



CREATE A SPACE NOW PRESENTS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHENECTADY HIGH SCHOOL

THE INAUGURAL CAPITAL REGION

ACTIVATED ARTIST FEST



— A DAY WHERE COMMUNITY, ART, AND ACTIVISM INTERSECT —

AUG 10, 2024 @ 11A-7P



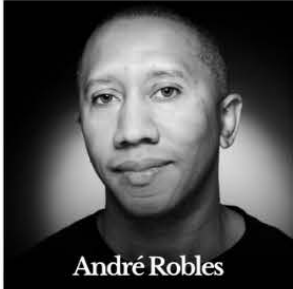
JOHN SAYLES SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS
1445 THE PLAZA, SCHENECTADY, NY 12308

WWW.CREATEASPACENOW.ORG

2024 Presenters

From **dance** to **creative writing** to **film** and more.

Get to know these incredible presenters and what they will share with the community.



André Robles



Jacqueline (Jacqui)
Anscombe-Waring



Jermaine Wells



Eliana Rowe



Jean-Remy Monnay



Shakeema Funchess



Adonis Richards

**ACTIVATED
ARTIST
FEST**



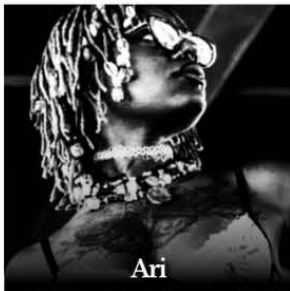
Theo



Celia Hernandez



Robert Gertler



Ari



Q'ubilah Sales



Jolita Brettler



Hettie Barnhill

meet our 2024
**keynote
speaker**
Taína Asili



**ACTIVATED
ARTIST
FEST**

**Rhapsodies
of Radical
Imagination**

Taína Asili

Taína Asili is a U.S.-born Puerto Rican singer, composer, and interdisciplinary artist known for her powerful fusion of past and present struggles into soulful and defiant music. Performing at iconic venues such as Carnegie Hall and The Women's March on Washington, her work has been lauded by Rolling Stone, NPR, and Billboard, and frequently aired on Democracy Now!. Her latest album, "Resiliencia," includes an award-winning documentary series that highlights stories of resilience against various adversities. Asili also serves as One Billion Rising's U.S. Coordinator, using her art to inspire and mobilize communities for social justice and liberation.



ACTIVATED ARTIST FEST



2024 SCHEDULE

Schedule current as of 8/5/24 and subject to change. Please check [here](#) for any changes.

TIME	EVENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	PRESENTERS
11:00 A	Welcome, Brief Introduction	Meet and Greet	Lobby	Create A Space NOW
11:20 A	Kids Zone	Arts and Crafts	Lobby	Community
	Sensual Movement	Movement / Dance	Dance Studio	Ari
	Art, Activism and AI	Presentation/ Discussion	Classroom	Shakeema Funchess
12:00 P	Resume Building	Professional Service	Lobby	Create A Space NOW
	Active Rest	Health & Wellness	Dance Studio	Community
	Life in Haiti and America. My experience.	Theatre / Interdisciplinary	Theatre	Jean-Remy Monnay
12:40 P	Dance and the Harlem Renaissance	Movement / Dance	Dance Studio	André Robles
	The Thin Line between Taking and Making - Appreciation, Appropriation, & Exploitation.	Presentation/ Discussion	Classroom	Robert Gertler
1:20 P	Headshot Station	Professional Service	Lobby	Create A Space NOW
	Active Rest	Health & Wellness	Dance Studio	Community
	"Shakespeare Unmasked": Activism and Street Performance in the Bard's Plays.	Theatre / Interdisciplinary	Theatre	Eliana Rowe
2:00 P	Kids Zone	Arts and Crafts	Lobby	Community
	Afro, Groove, House - A Moment to Move for Change	Movement / Dance	Dance Studio	Hettie Barnhill
	You Me and Poetry	Creative Writing / Poetry	Classroom	Adonis Richards a.k.a Sincerely
2:40 P	Active Rest	Health & Wellness	Dance Studio	Community
	A Revolutionary Spirit: UNLEASHING THE CHAINS OF WRONGFUL CRIMINALIZATION AND PRISON LABOR	Theatre / Interdisciplinary	Theatre	Q'ubilah N Sales
3:20 P	Kids Zone	Arts and Crafts	Lobby	Community
	How We Stand How We Move	Movement / Dance	Dance Studio	Jolita Brettler
	Speak up Speak Better: Communication is Activism	Public Speaking / Workshop	Classroom	Jermaine Wells
4:00 P	Active Rest	Health & Wellness	Dance Studio	Community
	Revolutions in R.E.M	Theatre / Interdisciplinary	Theatre	Theo
4:40 P	Improv and Theater: Breaking Down Barriers	Theatre / Interdisciplinary	Dance Studio	Hettie Barnhill
	School is more than what they teach us	Presentation/ Discussion	Classroom	Celia Hernandez
EVENING PROGRAM				
5:30 P	BLACK LIVES MATTER 2015	Film Screening 1	Theatre	Jacqueline (Jaqui) Anscombe-Waring
	Universal film: Through a Black Lens	Film Screening 2	Theatre	Jermaine Wells
	A Love Letter To Brian, Lesley, and Michelle (Excerpt)	Film Screening 3	Theatre	Create A Space NOW
	Rhapsodies of Radical Imagination	Keynote	Theatre	Táina Asili
	You, NOW. (Project 2025)	Group Discussion	Theatre	Panel
7:00 P	END OF FEST			

