SOCIAL JUSTICE & MUSEUMS RESOURCE LIST

Initiated and edited by Tanya S. Autry, @artstuffmatters
https://artstuffmatters.wordpress.com

Activism in Museums, Neutrality Claim

Jennifer A. Ferretti, “Neutrality is Hostility: the Impact of (False) Neutrality in Academic Librarianship,” (Google Doc, resource list), February 6, 2018 [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wh_EJlPO37m8vAPm-mM-EST3evtEPMDkbsbWQUa-hFc/edit?usp=drivesdk](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wh_EJlPO37m8vAPm-mM-EST3evtEPMDkbsbWQUa-hFc/edit?usp=drivesdk)

[centers on libraries, but this discourse relates to the neutrality claims in museums as well]


MASS Action, Museums As Site for Social Action, toolkit, [https://www.museumaction.org/resources/](https://www.museumaction.org/resources/)

- [Toolkit](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58fa685dff7c50f78be5f2b2/t/59dcdd27e5dd5b5ab1b51d9d8/1507646780650/TOOLKIT_10_2017.pdf)


Porchia Moore, Aletheia Wittman, and Rose Paquet Kinsley, “Michelle Obama, “Activism”, and Museum Employment Part II,” *The Incluseum*, June 5,
Jillian Steinhauer, “Museums Have a Duty to be Political,” The Art Newspaper, March 20, 2018, https://www.theartnewspaper.com/comment/museums-have-a-duty-to-be-political
Opposition to Museum Activism

Anti-Oppression

“5 Tips for Being an Ally”
https://youtu.be/_dg86g-QIM0

“Identifying & Dismantling White Supremacy in Archives: An Incomplete List of White Privileges in Archives and Action Items for Dismantling Them,”
Poster- content produced in Michelle Casswell’s Archives, Records, and Memory class, Fall 2016, UCLA, poster design by Gracen Brilmyer


Lead Pipe, September 24, 2014

Nina De Jesus, “Locating the Library in Institutional Oppression”, In the Library with the Lead Pipe, September 24, 2014


Race: Understanding the Construct


Chad Louis Williams, Kidada E. Williams, Keisha N. Blain, *Charleston Syllabus, Readings on Race, Racism, and Racial Violence*, Athens, GA: University of Georgia, 2016


Carey Dunne, *Why the Rijksmuseum Is Removing Bigoted Terms from Its Artworks’ Titles* for Hyperallergic, posted on December 22, 2015


color-or-what-transpires-on-a-long-haul-career-when-confronted-with-racism-in-the-
museum/
Emily Dennis Harvey and Bernard Friedberg, editors, A Museum for the People: A
Report of Proceedings at the Seminar on Neighborhood Museums held November 20,
21, and 22, 1969, at MUSE, the Bedford Lincoln Neighborhood Museum in Brooklyn,
Hannah Heller, “Whiteness in Museum Education,” The Incluseum, December 14, 2017,
https://incluseum.com/2017/12/14/whiteness-and-museum-education/
Gretchen Jennings et al (December 11, 2014) “Joint Statement from Museum Bloggers
and Colleagues on Ferguson and Related Events.” Museum
Commons. http://www.museumcommons.com/2014/12/joint-statement-museum-
bloggers-colleagues-ferguson-related-events.html Retrieved May 23, 2018
Gretchen Jennings. (October, 2015). “The #museumsrespondtoFerguson Initiative: A
Necessary Conversation. “ Museums and Social Issues Vol. 10 No. 2 pp 1-9
Commons http://www.museumcommons.com/category/trayvon-martin
Helen Kim Ho, “8 Ways People of Color are Tokenized in Nonprofits,” Everyday
nonprofits/
Francis E. Kendall, “Understanding White Privilege,” Christian Peacemaker Teams,
2002,
http://www cpt.org/files/Undoing%20Racism%20-
%20Understanding%20White%20Privilege%20-%20Kendall.pdf
Elizabeth Merritt, “Instigating Social Justice Sessions at AAM 2015,” Center for the
for.html
Porchia Moore, “An Exploration of Race, Social Media, and Museums,” Exhibitionist vol
.32, no. 2, Fall 2013
http://name-
aam.org/uploads/downloadables/EXH_fall_13/10%20EXH%20f13%20An%20exploration
%20of%20race%20socila%20media%20and%20museums_Moore.pdf
Eric Morse, “#MuseumsrespondtoFerguson: Systemic Racism, Representation, and
Museums as Peaceful Congregant Spaces,” Museumuptopia, June 23, 2015,
https://museumuptopia.wordpress.com/2015/06/23/museumsrespondtoferguson-
 systemic-racism-representation-and-museums-as-peaceful-congregant-spaces/
“#Museumsrespondtoferguson,” The Uncatalogued Museum, December 11, 2014,
http://uncatalogedmuseum.blogspot.com/2014/12/museumsrespondtoferguson.ht
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Katie Nodjimbaden, "How the African American History Museum Is Curating the "Black
 Lives Matter" Movement," Smithsonian.com, December 14, 2015,
http://www.smithsonianmag.com smithsonian-institution/african-american-history-
museum-black-lives-matter-180957530/
Seph Rodney, “The Conflict Around Diversity at the American Alliance of
around-diversity-at-the-american-alliance-of-museums/


