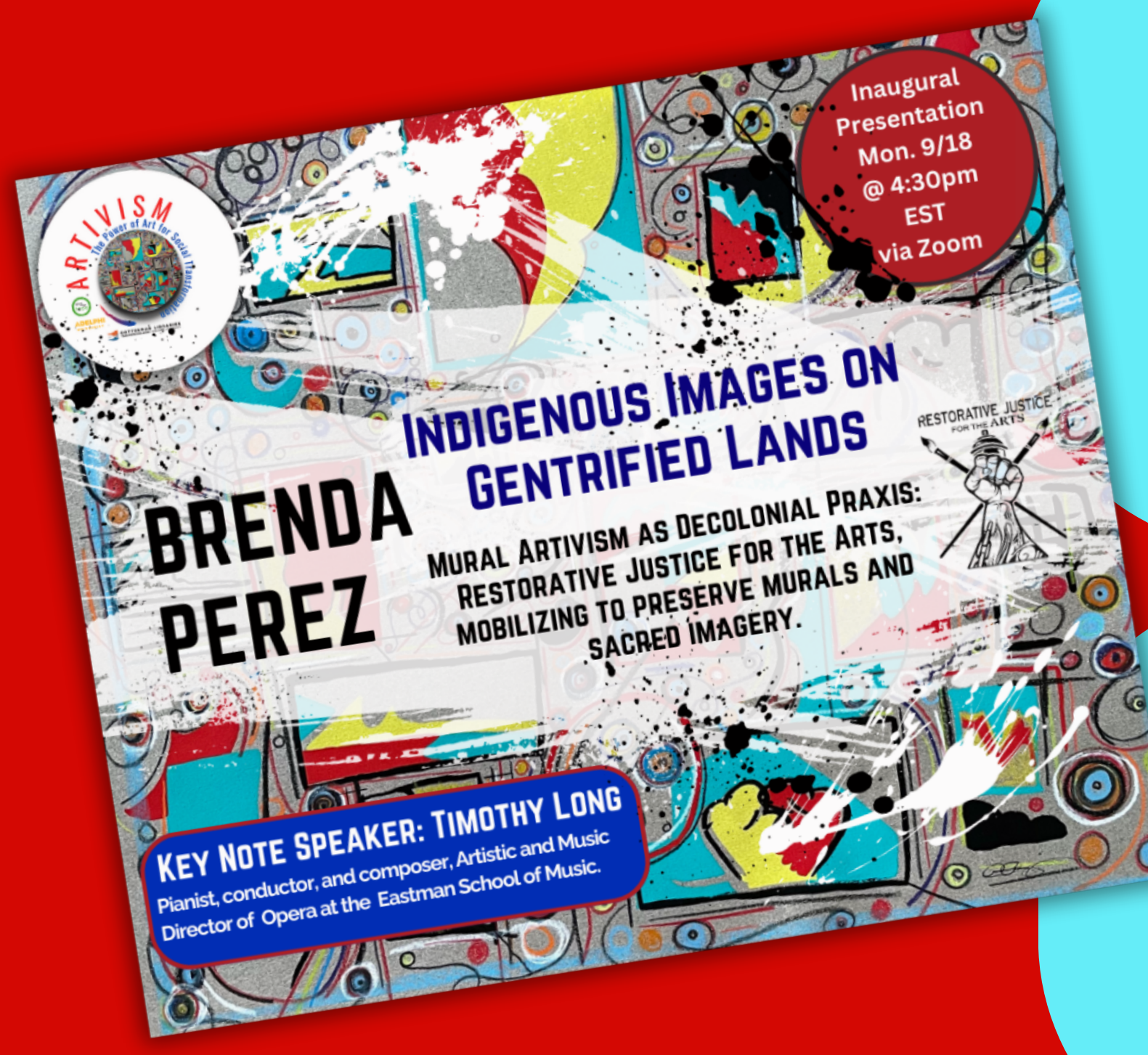




A monthly newsletter highlighting and connecting initiatives/projects that transform society through the power of art

## WHAT YOU MISSED! SEASON 6, FALL 2023 REFLECTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE



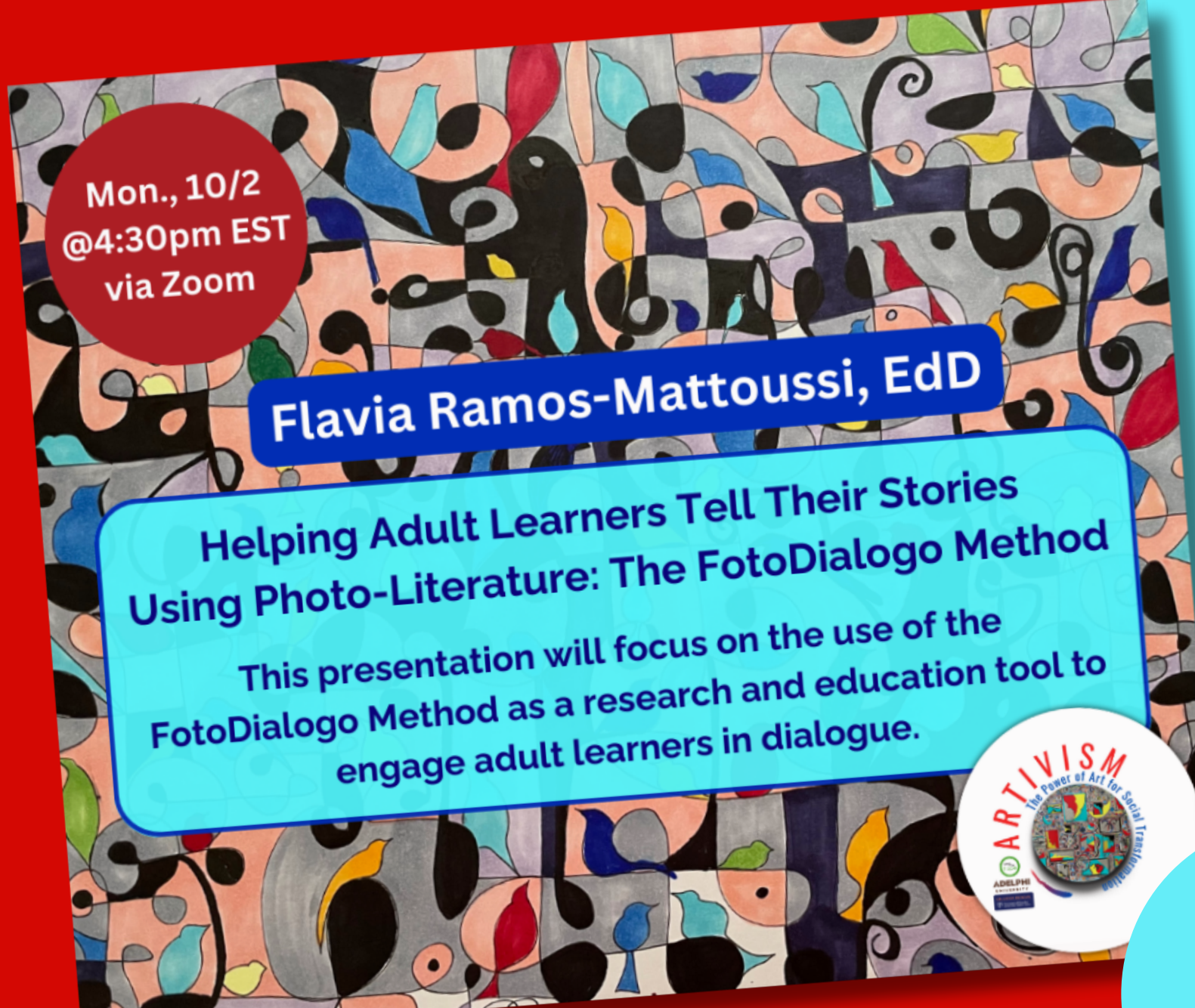
The Artivism presentations made me feel enlightened and more aware of all the different problems that wouldn't necessarily affect me but are still issues that must be addressed. The white washing of murals is a perfect example of something I could never even imagine to come across that made me think. I learned that if I let myself be educated, get involved, and use the things that I excel at, they can be tools to ease issues and at the same time benefit communities in some way. I am proficient in music and I have been taught that I can use those skills to help others in a way I have