

IDN

Institute for Diversity in the Arts
Stanford University

ANNUAL
REPORT
**2015
2016**

WHERE
STUDENT • ARTISTS
THRIVE



AT THE INSTITUTE
FOR DIVERSITY IN
THE ARTS WE ARE..

Enriching Stanford's
creative ecosystem



Promoting student
creativity



Emphasizing
academic and
artistic rigor



Developing student
leadership in the
arts



Attracting world
class artists,
thinkers and
scholars

MESSAGE FROM OUR ED

As the Institute for Diversity in the Arts enters its 15th year, we reflect on our legacy. As an outgrowth of the Committee on Black Performing Arts, the organization birthed in 1968 amidst student protests for racial justice and cultural equity, IDA has always been committed to building a more just community through the arts. Through CBPA and IDA, generations of students have moved on toward changing the world.

At IDA students continue to explore what it means to be free. They ask these important questions in the classes and programs we offer, explore their creativity and art-making in the Harmony House and the spaces we make at Stanford and in the community, and conduct the important research that might help move us all toward a better future.

We strongly believe that the vitality of a community depends upon its actors working together as a diverse creative ecosystem. These ecosystems are the key to individual and social transformation. Building community is the fundamental act toward building a better world. We try to model that work at IDA.

So we take great pride in the fact that our students and graduates remain engaged. This year we welcomed back one of those students, A-lan Holt '11, to serve as Associate Director at IDA. A-lan's perspective on the world deeply informs our work, and she is now fostering the development of yet another generation of young people ready to remake their world through creativity and the arts. We also look forward to reviving the CBPA in the coming years.

Even when the world around us seems beset by division and fear, we have hope that things might get better because we see the genius of our students every day. In that spirit, we are proud to share with you the highlights of this past year.

With Appreciation,

Jeff Chang
Executive Director



H. SAMY ALIM / Faculty Director

Faculty Director H. Samy Alim is a Professor of Education and Anthropology and Linguistics (by courtesy). This November 2016 marks the debut of his latest publication, *Raciolinguistics: How Language Shapes Our Ideas About Race*, co-authored with celebrated Stanford colleagues Professors John R. Rickford and Professor Arneetha F. Ball. Professor Alim continues his groundbreaking research on Hip-Hop pedagogy through IDA's multi-year Arts and Education Project, which is a research based initiative led by Stanford undergraduate students, with the assistance of graduate student mentors and high school students in East Palo Alto.



JEFF CHANG / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Jeff Chang just released his critically acclaimed collection of essays *We Gon' Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation* in September 2016. In this powerful collection, Chang explores the rise and fall of the idea of "diversity," the roots of student protest, changing ideas about Asian Americanness, and the impact of a century of racial separation in housing. A true champion of cultural equity, this year Chang led a group of twelve undergraduate and graduate students on a year-long research project that looked at the long-term impacts of the Ford Foundation's Future Aesthetics program administered from 2002-2014. The Future Aesthetics program attempted to address issues of cultural equity in the non-profit arts sector through providing access and funding for underrepresented artists and arts organizations.



A-LAN HOLT / Associate Director

This year A-lan Holt joined IDA as part of its Visiting Artists Program in Fall 2015 before joining the core team as Associate Director in Winter 2016. An acclaimed poet and playwright, Holt released her debut collection of poetry *Moonwork* in September 2016. This year, Holt taught an undergraduate seminar called Conjure and Manifest: Building a Sustainable Artistic Practice. In this student applauded course, undergraduates from multiple disciplines spend time investigating their artistic practice as a framework for understanding identity; promoting confidence, wellness, and creativity; and as a tangible means for navigating the first steps of their artistic careers.



KAREEM ALSTON / Program Coordinator

Born and raised in New York City, Kareem received his M.A. in African Studies and a B.A. with honors in African & African American Studies and a concentration in Identity, Diversity, and Aesthetics while serving as Program Coordinator at IDA. As an undergraduate, he pursued research on local Hip Hop culture, activism, and education in Cape Town, South Africa, and subsequently wrote an honors thesis and produced a short documentary. As Program Coordinator at IDA, Kareem helps student creatives thrive at Stanford and beyond.