Sensual Movement with Ari

Come explore your inner world with kindness through movement and reflection in community.

Art, Activism and AI

The presentation will discuss the use of storytelling to address complex issues like racism, cultural identity and historical events in a way that accessible to children. The unique benefits of using children's literature to spark conversations about diversity and social justice will be explored. As well as how storytelling can be used to empower marginalized voices and foster empathy. The discussion aims to highlight how amplified marginalized voices can promote social change through art and activism.

Life in Haiti and America. My experience

Join Jean-Remy Monnay as he shares an excerpt of his one man play about his lived experience and his compelling journey as a black man living in the US after leaving his country. Explaining the struggle living through the dictatorship of the Duvalier Regime.

Dance and the Harlem Renaissance

The Harlem Renaissance was a period of vibrant intellectual and artistic development in the Black community of New York in the early 20th century. Dance was a big part of the Renaissance. Much of the influence of the Renaissance still informs today's movement styles and dynamics. This class will be a mixture of movement styles that span the scope of dance throughout the Harlem Renaissance, including patterns and phrases that move across the floor and conclude with a final dance.

The Thin Line between Taking and Making - Appreciation, Appropriation, & Exploitation

This session aims to explore the delicate balance between cultural appreciation and appropriation, raising artistic awareness and fostering a desire to be purpose-driven creatives. We will examine these concepts on both personal and societal levels, emphasizing the importance of cultural sensitivity and ethical considerations looking to create true collaborative relationships where no party is merely taking while the other gives up their art, image, likeness, or dignity. Instead, striving to create arrangements that respect all artists' rights. Additionally, focusing on how art is and can be used as a powerful tool, understanding how to better wield it effectively sharing examples of how I have done so and plan to in the future.

"Shakespeare Unmasked": Activism and Street Performance in the Bard's Plays

Shakespeare Unmasked is a workshop that explores Shakespeare's language through site-specific street performance. Together in class, we'll learn and explore a group text and then bring our text into community. Inspired by Margaret Holloway, Shakespeare Unmasked, invites us to make theatre accessible.

Improv and Theater: Breaking Down Barriers

Living with intersectionality automatically teaches us how to navigate systems that were not made for us. Life becomes improv, where we don't always have the answers but use intuition to find them. In this comedic improv workshop, we will allow our inner selves to speak outwardly and find our destination through laughter, partnering, dialogue, and discussion. Join us to explore the real meaning of inclusive theater.

You Me and Poetry

You Me and Poetry is a presentation about creative writing, poetry, and learning about poetry. I will teach performance poetry, poetic forms, and creative writing techniques to get ideas flowing into poetry. There will also be a history lesson on poetry and its growth into spoken word today. They will also storyboard their own poems into their own stories like authors.

