food Justice

Gwendolyn Beetham and Pamela Phillips, Room LL103

This workshop will bring together people from across the spectrum who are working to solve the growing problem of food inequality and those affected by its injustice—from farmers and farm workers to low-income families in communities which are deemed food deserts in urban cities and rural areas alike. It is based, in part, by the fact that distribution, access, and education is inextricably linked to politics. This workshop will ask participants to bring their personal experiences of food and foodways into the conversation to draw out the complexities of race, gender, sexuality, ability and class—but also the pleasures and delights of food—that are often glossed-

over in mainstream food movements. These narratives, as well as visual representations of food from different neighborhoods in New York, will be used to open up a space in which we might "re-imagine" what is possible in the fight for food justice.

Climate Change

Cassie Flynn, Room 308

Hurricane Sandy demonstrated that climate-related impacts, such as extreme weather events, pose immense challenges to every aspect of society – the way we live, the way we work and the way we play. Addressing these challenges means that we need to imagine a new future where communities are more resilient and prepared meet the slow and longer-term impacts of climate change head on. How do we work toward this more resilient future? Cassie Flynn, Co-Founder and Chief Partnerships Officer of ioby, will discuss how climate change will affect communities and present tools to support innovation. She will lead a brainstorm on what utopia looks like in the context of climate change and present ioby's experiences in helping innovators and entrepreneurs to bring great ideas to life.

Creating a New Feminist Framework for K-12 Education

Ileana Jiménez, Room 504

What would happen if K-12 teachers taught women's studies and if women's studies professors taught K-12 pedagogy? Join us to re-imagine the future of K-12 education: deconstruct the gender binary system with children, dismantle bullying and harassment with teens, and design feminist curricula in every school subject with teachers. This workshop will partner women's studies academics with K-12 teachers to re-envision curriculum design using feminist thought and action for a vibrant and exciting future of feminism.

Design for America

Andrew J. Demas, Kendall Herman, Lulu Mickelson, Room 308

The Barnard-Columbia Design for America workshop aims to introduce the concept of human-centered design as a tool for creative problem solving and local change-making. Participants will learn the process of "Designing for America" through a hands-on, student led workshop in which they will collaboratively build a prototype solution to a local problem while gaining exposure the principals of social innovation and design thinking.

Desiring Change

Amber Hollibaugh, Room LL103

Desiring Change, a joint effort by BCRW and Queers for Economic Justice, offers a framework for thinking about how desire and gender are brought alive through the ways lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and intersexed people use their bodies; and how desire and gender are made poignant

and meaningful by the ways we construct or deny our erotic passions and gendered identities in the course of daily life. This workshop will explore the opportunity to bring fresh vision to questions that have long challenged organizations and movements, including questions about how to frame issues of key concern and how to develop effective models for making change.

Feminism and Parenting: A Workshop for Parents, Caregivers and Allies

Simone Kolysh and Victoria Law, Room 502

How do we raise feminist children in today's world? How are we addressing gender and gender expectations in our own households and in society? What roles can people without children play in bringing up the next generation of feminists? Drawing from our own experiences as feminist activists and parents, Simone Kolysh and Victoria Law will facilitate a discussion about the myriad ways we address gender and gender expectations. As a group, we will talk about challenges we've encountered and brainstorm solutions.

Open Education: Transformational Learning

Rickke Mananzala and Dean Spade, Room 504

Social movement and organizations that want to change the world produce analysis of existing conditions in order to strategize transformation. They often use various forms of political or popular education to engage constituents in critical processes, build leadership, and develop strategies. Many have critiqued the models of education that most commonly take place in schools and universities, which are often structured by hierarchies that limit participation and critical engagement. This interactive workshop will explore how we learn, what kinds of spaces and practices encourage transformational learning, and how people are taking up these practices inside and outside universities. We'll look at some specific examples of alternative, participatory learning projects that people have undertaken in New York City to see how social justice-focused groups and organizations are practicing education.