ENRICHING STANFORD'S CREATIVE ECOSYSTEM

Students playing mbira during a workshop
taught by world-renowned musician Patience
Chaitezvi Munjeri.

IDA is a hub for Stanford's most creatively engaged students. At IDA, students from across majors and disciplines find connections between their academic pursuits and their artistic passion.

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

We are presenters and collaborators.

This year we produced 35 public programs with a host of on campus and off campus partners. IDA events and programs allow us to invite cutting-edge art makers, thinkers and scholars to speak candidly to our community about questions of cultural equity, art practice, and social justice. IDA Student Fellows take the lead in planning and producing these campus-recognized events.



Mychal Denzel Smith, from The Nation Magazine, and Isabel Garcia, from Derechos Humanos, in conversation at Race in the Post Obama Era

Featured Events

Race in the Post Obama Era: The Politics and Aesthetics of Disruption and Change

Through the emergence of new social movements, race has vaulted back into the center of U.S. discourse, renewing questions about equality, freedom, and culture. This special symposium examined how movements and individuals have been changing the way we see and think about race in the post-Obama era through two catalytic discussions.

St. Clair Drake Memorial Lecture Featuring Nate Parker and The Birth of a Nation with The Program in African & African American Studies

Afro-Futurism Creative Writing Workshop with

Walidah Imarisha co-editor of Octavia's Brood With The Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Stanford Center For African Studies, Allied Media Projects

Anne Pasternak, Director of the Brooklyn Museum in Conversation with

The Cantor Arts Center, Anderson Collection, Art & Art History Department

Seeing Yellow: A Night with the Fresh off the Boat Family With the

Asian American Activities Center

Art is my Occupation:

ongoing programming for students interested in art's careers With Stanford Arts and Stanford Career Education (BEAM)

Who We Be Visual Exhibition (on view from

March 30 - June 27 of 2016) In Spring 2016, the Cantor Museum presented WHO WE BE, an exhibition inspired by award winning journalist and IDA Executive Director Jeff Chang's 2014 book *Who We Be: The Colorization of America*. This exhibition combined selections from the Cantor's collection, with work from Glenn Ligon, Carrie Mae Weems, Howardena Pindell, Yong Soon Min, Ernesto Yerena, Coco Fusco and Guillermo Gomez-Pena and others.



PROMOTING STUDENT CREATIVITY

Making Mondays

A student drop-in space for creating on a whim, no artistic experience necessary.



IDA Student Fellow Ari Marcus (second from right) performs Jewish music from the Middle East alongside renowned musicians



Community Arts Fellowship

IDA supports students interested in the intersections of art and community. Through our Community Arts Fellowship in collaboration with the Haas Center for Public Service students can spend their summer working with an arts organization domestically or abroad.

Community Arts Fellows 2016

Corey Ashley '18
Monster Slayers (Sanders, AZ)

Colin Kinsey, '17
Kearny Street Workshop (SF)

Maia Paroginog '16
Arts in a Changing America (NYC)





MacArthur 'Genius Grant' recipient Artist,
Carrie Mae Weems sitting in lecture with IDA students.

EMPHASIZING ACADEMIC & ARTISTIC RIGOR

IDA offers a thematic concentration in Identity, Diversity, and Aesthetics through the Program in African and African American Studies, and Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity. We offer courses with world-class artists, thinkers, and scholars on topics shaping today's contemporary questions on Diversity, Arts Practice, and Social Justice.

WHO WE BE This course co-taught by Jeff Chang and Jerome Reyes in Spring 2016 brought together a pantheon of guest lecturers including three MacArthur 'Genius Grant' recipients (Carrie Mae Weems, Amalia Mesa-Bains, and Rick Lowe) and many acclaimed contemporary artists and curators (Anne Pasternak, Marcos Ramirez ERRE, Damon Davis, Christian Frock, Shizu Saldamando, and more) to discuss questions of race, the arts, and cultural equity in contemporary America.

