What is the Artivism Zine?
A monthly newsletter highlighting and connecting initiatives/projects that transform society through the power of art.

How?
- Providing a space for artivists to share ideas via interviews, videos, visuals, stories, and more!
- Presenter updates
- Sharing resources, publications, exhibits, and event news
- A source for providing information, opportunities, networking, and internship possibilities
- Community-building!

Artivist of the Month:
Following up with Sing for Hope’s 2021 Artivist Award recipient, Cynthia Tobar

How did the Artivist Award help propel your project?

Thanks again for this opportunity! It is a pleasure to inaugurative this Artivism Zine Newsletter. Just a little background to catch up readers:

In 2021 I was the recipient of the Artivist Award for ¿Dónde puedo ir? Searching for Home, a collaborative musical project in conjunction with Luis D’Ellas, a Venezuelan composer & singer-songwriter based in Bushwick. It involved the recording of oral histories that capture the immediacy of displacement facing local Latinx residents in Bushwick, Brooklyn, due to housing insecurity, political turmoil, & socio-economic instability in addition to the current public health crisis. Stories are what connect us & help build empathy between the members of a community. We want to tap into the resiliency, resources & existing knowledge in our Latinx communities between neighbors, workers & families.

Going back to your question, thanks to this award, I was certain that the project was happening so I reached out to eight narrators. I collected their oral histories over the summer of 2021, while seeking to bridge the gap between disciplines, genres, & communities alongside my musical collaborator, Luis D’Ellas. He composed the complementing songs that we will be unveiled to the public on February 19th via zoom. For more information, click on the image.

We are also proud to have Oye Group, a Bushwick-based arts organization with a history of community engagement on the local and national level, who have partnered with us to increase our community outreach and impact of this project.

Regarding my Artivism ideology, there’s a persistent theme in my work of centering authority and providing for more voices in my teaching, socially-engaged artmaking, and activism/community work.

As an artist & oral historian, I view oral history as an inclusive exercise that not only documents an individual’s story but also examines social justice themes of institutional power structures & how it perpetuates inequality. It grounds my work in the experiences & knowledge of marginalized groups that presents their "counter-stories".

I wish to surface the knowledge that is co-created with the community I’m documenting & collaborating with, as well as the teaching & learning exchange with my students.

UP NEXT!

Spring 2022 Inaugural Presentation
Feb. 7th
@ 2:00pm EST
Yiannis Kaminis
Despina Sakoulougeorga
Marina Sgourou
Garyfallia Terizaki
Charles Herman
with Keynote Speaker:
CaSandrea Diggs, President, The Council of Fashion Designers of America; Board Member, Sing for Hope

Check out my presentation!