Prison Abolition

Reina Gossett, Room 502

Drawing on Reina Gossett's writing on resistance to police violence and trans embodiment and the prison industrial complex, this multimedia workshop will offer participants an understanding of the Prison Industrial Complex and creative strategies to abolish it. Workshop participants will engage archival footage and text from activists such as Angela Davis, Marsha P Johnson, and Sylvia Rivera.

Talking Back to Culture Through Feminist Remix

Francesca Coppa and Elisa Kreisinger, Room LL104

In this workshop, we will consider the history of feminist remix and sample some of the ways in which women have reexamined pop culture to address women's interests. We'll provide strategies for creating our own remixes and discuss the future of feminist remix culture as it becomes an increasingly mainstream and commercial form of engagement.

Utopia and Literature

K. Tempest Bradford, Room LL104

While dystopia is one of the most active genres of fiction, it's been said that utopian writing is inherently boring. This workshop will explore what makes good utopian fiction, how you can offer visions for a better world and keep creative tension intact, and tactics for making imaginative writing a form of social justice work and entertainment.

Participant Bios

Youngsuk Altieri is a multimedia artist who received her Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Fine Arts with an emphasis in printmaking at Hong-ik University in South Korea. She obtained a second Masters of Fine Arts in Digital Art at Indiana University with a focus on video art, computation, and interactive installation fabricated by 3D modeling. Her work has been displayed in multiple international venues and festivals in Korea, Japan, Australia, and the United States. She has experience working in industry as a chief designer for an interior design company, as well as experience working as an illustrator for children's books. She is currently pursuing a PhD in the Informatics and Computing Department at Indiana University with an emphasis in Human Computer Interaction-Design. Her recent projects have focused on computation and interactive design combining art and science under the Intel Social Computing Grant.

Shaowen Bardzell is an Assistant Professor in the School of Informatics and Computing, the Affiliated Faculty of the Kinsey Institute, and a faculty fellow at the Rob Kling Center for Social Informatics at Indiana University. Known for her work in feminist Human Computer Interaction (HCI), concepts of interest to both feminism and HCI, including scientifically rigorous and socially just research methodologies, human sexuality, embodiment, marginality, and everyday aesthetics. Recent work has focused on exploring the intersections between HCI's rising interest in social change and feminist social science, critical design, intimate interactions, and the application of critical and cultural theories for developing concept-driven design strategies. Bardzell co-directs the Cultural Research in Technology (CRIT) group at Indiana University.

Gwendolyn Beetham is an independent scholar living in Brooklyn, New York where she teaches and works for local and international organizations dedicated to gender and sexual justice. Her work has been published in *Gender Theories: The Key Concepts* (Routledge, 2012), *The International Handbook of Gender and Poverty* (Edward Elgar, 2010), and various journals. Gwendolyn has been a special editor for *The Scholar & Feminist Online*, a co-editor of the *Graduate Journal of Social Science*, and she currently edits the series "The Academic Feminist" on Feministing.com. She received her PhD from the Gender Institute at the London School of Economics in 2011.

K. Tempest Bradford is a speculative short story writer by day, an activist blogger by night, and a gadget nerd in the interstices. She occasionally dips her toe into the editing waters and lends her time to various literature-

related causes, including the Interstitial Arts Foundation, the Carl Brandon Society, and the 2008 James Tiptree Jr. Award jury. She has edited fiction for *Peridot Books*, *The Fortean Bureau*, and *Sybil's Garage* and from 2007 to 2009 she was managing editor of *Fantasy Magazine*, acquiring and editing non-fiction features and interviews. Her fiction has appeared in *Abyss & Apex*, *Farthing Magazine*, *Strange Horizons*, *Sybil's Garage*, *Electric Velocipede*, *Podcastle* and *the Federations* (Adams, ed.) and *Interfictions* (Sherman and Goss, eds.) anthologies. She contributes blog posts, essays, columns and features to Tor.com, the Carl Brandon Society blog, the FeministSF Blog and The Angry Black Woman. The nexus of all her activities is her website at ktempestbradford.com.

