Institute for Diversity in the Arts
Annual Report 2014-15
Core Values

We value and practice creativity.
We nurture diversity of cultures, identities, and forms of art.
We strive to achieve excellence in all of our work.
We believe in the power of art to transform.

Mission

The Institute for Diversity in the Arts (IDA) is an interdisciplinary program in the humanities that involves students in the study of culture, identity and diversity through artistic expression. Our mission is to create, support, and advance powerful, collaborative, and transformative arts practice and arts leadership.
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Institute for Diversity in the Arts was founded in 2001 by Faculty Director Harry Elam and Executive Director Gina Hernandez. Shortly thereafter, it merged with the Committee on Black Performing Arts and moved into its iconic arts space, the Harmony House. IDA has since grown into a nationally renowned institute working at the intersection of arts, identity, and social justice.

IDA is a high-touch organization. Through our classes and programs, we directly reach 400 students a week. And that reach extends into the community. We launched a new research arm this year, working with high school students in East Palo Alto and documenting arts-world work at the cutting edge of changing demographics and changing aesthetics.

For us, diversity encompasses not only race, gender, sexuality, but forms of creativity. We work from the idea that cultural change precedes political change. IDA students make change in the arts ecosystem here at Stanford and they go on to change the world.

In this time of dramatic social change, we find our mission more relevant than ever—to educate, activate, and transform. We are proud to share with you our accomplishments.

With Thanks,

Jeff Chang
Executive Director

STAFF

H. SAMY ALIM Faculty Director
Faculty Director H. Samy Alim is Professor of Education and (by courtesy) Anthropology and Linguistics. Alim received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford University. He has lectured widely on Global Hip Hop Cultures and Hip Hop Arts and Education. His most recent book, Articulate While Black: Barack Obama, Language, and Race in the U.S. (Oxford, 2012), with Geneva Smitherman, has received widespread acclaim. In addition to his work at IDA, he directs the African & African American Studies program.

JEFF CHANG, Executive Director
Jeff Chang was named by The Utne Reader as “One of the 50 Visionaries Who Are Changing Your World.” He has been a USA Ford Fellow in Literature, a founding editor of ColorLines, and a co-founder of CultureStr/ke. His first book, Can’t Stop Won’t Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation, won the American Book Award. His new book, Who We Be: The Colorization of America, a cultural history of post-civil rights America, was published in October 2015 to national attention and widespread praise.

ELLEN OH, Associate Director
Ellen Oh has an M.A. in Arts Administration from Columbia University and has spent over fifteen years working in marketing, development, volunteer management and program coordination for nonprofit arts organizations both nationally and internationally. Recent experience includes serving as Executive Director of Kearny Street Workshop and Associate Director, Marketing for Sundance Institute.

MIRANDA SHEPHERD, Program Coordinator
Miranda Shepherd received her B.A. with honors in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity with a concentration in Identity, Diversity, and Aesthetics (’14) and her M.A. in Communications with a Media Studies concentration (’15), both from Stanford University. Miranda watches Netflix as “research” for her thesis on television in the age of the internet and writes plays in her free time.
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

IDA is proudly student-centered and it shows. Each week, our programs, classes, leadership opportunities, and hosted activities touch 400 students on campus. We give students the tools they need to lead in the arts ecosystem here on campus and in their communities. They become agents of transformation.
STUDENT STAFF

FELLOWS
Kareem Alston (Co-Chair)
Gabriella Moreno (Co-Chair)
Evelyn Anderson
Tyler Brooks
Tucker Bryant
Taylor Litchfield
Clara Luu
Ari Marcus
Janei Maynard
Chris Russ
Alexis Wood

INTERNS
Ali Barajas
Anna Casalme
Luke deWilde
Stewart Gray
Lan Anh Le
Claire Miles
Jaclyn Marcatili
Lauren Phillips
Jenna Lee Shapiro
Keegan Sitompul
Natasha Weiss

COMMUNITY ARTS FELLOWS
Lauren Dyer & Malcolm Lizzappi

Our Fellow and Intern program is at the core of all of our work and the basis of our community. The 22 students we selected and trained this year conceptualized and implemented much of IDA’s programming and played leadership roles throughout Stanford’s arts ecosystem. In addition, we selected 2 Community Arts Fellows who represented IDA’s mission through summer arts internships in East Palo Alto and within the Black Lives Matter movement.