CONJURE AND MANIFEST Building a Sustainable Artistic Practice.

In this seminar, taught by Associate Director A-lan Holt in Fall 2015, student-artists spent time exploring their artistic practice as a framework for promoting power, wellness, and creativity as a tangible means for navigating the first steps of their artistic careers.



Artists Favianna Rodriguez and Marc Bamuthi Joseph speaking to students during IDA spring course WHO WE BE

ATTRACTING WORLD CLASS SCHOLARS & THINKERS

IDA Visiting Artists

Cherrie Moraga, Playwright
Co-Editor, *This Bridge Called My Back:
Writings by Radical Women of Color*

Aleta Hayes, Choreographer
Artistic Director, The Chocolate Heads
Movement Band

Artist Rick Lowe speaking
to students during IDA
spring course WHO WE BE

Professor Jonathan Calm
speaking to students
during IDA spring course
WHO WE BE

FUN FACTS!

IDA REACHES
ABOUT 277 STUDENTS
PER WEEK



IDA EMPLOYS
32 STUDENTS
PER YEAR



CHRISTIAN FROCK
JAKEYA CARUTHERS
JONATHAN CALM
ROBERTA UNO
NATE PARKER
POLITIX
RITA GONZALEZ
ISABEL GARCIA
BRYAN CRUZ MORENO
ROXANE GAY
DANNY ONETO - DEE ROCK
ANNE PASTERNAK
JAY-MARIE HILL
AVI SINAIMATT WRIGHT
BETA LANGEBECK - BETA RAWK
JIM GRIPPO
PAM CAPALAD
RICK LOWE
REVEREND OSAGYEFO SEKOU
MYCHAL DENZEL SMITH
AMALIA MESA-BAINS
JADE A. FAIR
RAQUEL GUTIERREZ
PAOLO FLORES
CHICO LAC
YANCEY STRICKLER
PROFESSOR JONATHAN CALM
DROR SINAI
DYALEKT
ALI WONG
MARC BAMUTHI JOSEPH
KHOI QUAN
MELVIN MAR
ADEE ROBERSON
LIZ MEDICINE CROW
PHILLIP ANNAND
KID KOALA
WALIDAH IMARISHA
RAFA ESPARZA
RUBEN MARTINEZ
CARRIE MAE WEEMS
ELLEN TANI
CONSTANCE WU
SHIZU SALDONANDO
DAMON DAVIS
SCOTT MARCUS
PATIENCE CHATEZVI MUNJERI
HUDSON YANG
DEBORAH CULLINAN
MIA MINGUS
NONAME GYPSY

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

IDA's **Arts and 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. Now in its second year, this three-year project will capture, map and analyze how the arts transform diverse low-income students and their communities.

The Future Aesthetics Project is a one-year research initiative administered by undergraduate students with the guidance of Jeff Chang, and supported by the Ford Foundation. The project looked at impacts of funding over a 12 year period for underrepresented non-profit organizations in the arts. The project culminated in official report "Up From the Underground" which has been distributed to arts organizations across the country.





DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS IN THE ARTS

IDA fosters the next generation of arts leaders through training, classes, research, and creative experiences. IDA Fellows are hired by the Institute to foster and infuse art, creativity, and activism across campus.

2015-16 Fellows:

Evelyn Anderson,
Co-Chair
Tucker Bryant,
Co-Chair

Amelia Chen
Brandon Hightower
Adorie Howard
Taylor Litchfield

Ari Marcus
Janei Maynard
Mia Ritter-Whittle
Kenneth Tea

2015-16 Interns:

Priscilla Agbeo
Ekela Autry
Madelaine Bixler
Alex Cheng

Luke DeWilde
Charlie Geronimus
Stewart Gray
Josie Hodson

Clara Luu
Elijah Moreau
Maia Paroginog
Andrea Villa

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IDA Fellow Taylor Litchfield interviews rapper Noname at the Harmony House



IDA Student Fellows and Interns

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