Melanie Cervantes is a Xicana activist-artist whose role is to translate the hopes and dreams of justice movements into images that agitate and inspire. Melanie's work includes black and white illustrations, paintings, installations and paper stencils, but she is best known for her prolific production of political screen prints and posters. Employing vibrant colors and hand-drawn illustrations, her work moves those viewed as marginal to the center -- featuring powerful youth, elders, women, and queer and indigenous peoples. Melanie fuses interdisciplinary study of racialized peoples, her art skills and her strong decolonizing politics in order to become a powerhouse "artist of the people". She has exhibited at Galeria de la Raza (San Francisco); Woman Made Gallery and National Museum of Mexican Art (Chicago); Mexic-Arte and Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center (Austin, TX); and Crewest (Los Angeles). Internationally her art has reached Mexico, Thailand, Slovenia, Palestine, Venezuela, Switzerland, Colombia, Africa, India and Guatemala. Her work is in public collections of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics, the Latin American Collection of the Green Library at Stanford, and the Hispanic Research Center at the Arizona State University as well as various private collections throughout the U.S. Melanie currently works full-time as a Program Officer at the Akonadi Foundation which supports movement building organizations working to finally put an end to the structural racism that lies at the heart of social inequity in the United States. She holds a BA in Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley.

Francesca Coppa is a Professor of English and the founding director of Film Studies at Muhlenberg College, where she teaches courses in dramatic literature, performance studies, and mass media storytelling. She is also a founding member of the Organization For Transformative Works, a nonprofit organization established by fans to provide access to and preserve the history of fanworks and culture. She co-edited the Fan/Remix Video issue of *Transformative Works and Cultures* and is currently writing a history of fan vidding for the University of Iowa press.

Andrew J. Demas is a sophomore at Columbia University majoring in Financial Economics with a concentration in History and Theory of Architecture. He is currently interning at UBS in Wealth Management, serves as a Student Executive at Community Impact, is a member of the Adobe Student Advisory Board, and is a Co-Leader at Design for America.

Cassie Flynn is the co-founder and chief partnerships officer of ioby, a digital platform that helps to make neighborhoods stronger and more sustainable. ioby supports innovators to raise funds, recruit volunteers and gain knowledge to bring their ideas to life. ioby's work includes projects in 33 cities, such as turning vacant lots into community gardens, installing solar panels on rooftops, creating bike lanes and repair shops, caring for wetlands, and other local-level activities. With her fellow ioby Co-Founders, Cassie received the Jane Jacobs medal in 2012. Previous to ioby, Cassie provided strategic advisory services to UN bodies and other international organizations, national, state and local governments, multi-billion dollar companies, and civil society groups on climate change and sustainability issues. In 2011, Cassie published "Blending Climate Finance through National Climate Funds," a guidebook on designing and establishing national funds. Cassie earned her Master's in Environmental Management from the Yale University and undergraduate degrees in government and environmental studies from Bowdoin College.

Reina Gossett lives in Fort Greene, Brooklyn and believes creativity and imagination are vital in movements for self determination. She is a trans activist & artist, working as membership director at the Sylvia Rivera Law Project and blogging at thespiritwas.tumblr.com. Reina's work has been featured in the Barnard Center for Research on Women's *The Scholar & Feminist Online*, as well as *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment & The Prison Industrial Complex*, Post Post Script Press and *Randy Magazine*.

Kendall Herman is a sophomore at Barnard College, originally from Boston, MA. She is majoring in Urban Studies with a concentration in Urban Planning. In addition to serving as Co-Leader at Design for America, Kendall is currently a PR intern at Glamour magazine and the Director of PR for Delta Gamma Fraternity.

Amber Hollibaugh is the Co-Director of Queers for Economic Justice, and has worked at Howard Brown Health Center, the National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce, Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders, Gay Men's Health Crisis, and the NYC Commission on Human Rights. A well-known activist, artist, public intellectual, and community organizer, she is the author of *My Dangerous Desires: A Queer Girl Dreaming Her Way Home*, and the director and co-producer of *The Heart of the Matter*, a documentary focusing on women's sexuality, denial, and risk for HIV/AIDS.