NMAAHC symposium held April 25, 2015, Twitter hashtag #HRRlive


Diversity, Inclusion, Equity - Language, Concepts for Addressing Race & Gender


Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole: 2015 AAM General Session Keynote Address
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmRO0wIIVYM


Leslie Mac, “Too many white folks, white-led orgs & NFPs have framed antiracism work as learning about racism. That is education…,” Twitter thread @LeslieMac, May 31, 2018, https://tinyurl.com/ybmayono

Policies

Jobs in Diversity/Inclusion
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art
“Rod Bigelow, Executive Director & Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Leadership Bios, Crystal Bridges Museum of Art, https://crystalbridges.org/leadership-bios/

Decolonization
Decolonize This Place, “Statement 2: Growing Coalition Calls Brooklyn Museum ‘Out of Touch’ and Demands Decolonization Commission,” Decolonize Brooklyn Museum blog,
Decolonize This Place, “Why We Need to Decolonize the Brooklyn Museum,” Now This News,
Stefano Harney and Fred Moten, The Undercommons: Fugitive Planning and Black Study, Wivenhoe, UK: Minor Compositions, 2013.


Erich Hatala Matthes, “Repatriation and the Radical Redistribution of Art,” Ergo, Vol. 4, No. 32: https://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/ergo/12405314.0004.032?view=text;rgn=main


*** social media ***

Decolonize Our Museums, @decolonizeOM via Twitter

Decolonize This Place, @decolonizethis via Twitter

*podcasts*


Features Sumaya Kassim and Nathan “Mudyi” Sentance

**Empathy**

Critiques of Empathy as a Political Strategy


Kendi, Ibram X. *How to Be an Antiracist*, Arguments for Empathy as Tool in Museums


Radical Empathy in Museums, Blog Anabel Roque Rodríguez, February 8, 2018, https://www.anabelroco.com/blog/radical-empathy-in-museums

**Gender and Sexuality**


Margaret Middleton, “The Queer Inclusive Museum,” Exhibition, journal of National Association for Museums Exhibition, AAM, Fall 2017
Jose Muñoz, Disidentifications: Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics, Minneapolis, University of Minnesota, 1999.

**Ableism/Physical and Cognitive Disability/Disability Justice**


Liz Jackson, “I never write threads. And so I hope my disabled friends and my supporters will take a moment to read this, as I am beginning to fall apart…,” Twitter thread @elizejackson, April 30, 2018, https://tinyurl.com/ya5q64ck.

