

National Art Education Women's Caucus

CRAFTING FEMINIST ACTIVISM: Conversation, Communication, Action is the Lobby Activism theme for 2018!

Friday, March 23, 10:00-11:00 A.M. Sheraton Seattle Hotel Lobby 1400 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA

In addition to the NAEA Women's Caucus sessions, meetings, and events that reside within the formal protocol of the NAEA, the Lobby Activism event serves as an informal space for personal as political discussion and action. Held at the NAEA Convention in the hotel lobby, since 2008, the one-hour open forum has evolved into a multi-modal form of engagement, including introductions, performance, art making, brainstorming and synthesizing ideas—as well as planning collaboratively for future action. A human microphone process used throughout the lobby amplifies the *Lobby Activism* participants' political voices in public feminist art pedagogy.

Process:

1. After an introduction to NAEA WC Lobby Activism by Karen Keifer-Boyd, the session begins with introducing yourself to another participant who you do not know. Take 5 minutes to learn about each other. Discuss issues important to you.

2. Next form small groups of 4 to 6 people for 30 minutes filled with conversation during the creation of gloves as signs of what needs to be revealed and stopped. The *Hands Up Don't Shoot* gesture can be enacted with a range of symbols on our gloved hands or in our palms at a specific time on March 24 throughout the NAEA convention or wherever we are at on Saturday at 10:00 A.M. This gesture of "hands up don't shoot" supports the Black Lives Matter movement and is a reminder of how vulnerable people are in and out of schools wherever there is weak gun control. It is ever more critical for masses of people to come together, whether in marches or social media, to expose and protest the normalizing of sexual assault and sexism in its many subtle and overt forms. What might be a symbol for a feminist gaze in regards to assault, sexual or otherwise? What are other necessary actions that should be symbolized on raised hands?

3. In the final 20 minutes of the Lobby hour, use the human mic practice to amplify what is said as each group performs (e.g., all raise a gloved hands in unison or synchronized in other ways). As the group members speak, all nearby repeat what is said in unison. The speaker needs to say a few words and then pause so the group can repeat in unison making soft voices audible, filling the hotel lobby.

Note: There will be a sign-in sheet circulating. Please let us know your name and email address as participant, and if you are willing to have photographs that include you on the Women's Caucus website at http://naeawc.net/ and/or in the WC news column, and/or forthcoming Lobby Activism book.



The March for Our Lives, organized by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School student-led **#NeverAgain campaign**, is the Saturday of the NAEA convention, March 24. See <u>https://www.marchforourlives.com/</u>Join March For Our Lives in protest of the lack of legislative action taken against gun violence in the U.S. on Saturday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. starting at <u>Cal Anderson Park</u>, 1635 11th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122. More info at <u>https://www.thestranger.com/events/25856854/march-for-our-lives</u>