



National Art Education Women's Caucus
LOBBY ACTIVISM

FEMINIST EMERGENCY! How can feminism rupture walls?

Saturday, March 16, 2019 • 10:00-11:00 A.M.
Sheraton Boston Hotel Lobby
39 Dalton St, Boston, MA 02199



In addition to the NAEA Women's Caucus sessions, meetings, and events during the formal protocol of the NAEA, the Lobby Activism event serves as an informal space for acknowledging the 'personal is political.' 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 amplifies the *Lobby Activism* participants' political voices in the enactment of public feminist art pedagogy.

Process:

How can feminism rupture walls?

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 emergencies that concern you and walls or obstacles in the way of addressing the emergency.



2. Next form small groups of 4 to 6 people and spend 30 minutes in conversation with the group during the creation of making small signs that boldly state emergencies and walls that need to be ruptured. Hang the signs on the rainbow yarn and plan with the group an action/performance with the yarn and signs of rupturing walls.

3. In the final 20 minutes of the Lobby hour, become a human mic by repeating in chorus what each speaker says to amplify voice as each group performs. 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 and fill the hotel lobby with the message.



4. At the end of your group's performance place the tangled yarn with signs attached into the envelope, which will be delivered to U.S. Congress Massachusetts Representative [Ayanna Pressley](#). On the other side of this paper is the letter that will accompany the rainbow yarn that when pulled out of the envelope will have numerous messages about rupturing walls.

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/video 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.



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March 16, 2019

Dear Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley:

The National Art Education Association (NAEA) Women's Caucus has officially declared a National Feminist Emergency as a response to Trump's disastrously fake national emergency to build a border wall. Trump's wall escalates the harm to women and children fleeing violence and seeking asylum. We believe you will lead according to Universal Human Rights, whereas, Article 3 states: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person, and Article 14 states: Everyone has the right to seek asylum from persecution.

Please accept our Feminist Emergency Kit, an artwork made at the NAEA Women's Caucus Lobby Activism event in the hotel lobby of the Boston Sheraton on Saturday March 16, 2019. Enclosed are messages about emergencies and what we believe are the walls causing or preventing solutions to the emergencies we face today. The rainbow yarn holds the messages together, and the artwork could be hung from ceiling or wall, taking up as much or as little space as works best for the place. We hope the garland brings inspiration to you. We wish you success in your endeavors toward social justice.

The NAEA Women's Caucus Lobby Activism event, begun in 2008, meets annually at the NAEA Convention held in different cities, to network, listen, and organize toward social justice and the well-being of all people.

We thank you!!!

The National Art Education Association Women's Caucus