Disability Solidarity, Solidarity Syllabus, May 2018, https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/70923b_a3f680c9f7b4e8e850c31291b27de3e.pdf


Twitter accounts - @elizajackson @DisVisibility

Visitors


Internships - Paid versus Unpaid


In here it talks a little bit about how museums and other institutions are not losing the ability to pay for interns but rather know they can get free work. It is wrong however and the only way I see this relating to HCC is that the stipend for interns should be given weekly or all upfront to supplement things like paying for parking everyday or grabbing lunch on the way home because there are no lunch breaks.


Here talks about the simple tasks or menial work that an intern can often be asked to do. As an intern I don’t mind spending an off day or an hour or two doing the little stuff that needs to be done because I understand it needs to be done, but relying on a whole internship of menial tasks is wrong. I think HCC does a good job of balancing.


This details how to add your story to a spreadsheet that this group has acquired of internship stories that detail what it is like to not only be an intern but what tasks are asked upon us and the hours we work. It talks about not reporting unpaid internships to sites and potentially donating your own money to need based internships. I think HCC should re word the job position when showcasing the job and exactly what the stipend entails- especially because it's paid in installments that take awhile, additionally since it is a stipend I am not sure it can be given weekly or not- but some preparation of financial status should be added!

Association of Art Museum Directors Passes Resolution Urging Art Museums to Provide Paid Internships, June 20, 2019

This talks about the importance of paid internships- it is pivotal to students who often pay their own bills that we do not work unpaid jobs when money is available. This talked about the program that implemented paid internships in 10 museums and how it was essential to the workforce, additionally for students, it creates a desire to be competitive within the internship field.

Art + Museum Transparency @AMTransparency

**Museums and Monuments**


**Defining Museums**

http://faculty.winthrop.edu/stockk/contemporary%20art/Buren%20museum.pdf

**Contemporary Controversies, Collaborations, Challenges, and Protests**

Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute Rescinds Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award, January 2019


British Museum
Critiques regarding museum’s colonialist ties


Carla Herreria, “Twitter Calls Out Museum Curator for Saying Asian Names are ‘Confusing,’” Huffington Post, September 14, 2017, https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/british-museum-asian-names-confusing_us_59baf469e4b02da0e14077f5


Brooklyn Museum
Curatorial Hiring Controversy - Calls for Decolonization Commission March 2018


Carla Herreria, “People Want to Know Why Brooklyn Museum’s New African Art Curator is White,” Huffington Post, March 28,
Cal State - Long Beach, The University Art Museum
Cal State Long Beach fired Kimberli Meyer from her position as director at the University Art Museum


[letter from Melissa Raybon, former Getty Multicultural Intern at the University Art Museum, Cal State- Long Beach. In her open letter regarding firing of museum director Kimberli Meyer, Raybon outlines the racial oppression she experienced at the institution and lack of university support during her internship.]


“Student Response to College of the Arts (COTA) Dean Cyrus Parker-Jeannette, California State University Long Beach (CSULB) Spokesperson Terri Carbaugh, California State University Employees Union (CSUEU) Chapter 315 President Jennifer Moran, and whom else it may concern,” (Google Doc) October 20, 2018, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L4Md3L7apv0bHKv91NST81-eHUpObRC4hDI5JWXO0I/edit?usp=sharing

Matt Stromberg, “Cal State Long Beach Students Protest Museum Director’s Firing,” Hyperallergic, November 19, 2018


Damon Davis, “In the Face of White Male Privilege Run Amok, a Plea for Artistic Responsibility,” Hyperallergic, September 28, 2016

CrossLines: Culture Lab on Intersectionality, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, Washington D.C. - May 2016

http://smithsonianapa.org/crosslines/


https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/articles/142894/culture-lab-manifesto

Davis Museum, Wellesley - 2017

Critique of Davis Museum’s decision to remove art by immigrants

Pampi, “Reflections from Paneling at NEMA’s “Museums and the Travel Ban” at the Davis Museum,” Third Eye Fell, May 19,


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**Mainstream press about Davis Museum’s decision to remove art by immigrants**