never considered before. This whole experience reminds me of how my church would do Gift-Drives and the church community would come together to load clothes, toys, food and other gifts into delivery vehicles that would go to people less fortunate. **JK**



I had an incredibly enjoyable experience participating in the Artivism series. The series covered a wide range of topics and explored the fascinating intersection of art and activism, which prompted deep reflection and contemplation. One particular aspect that left a lasting impression on me was the passport presentation, which shed light on the transformative power of restorative justice. Learning restorative justice through the presentations rather than how it is taught in schools made me realize how much more impactful and meaningful it is. The Artivism experience has truly inspired me and ignited a strong desire within me to drive change, particularly within our justice system. It is disheartening to acknowledge that our justice system has consistently failed to uphold fairness and justice. **KD**



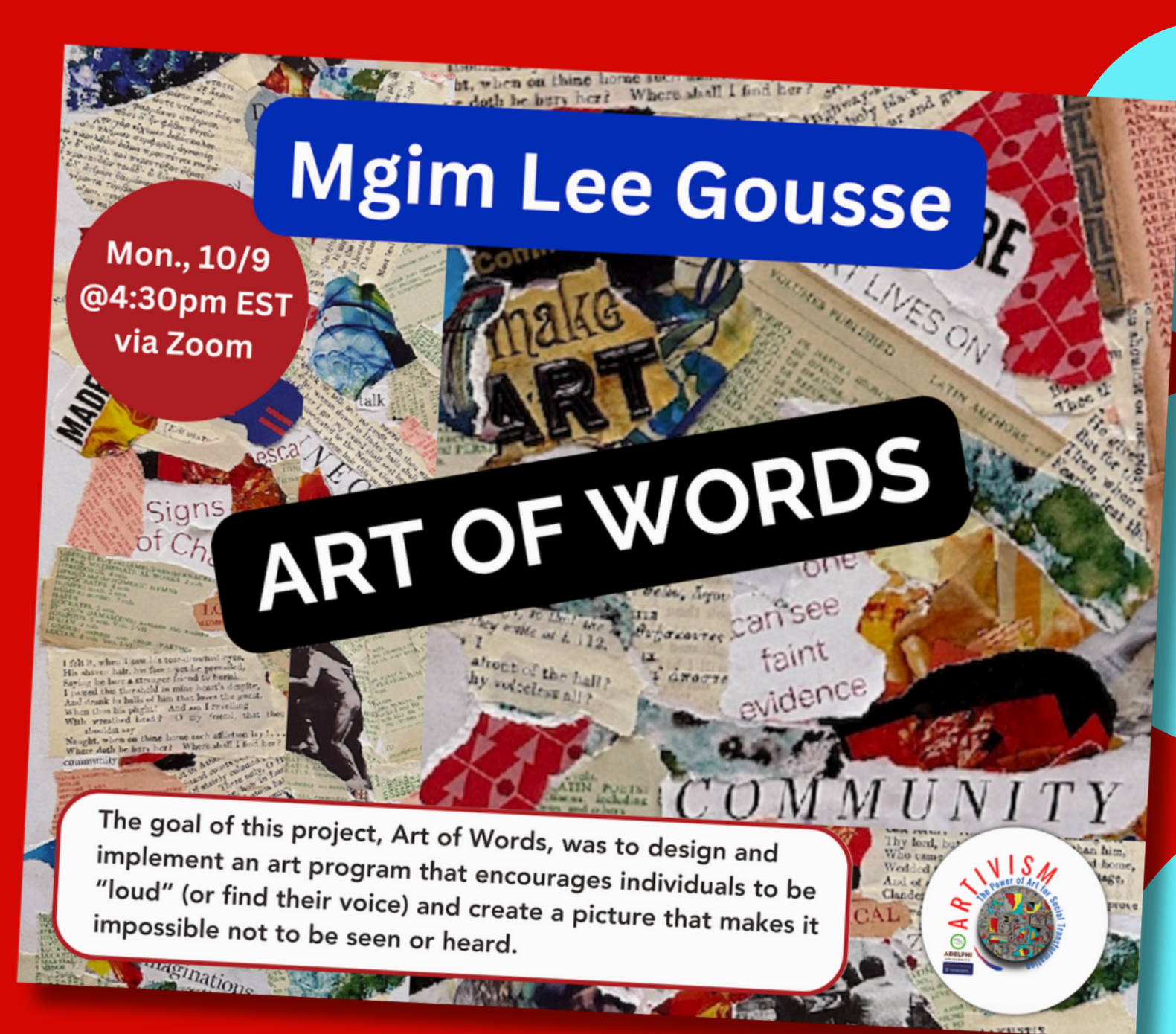
I really enjoyed attending the Artivism presentations this season. It was very inspiring getting to hear different people's experiences from all over the world and how it all connected to the idea of activism. The way each story was so unique and different allowed me to broaden my perspective of what activism is all about and how a lot can be done to try and make a difference. The presentation that stood out to me the most was the one by David Gussak. I loved hearing his story about how he would save pieces of prison art made by inmates from being destroyed. Getting to hear exactly how each piece was made really showed the limited access they had in prison to art supplies and how