Valery Jean is the Executive Director at Families United for Racial and Economic Justice (FUREE). She has a sixteen-year history of working for and consulting with activist, progressive and human service organizations in the areas of community organizing, housing development, youth development, management, marketing, program evaluation and funding development. She has raised over \$16.5M for organizations led by women and people of color and developed policy recommendations in child welfare, community development, public housing, community benefits agreements and access to jobs. Valery co-founded The Share for Life Foundation and serves on in a number of advisory positions at organizations including Medgar Evers College School of Professional and Community Development, Living Wage NYC, Right to the City New York, NYS Civic Engagement Table, and Right to the City National's Civic Engagement Work Group where she is responsible for co-developing a theory of organizing low income voters of color. Valery is also a co-founder of the Black and Brown Alliance, engaging over 30 national social justice, community based and faith based organizations to develop best practices and a national racial justice platform. She double-majored in Psychology and Africana, Puerto Rican & Latin Studies at Hunter College, is a life-long Brooklyn resident and a child of Haitian and Dominican immigrants. She dedicates her work to building a just society in honor of FUREE members, her family and especially her 16-year old son and a 5-year old daughter.

Ileana Jiménez has been a leader in the field of social justice education for the past sixteen years. A 2011 recipient of the Distinguished Fulbright Award in Teaching, her research in Mexico City focused on creating safe schools for LGBT youth. Passionate about creating inclusive schools, Ileana believes in transforming education for gender, racial, and economic justice. In 2005, she founded the New York Independent Schools LGBT Educators Group, providing educators professional development and networking opportunities. At the Little Red School House & Elisabeth Irwin High School (LREI) in New York City, she offers electives on feminism, LGBT literature, Toni Morrison, and writing memoir. Ileana is also an associate faculty member at Bard College's Institute for Writing and Thinking, where she offers workshops to classroom teachers and college instructors on writing-based inquiry. Recently, she appeared on the Melissa Harris-Perry Show to talk about teaching feminism to high school students and to advocate for safe schools. She has written about education issues for *Care2*, *Feministing*, *Gender Across Borders*, *The Huffington Post*, *Ms. Magazine*, *On the Issues*, *the Smith Alumnae Quarterly*, and the Women's Media Center. Founder and sole blogger at Feminist Teacher, feministteacher.com, she received her B.A. in English Literature at Smith College, and an M.A. in English Literature at Middlebury College.

Simone Kolysh is currently a 2nd year PhD student in Sociology at the CUNY Graduate Center. Her interests lie with race, sex & gender, sexuality and developing feminist theory. Her dissertation work centers on cat-calling and street harassment in NYC as experienced by people of various genders and sexualities. Simone teaches courses in Sociology and Women's Studies and is interested in thinking deeply about both pedagogy and parenting. Her blog on how to raise children in feminist way can be found here: <http://genderdetki.blogspot.com/>.

Elisa Kreisinger is an appropriation and video remix artist. Her work has been featured in galleries and festivals throughout the US and Europe including Museum of Film and TV (Berlin), MIP Cube (France) and SxSW. A prominent voice in the remix and online video community since 2008, Elisa speaks about the intersection of gender, appropriation and open video on university campuses and at TV and film industry events throughout the world. Her success engaging female audiences online has led to collaborations with NBC, Paramount Pictures, Art 21, Eileen Fisher, Women Make Movies and the Women's Media Center. An advocate and activist, Elisa works with Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet and Society, American University's Center for Social Media (where she is currently a Media Fellow) and the Electronic Frontier Foundation to continue to pave the way for a remix-friendly web that acknowledges creators rights under US Copyright Law's Fair Use provision. Elisa also leads video editing, social media and blogging workshops for women and girls to create their own stories through popular culture and new media. Her free guides and tutorials can be found on her website, PopCulturePirate.com. Elisa's latest project, a two-part *Mad Men* remix series, garnered more views than the official *Mad Men* trailer despite being disabled by YouTube and Lionsgate for wrongful copyright infringement.