MFA Boston - “Kimono Wednesdays” program- summer 2015, #KimonoWednesdays

Decolonize Our Museums, @decolonizeOM on Twitter


Mia Nakaji Monnier, “MFA’s Kimono Controversy Should Spark Deeper Conversation,” *Boston Globe*, July 9,
MFA Boston racism directed towards students:
MFA Boston Apologizes For Racist Incident During School Visit, Teacher Responds

Harvard

Memphis Brooks Museum of Art

Museums Respond to Ferguson

National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Queens Museum
Spencer Museum of Art

Tacoma Art Museum

Victoria and Albert Museum - long term loan of looted Ethiopian objects + acceptance of Sackler money
Mark Brown, “Looted Ethiopian treasures in UK could be returned on loan”, The Guardian, April 3, 2018


Virginia Museum of Fine Arts - decontextualization of Congo masks

Walker Art Museum - Scaffold public sculpture by Sam Durant

Whitney Art Museum


Hrag Vartanian, “Whitney Staffers Demand Answers After Vice Chair’s Relationship to Tear Gas Manufacturer is Revealed,” Hyperallergic, November 30, 2018, https://hyperallergic.com/473702/whitney-tear-gas-manufacturer-is-revealed/


Activists Protest at Whitney Museum, Demanding Vice Chairman and Owner of Tear Gas Manufacturer “Must Go”

Decolonize This Place, “From Crisis to Decolonization,” May 19, 2019

Decolonize This Place Week 2 Protest Poster
https://www.decolonizethisplace.org/content/5-zines-and-posters/dtp_week_02_poster.pdf

“You Can’t Hide”: Protesters March From Whitney to Warren B. Kanders’ Home During Biennial, May 18, 2019


Artists Withdraw From Whitney Biennial as Backlash Builds Against Warren Kanders, July 19, 2019

Worcester Art Museum
Maria Garcia, “At the Worcester Art Museum, New Signs Tell Visitors Which Early American Subjects Benefited from Slavery,” WBUR, June 8,

**Censorship**

**History**
Bennett, Tony, “The Exhibitionary Complex.” *New Formations*, No. 4, (Spring 1988)

Duke University Press
P. Gabrielle Foreman et al. “Writing about Slavery/Teaching About Slavery: This Might Help” crowdsourced document, August 18, 2018, 3:00 pm, CST, [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1A4TEdDgYslX-hlKezLodMIM71My3KTNOzzRv0IQTOQs/mobilebasic](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1A4TEdDgYslX-hlKezLodMIM71My3KTNOzzRv0IQTOQs/mobilebasic)
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY (assembled by Gina in 2005)


Sanchez, George. “‘What’s Good for Boyle Heights is Good for the Jews’: Creating Multiculturalism on the Eastside during the 1950s,” American Quarterly 56 (September 2004): 633-661.
________. “Coming of Age with the Muses: Change in the Age of Multiculturalism.” In The


Curatorship and Collection Practices


Museum Education


The Black School, Shani Peters and Joseph Cullier, 21:53

Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power

Exhibitions, Programs

Crosslines: A Culture Lab on Intersectionality, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, May 2016


Movement Is Rising: Journey of #BlackLivesMatter at Museum of Impact
The Art of Black Dissent, #artofblackdissent, (2016 - ), https://theartofblackdissent.wordpress.com/, organized by La Tanya S. Autry and Gabriella Svenningsen


Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in the U.S., traveling exhibition


Mining the Museum, by Fred Wilson, Maryland Historical Society, 1992 - 1993

Harlem on My Mind, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 1969

Educational Resources/Scholarship of Teaching and Learning


Syllabi


Solidarity Is This Podcast Syllabus, by Deepa Iyer, #SolidarityIsThis, @dviyer and @solidarity_is, https://www.solidarityis.org/podcasts

Toolkits

MASSAction, Museums As Site for Social Action, toolkit, https://www.museumaction.org/resources/