A Revolutionary Spirit: UNLEASHING THE CHAINS OF WRONGFUL CRIMINALIZATION AND PRISON LABOR

This presentation promises to be a transformative theatrical experience shedding light on the profound impact of wrongful criminalization and prison labor on the black family, leading to generational trauma. Following this emotional journey, we will delve into essential concepts on how to reform the system to better support our formerly incarcerated loved ones. Moreover, an interactive session exploring black trauma from prison and ways to foster healing through health and wellness activities will encourage engagement and reflection. Our goal is to inspire hope, impart valuable knowledge, and empower our audience to advocate for positive change in their communities.

How We Stand How We Move

How We Stand How We Move is an instructional dance session that is about finding the relationships that make dance interesting in our bodies. How can we think more actively about the role of larger system oppression on the ways we exist in spaces? People will be encouraged to separate themselves from movement that we are told is "beautiful" and "artistic" and lean into the possible discomfort of bringing the physicality one's true self into the space.

Speak up Speak Better: Communication is Activism

As a host and professional public speaker. I'd like to give a talk and hands on practicum for public speaking. Communication is a needed and crucial part of any Activist, let alone any human being.

I think each individual will eventually find themselves speaking to an audience. It can be a terrifying and anxiety filled experience. I'd like to give tips and tricks to help each person in the room get better at public speaking. Each individual should leave with greater knowledge and tools to lead an impactful talk. I'd like to have as many people that are interested, get critiqued live at the session.

Revolutions in R.E.M

This piece tells the story of 5 different enslaved individuals, during different points/locations throughout slavery. These pieces take us on journeys that aim to show some of the conditions that enslaved individuals had to endure during this time as well as take the audience on a simultaneous journey through their hopes and dreams of and for the past, present, and future, and show the interconnections between the fight for liberation in the past and the one in the present.

Afro, Groove, House - A Moment to Move for Change

This full-body Dance workshop combines narrative, movement featuring upbeat rhythms, and a fusion of African, Modern, and Hip-Hop techniques. Through critical discussion, we foster an environment of inclusivity, understanding, and a sense of agency, self-compassion, and resilience.

Participants will feel supported in exploring their own freedom dance through a carefully crafted blend of physical expression and introspective guidance. This moment to move for change, healing, and advocacy encourages connection and empowerment and movement freedom. To reclaim your body on your own terms. This class is open to all levels, so come and join us!

School is more than what they teach us

School is more than what they teach us is an informational session that discusses the events of how schools deal with racism. The history behind how racism is convicted and allowed in schools, talking about The United Daughters of Confederacy and how they impacted the curriculum in the south, to redlining all the way in our own back yard. There's more than just that but how schools react to students reporting cases of racism and how it affects not only them but how they find themselves being viewed further on in life. Sit with me as I tell not only my experiences with racism but the experiences, I know so many more can relate too

BLACK LIVES MATTER 2015

Thought provoking words and graphic images depicting historical and current experiences of Black people in America and what the Black Lives Matter movement is really saying.

Universal film: Through a Black Lens

In this session I will show several short films in genres of horror, mental health and science fiction. The goal is to show us in main roles and theme of the universal human condition.

A Love Letter To Brian, Lesley, and Michelle

A Love Letter to BLM is film that is the result of human beings coming together, diverse in age, sexuality, race, and gender, talking with their bodies, minds, and souls, about Black lives. An interactive and experimental commentary that leaves the viewers looking inward, seeking justice from within. This is a film, a play, an experience, a concert dance, a work of art, a self-reflection, a protest.

Rhapsodies of Radical Imagination

Taina Asili is a U.S.-born Puerto Rican singer, composer, and interdisciplinary artist known for her powerful fusion of past and present struggles into soulful and defiant music. Performing at iconic venues such as Carnegie Hall and The Women's March on Washington, her work has been lauded by Rolling Stone, NPR, and Billboard, and frequently aired on Democracy Now!. Her latest album, "Resiliencia," includes an award-winning documentary series that highlights stories of resilience against various adversities. Asili also serves as One Billion Rising's U.S. Coordinator, using her art to inspire and mobilize communities for social justice and liberation.

You, NOW. (Project 2025) Panel Discussion

As artists, educators, leaders, and community members, we play a crucial role in shaping our society and determining our future. This discussion will focus on the planning and implications of Project 2025. We will explore how we can use our creativity, leadership, and activism to address the polarizing prejudices and divisions that Project 2025 may bring. Join us to discuss how we can proactively influence a more inclusive and united future.

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