Victoria Law is a mother, writer and photographer. She is the author of *Resistance Behind Bars: The Struggles Of Incarcerated Women* (winner of the 2009 PASS Award) and the co-editor of *Don't Leave Your Friends Behind: Concrete Ways to Support Parents in Social Justice Movements and Communities* (PM Press 2012). She is also a long-time volunteer at ABC No Rio, a community arts center in the Lower East Side, and the coordinator of WORTH's Birthing Behind Bars campaign, which uses narrative campaign strategies to push for reproductive justice in women's prisons.

Rickke Mananzala is a New York City-based activist and former Executive Director of FIERCE!, where he previously served as Campaign Coordinator and then Co-Director. He is a former New Voices Fellow at the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, a founding National Steering Committee member of the Right to the City Alliance, and also served on the board of Third Wave Foundation for five years.

Pam McMichael is the Executive Director of the Highlander Center, which she first became associated with as a long-time activist and organizer in Louisville, Kentucky. For decades now, Pam's organizing and cultural work have focused on connecting people and issues across difficult divides, with particular focus on helping build a strong racially just movement. She has co-founded local, state and regional organizations with this core strategy, including Southerners on New Ground, where she served as co-director for 8 years. She was a national fellow with a Rockefeller Foundation leadership project to address the growing crisis in U.S. democracy, and her extensive nonprofit management experience includes social change and social service organizations.

Lulu Mickelson is a Barnard College Centennial Scholar and Urban Studies major. She is engaged in her campus community as the Founder and Co-Leader of Design for America, the Student Founder of the Athena Center Mastermind Group for social entrepreneurship, and a Leader for the Columbia Urban Experience service pre-orientation program. She is also a proud BCRW Research Assistant.

Jennifer Miller is a playwright, performer and the director and founder of Circus Amok. She has been working with alternative circus forms, theater, and dance, and for over twenty years. She is the recipient of the 2008 Ethyl Eichelberger Award. Her work with Circus Amok was awarded a "Bessie" (a New York Dance and Performance Award) in 1995 and an OBIE in 2000. Circus Amok is the subject of a French documentary film, "Un Cirque a New York" 2002 and Brazilian documentary, "Juggling Politics" 2004. As a dancer she has performed with Cathy Weis, Jeff Weis, Jenny Monson, John Jasperse, Johanna Boyce, Doug Elkins, and They Won't Shut-up among others. She had a seven year stint at Coney Island Sideshow by the Seashore. She toured her solo shows Morphadyke and Free Toasters Everyday here and abroad. She is the author of *Cracked Ice or The Jewels of the Forbidden Skates* and *The Golden Racket*. She is an associate professor of performance at Pratt Institute.

Pamela Phillips began her interest in community activism in the early 1990's after moving into a newly constructed apartment building in Harlem that was adjacent to a vacant lot. She fought with the city to turn the lot into a community garden so that the view from her window would change from despair to hope. Many years later, that spark was once again ignited when she became involved with the Obama campaign and his national call for community service. She answered it by becoming involved in community organizations in her neighborhood. Through her activism she advocates for socio-economic issues in her community including poverty, hunger, food inequality and environmental issues. Pamela works at the Barnard Center for Research on Women and volunteers as Vice President of the North Bronx

Council of Presidents' Executive Board, New York City Housing Authority's Resident Association, and as a member of the Benjamin Franklin Reform Democratic Club in the Bronx. She has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from CUNY-Lehman College and is currently pursuing her master's degree in Urban Policy Analysis and Management at The New School of Public Engagement.

Kavitha Rao is the co-founder of Common Fire, which helps to create accessible and sustainable intentional communities as a means of cultural transformation. She is a mother, a yoga teacher, a facilitator, and an organizer. She has worked with grassroots organizations around the world and is humbled by the immense commitment and vision she has witnessed from people unwilling to accept that the violence and injustice that may surround them is the only way things have to be. All her work, whether with Common Fire or partners like Be Present and the Center for Whole Communities, are explorations for how we can live the just and sustainable futures we all deserve NOW and in solidarity with all peoples on the planet.