Toolkit - https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58fa685dff7c50f78be5f2b2/t/59dcd27e5dd5b5a1b51d9d8/1507646780650/TOOLKIT_10_2017.pdf
Hiring Toolkit from Avarna
https://theavarnagroup.com/resources/hiring-practice-better-practices/

**Video**
http://www.thegreenespace.org/story/how-i-got-over-vision-and-justice-racialized-america/
'Stop Telling Women To Smile' Artist Tatyana Fazlalizadeh On Her Movement https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ygYaHt6Y4wg

**Podcasts**
*The Gallery Gap*. A podcast that focuses on equity and inequity in museums, collections, exhibitions, and programming. We start with our home institutions, and situate the conversation in the broader context.
http://wvik.org/programs/gallery-gap
*Museopunks*. A podcast for a progressive museum. Some of their recent podcasts focus on areas of social justice (e.g. episodes 19, 20, 23, 27) http://labs.aam-us.org/museopunks/
*How The Art World Works* is an inquiry into the logistics, values, ethics, expectations and operations of how an artist “makes it” in the art world. Unmarred by academic impetus and vocabulary, your hosts Karen Atkinson and Megan Flanders condense experiences commercial, academic and otherwise from their special guests and get straight to the point: Can someone please tell me how the art world works? Recent episodes focus on storytelling and shedding light on how artists throughout history have been discriminated against by the “Art World” and what they did to fight back.
https://www.gyst-ink.com/how-the-art-world-works/
*Cultura Conscious*
“Join Paula Santos, a podcast addict and lover of everything arts and culture, in conversation with other museums and cultural workers, educators, artists, activists, and leaders about how we work with our communities and the public at large. She is particularly interested in how the work we do in museums, non-profits or other cultural organizations intersects and is informed by larger questions of race and inequity in society.
http://www.culturaconscious.com/
*Museum Archipelago* - A tiny show guiding you through the rocky landscape of museums. Museum Archipelago believes that no museum is an island and that museums are not neutral. Taking a broad definition of museums, host Ian Elsner brings you to different museum spaces around the world, dives deep into institutional
problems, and introduces you to the people working to fix them. Each episode is never longer than 15 minutes, so let’s get started.
https://www.museumarchipelago.com/
Episodes:
60. Stephanie Cunningham on the Creation and Growth of Museum Hue: https://www.museumarchipelago.com/60
55. Barbara Hicks-collins Is Turning Her Family Home Into the Bogalusa Civil Rights Museum https://www.museumarchipelago.com/55

Digital/Social Media Forums - Twitter, Facebook, Instagram
#MuseBlack
#MuseumHue
#MuseumsAreNotNeutral
#MuseumsRespondtoFerguson
#MuseumWorkersSpeak
#POCArthistory
MassAction
@VisitorsOfColor - Twitter
@knowyourcaribbeanne - Instagram
Art Education + Social Justice Book Club (Los Angeles, California), https://sites.google.com/view/aesjbookclub

Funding Sources
Note: this list includes national and international grants to fund independent research and projects

Graduate Students
Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship-- $1000 given to a graduate student working on a historical dissertation that interrogates race and gender, not necessarily in a history department https://thecw.org/ccwh-awards/wells-graduate-student-fellowship/
James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference-- $25,000 stipend for visiting fellow http://jamesweldonjohnson.emory.edu/home/fellowship/dissertation-fellows.html

Post-doc
James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference-- Visiting Fellowship for Advanced Scholars http://jamesweldonjohnson.emory.edu/home/fellowship/index.html
CASVA Postdoctoral Research Fellowship-- $50,000 (For appointment to the A. W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in 2018–2020, the Center encourages applications in the fields of the visual arts and culture of African Americans, Africa, and the African diaspora.) https://www.nga.gov/research/casva/fellowships/mellon-postdoctoral-fellowships.html

Curators/Artists
American Philosophical Society-- $47,000 Postdoctoral Curatorial Fellowship https://www.amphilsoc.org/grants/curatorialfellowship
Robert Rauschenberg Foundation-- Artist as Activist Grants