Harmony House is home to the Stanford Gospel Choir, Talisman, COLLO, and used by many other student organizations for rehearsals, meetings and events. We hold classes in African and African American Studies and Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity in our living room. The house serves as a comfortable and safe gathering space for students to have jam sessions, make art, study, or have a movie night.

Through all of these methods, IDA engages 400 students each week, which makes IDA one of the fastest-growing interdisciplinary programs at Stanford.

160.4
IDA STUDENT PROGRAM
(Fellows, Interns, Events)

133.3
ACADEMICS
(IDA staff-taught classes, Visiting Artist classes, Artist in Residence classes, Art is My Occupation class)

82
HARMONY HOUSE USEAGE
(VSOs, non-IDA classes, non-IDA events, Friends)

7
RESEARCH
(ARTS & EDUCATION PROJECT graduate & undergraduate researchers)
ACADEMICS

In addition to the many IDA concentration courses offered through other Stanford departments and faculty, IDA typically initiates 3-5 courses each year. This year, highlights included a course on media and activism taught by IDA Visiting Artist dream hampton; a course on how to cover race, culture, and identity in arts journalism with IDA Executive Director Jeff Chang; and a lecture series about race, policing and mass incarceration led by IDA Faculty Director H. Samy Alim.
WINTER 2015

From Moments to Movements:
New Media, Narrative, and 21st Century Activism
with IDA Visiting Artist dream hampton

This course looked at 21st century activism as influenced by both new media and an emphasis on narrative, critically investigating the opportunities and limitations created by “hashtag activism.” By examining the work, talking to organizers, reading classic twentieth century media and analyzing online activism trends, students looked closely at those whose impact and success is measurable. Students also participated in a day-long, youth-led activist training and then produced their own low fi zine or helped an organization of their choice develop their online presence.


SPRING 2015

RACE, POLICING & MASS INCARCERATION with Professor/IDA Faculty Director H. Samy Alim and Professor/ MacArthur Genius Award Recipient Jennifer Eberhardt

Presented by the Program in African & African American Studies and the Institute for Diversity in the Arts, this course/public lecture series featured presentations by Angela Davis, Jennifer Eberhardt, Van Jones, Talib Kweli dream hampton and a panel of activists from across the country. With 200 registered students and an additional public audience of 200+ each week, this five-part ground breaking series examined the issues of race, policing and mass incarceration through the lens of scholars, activists and artists.

REPRESENT! Covering Race, Culture, and Identity
In The Arts Through Writing, Media, and Transmedia
with IDA Executive Director Jeff Chang

This course was an exploration into how to cover race, culture, and identity in the arts in journalism, such as print, web, video, radio, and podcasting. The class discussed exemplary arts writers and their works and interrogating critical questions around race, identity, representation, and ethics. The course also initiated partnerships between the Institute for Diversity in the Arts and KQED Arts, KPFA’s Hard Knock Radio, the Stanford Arts Review, and CalArts’ “Arts In A Changing America”/Future Aesthetics Program. Students created works for all of these Bay Area outlets.
RESEARCH

IDA’s Arts & Education Project in East Palo Alto, generously supported by the Surdna Foundation, highlights how hip-hop arts and social justice pedagogies impact high school students’ engagement in school, community, and civic life. This three-year project will capture, map and analyze how the arts transform diverse low-income students and their communities.

By highlighting best pedagogical and institutional practices, it provides and enhances learning and teaching opportunities for East Palo Alto students, teachers and community members, as well as Stanford students, faculty, and staff. The project also models and documents the ways in which different institutions—a charter school, a non-profit community based organization, and a university—can collaborate to support the development of an emerging East Palo Alto arts ecosystem.

Our project has at its core an abiding faith in the ability of teachers, artists, activists, and youths to fashion solutions to the aesthetic and social problems they face. In our inaugural year, seven undergraduate researchers under the lead of Principal Investigator H. Samy Alim and Assistant Investigator Casey Wong observed and worked closely in classroom and other settings with the innovative Mural Music and Arts Project and the East Palo Alto Academy.
IDA ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Theater and Performance Studies Department lecturer Aleta Hayes’ multi-genre performance group, the Chocolate Heads Movement Band, did a site-specific show at the newly-opened Anderson Collection.

Theater and Performance Studies Department lecturer, poet and playwright Cherrie Moraga celebrated the new 4th edition of a classic 1981 anthology she edited, *A Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color*, with a two-day intergenerational event which included a reading, panel discussions and student-led breakout sessions.