Roya Rastegar is a Visiting Assistant Professor and Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the History of Art department at Bryn Mawr College. She received a Ph.D. from the History of Consciousness Program at UC Santa Cruz. In collaboration with Wu Tsang, Rastegar is the screenwriter of *Wildness* (2012), which was honored as one of the year's most "influential, innovative films" with "lasting historical significance" for MoMA's The Contenders 2012 film series, and was awarded the Grand Jury Prize for Documentary at Outfest. She was a curatorial fellow at the Whitney Museum's ISP, a co-director of the Santa Cruz Women of Color Film & Video Festival, and has participated in the programming process of a variety of festivals, including at Sundance, Tribeca, and the Los Angeles Film Festival. Her current book manuscript explores the transformative possibilities of film and new media curatorial practices through a critical study of film festivals in the U.S.

Marisa Belausteguigoitia Rius is currently the Director of the Program of Gender Studies of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. She has a PhD in Cultural Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Masters in Psychoanalytic Theory and Ibero American Literature. She is member of the National Researchers System in Mexico and Professor of the Philosophy School at UNAM. She has published different articles in several national and international magazines such as *Development*, *IWGIA*, *Debate Feminista*, *Nexos*, *Voices of Mexico* and more recently the books *Pedagogías en espiral* (2012), *Enseñanzas desbordadas* (2008) and *Güeras y prietas: género y raza en la construcción de mundos nuevos* (2009). She also coedited the books *Género Prófugos: Feminismo y Educación*, *Fronteras y Cruces: Cartografía de Escenarios Culturales Latinoamericanos* and *Fronteras Violencia y Justicia: Nuevos discursos*.

She is a member of several editorial boards and last year she was appointed as a member of the Governing Council of the Society for International Development. Her work analyzes the forms of cultural representation and the upraising of social movements in the north and south Mexico borders. She also analyzes the links between gender, race, identity and culture.

Dean Spade is an associate professor at the Seattle University School of Law and is currently a fellow in the Engaging Tradition Project at Columbia Law School. In 2002 he founded the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, a non-profit collective that provides free legal help to low-income people and people of color who are trans, intersex and/or gender non-conforming and works to build trans resistance rooted in racial and economic justice. He is the author of *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics and the Limits of Law* (2011).

Wu Tsang is a filmmaker, artist, and performer based in Los Angeles. As a transgendered second-generation Chinese American, he explores human stories at the intersection of complex identities. He was named one of 2012's "25 New Faces of Independent Film" by *Filmmaker Magazine*. His first feature *WILDNESS* won the Grand Jury Award for Outstanding Documentary at Outfest 2012 [World Premiere: MoMA Documentary Fortnight (New York, NY), SXSW (Austin, TX), Hot Docs (Toronto, Canada), SANFIC8 (Santiago, Chile)]. Tsang has been exhibiting and performing internationally for the past 10 years. His artworks and performances have been presented at the Whitney Museum and Performa Biennial, ICA Philadelphia, MOCA Los Angeles, Sala de Art Publico Siqueiros (Mexico City), Oberhausen Short Film Festival (Germany), and upcoming at the Gwangju (South Korea) and Liverpool (UK) Biennials. Tsang is also a community organizer and host of nightlife and food events. From 2008-2010 he coorganized a performance art party called Wildness with DJ artists Total Freedom (Ashland Mines) and NGUZUNGUZU (Daniel Pineda & Asma Maroof), at the Silver Platter bar in Los Angeles. From 2008- 2011, he co-organized IMPRENTA, an artist-run storefront adjacent to Silver Platter that housed art projects, and free HIV testing and legal services for the transgender community (currently operating as the mobile clinic LETSGO LIBERACION).

Notes

Support the Center!

With your donation of \$100 or more, you'll receive a signature BCRW t-shirt or totebag. It's a great way to show your support of the Center and its mission—while spreading the word that feminism matters.

Enclosed, please find my check made payable to Barnard College for:

\$500 \$250 \$100

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