Award-winning journalist, author and performer Ruben Martinez brought a trio of punk feminist pioneers to campus in May for a performance panel of music, spoken word and commentary revealing the roots of the “riot grrrl” movement and asserting its relevance today. The event featured singer/performers Alice Bag and Allison Wolfe and author/journalist Evelyn McDonnell.
PROGRAMMING

Through the 38 public programs we offered this year, IDA presented an incredibly diverse lineup of artist talks, workshops and events. This year we engaged with an mbira player from Zimbabwe, a trio of punk feminists, The Awkward Black Girl, Keith Haring’s sister, Somali-American poets, a hip-hop music executive, a Sundance award-winning filmmaker, museum curators and an acclaimed Afrofuturist.

From Ferguson to Baltimore to the Middle East, there was a lot going on in the world this year. Through events such as Jeff Chang’s Who We Be book launch; the panel discussion on Ferguson with David Banner, Marc Lamont Hill, Maria Chappelle-Nadal and Tef Poe; a discussion with directors Spike Lee and Justin Simien on the representation of people of color in film and the Hollywood industry; and a talk with Talib Kweli on race, policing and mass incarceration, IDA served as a place for students to learn, share, grieve, heal, express joy, and respond to it all.

Our interdepartmental Art is My Occupation (AiMO) program continued to gain momentum and fill a pressing need on campus, presenting career development events and offering a 10-week course in the Music Department. Highlights this year included a Speed-Networking for Creatives event with 10 Stanford Alumni working in the arts and a panel on Museum Careers with both Stanford and Bay Area museum professionals.
Featured Artists/Scholars/Practitioners

Monifa Bandele
David Banner
Dante Barry
Martin Carnoy
Maria Chappelle-Nadal
Darryl Chiang
Migdia Chinea
Dominique Christina
Lyor Cohen
Grisha Coleman
Patrisse Cullors
Angela Davis
Mike de la Rocha
Jennifer Eberhardt
Erik Flatmo
Denice Frohman
Harlan Gaston
Catherine Hale
dream hampton
Kristen Haring
A-lan Holt
Leslie Kirby
Talib Kweli
Marc Lamont Hill
Madeleine Lim
Jean MacDougal
Raymond Madarang
Cosmas Magaya
Nick Malgieri
Kent Mannis
Ruben Martinez
Marc Mayer
Evelyn McDonnell
Nicole Mitchell
Cherrie Moraga
Catherine Murphy
Patricia Narciso
Nile Project
Ladan Osman
Eva Paterson
Tef Poe
Issa Rae
Alex Rivera
Yusef Shakur
Aimee Shapiro
Warsan Shire
Greg Tate
Alicia Velasquez
Oliver Wang
Valerie Weak
Allison Wolfe

Connect With Us Online!

Facebook:
IDA- Harmony House
1042 likes

Twitter:
@IDASTanford
440 followers

Web:
diversityarts.stanford.edu
Users: 8021
Pageviews: 23,711

diversityarts listserv: 541 subscribers

iTunes U channel:
926 downloads
740 streams
Thank You To All
Our Partners & Supporters:

African & African American Studies, American Studies, Anthropology, Art & Art History Department, Asian American Activities Center, Black Community Service Center, The Cantor Arts Center, Career Development Center, Center For African Studies, Undergraduate program in CSRE, Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE), Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Center for Race, Ethnicity & Language, Chicana/o-Latina/o Studies, CultureStr/ke, East Palo Alto Academy, Education, El Centro, English, Feminist Studies, School of Humanities & Sciences, the Ford Foundation, Institute on the Politics of Inequality, Race and Ethnicity at Stanford (InsPIRES), Jewish Studies, Just Mentors, Knight Journalism Fellowship Program, Modern Thought & Literature, Music Mural and Arts Project, Music, Office Of The Provost, Religious Studies, Residential Arts, Senior Associate Dean for the Humanities & Arts, Stanford Arts Institute, Stanford Bookstore, Stanford Business School Black Alumni, Stanford Business School Hispanic Alumni, Stanford GSB Alumni Relations, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford Live, Stanford Northern California Black Alumni, Theater and Performance Studies, Vice Provost for Online Learning, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Youth Speaks.

A special Thank You to the Surdna Foundation for supporting our Art & Education Research Project.