they could still create such amazing works of art from what was available. The most interesting alternatives in art supplies was human hair in a paint brush, candy as paints, and milk as glue. I also loved the presentation by Vicki Rosenthal. Her piece on the mannequin that was a response to Roe vs. Wade being overturned as well as the hockey skates she did inspired me the most. Overall, I really enjoyed the Artivism presentations and thought it was a really good use of time to be exposed to real experiences in the world through artivism. **BG**



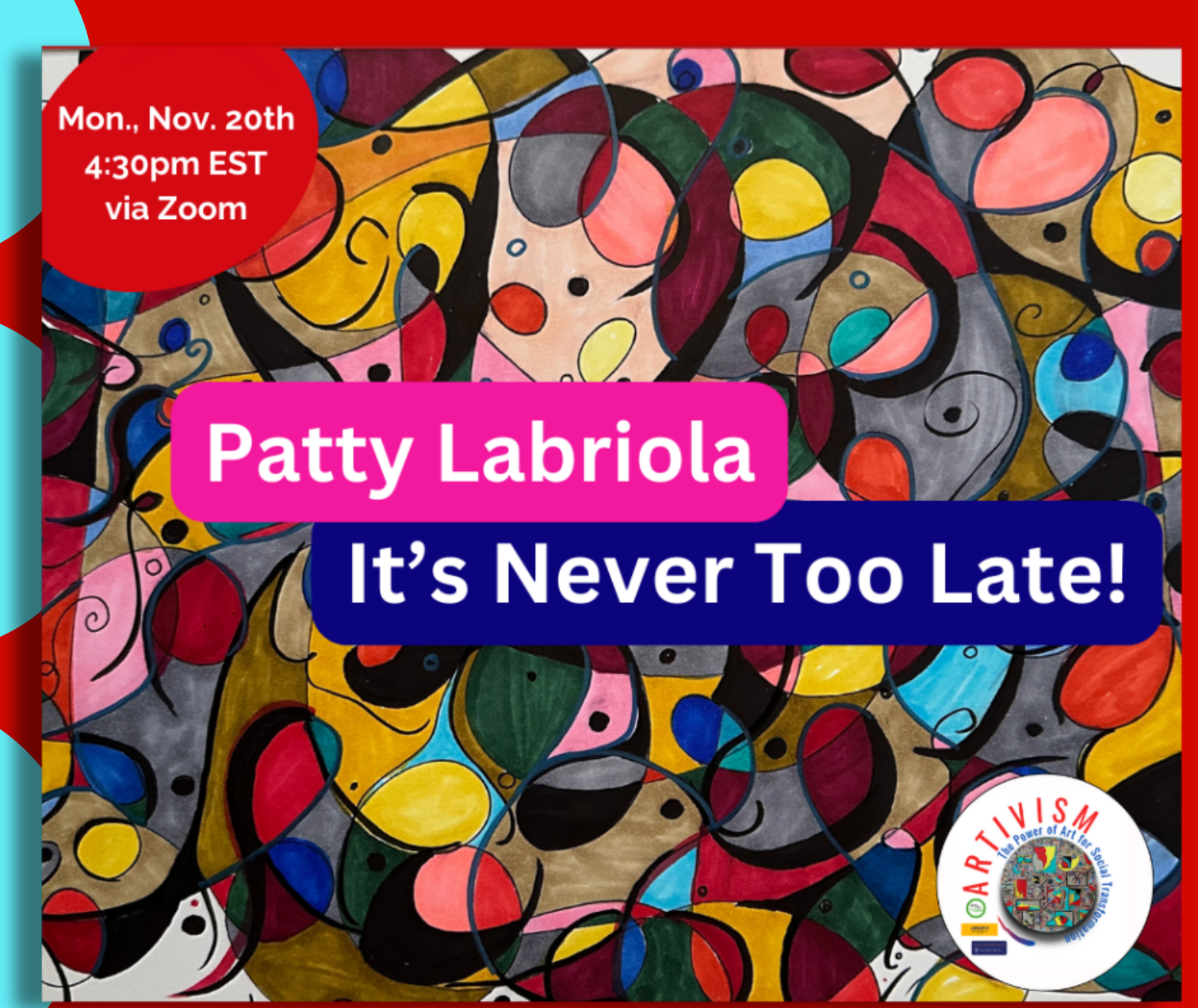
The Artivism series was a unique experience. We got to meet and hear from such unique voices and astonishing presentations. As a first year college student, a series like this helps to build connections and get exposed to many perspectives. I liked how diverse each presentation was: some were scientific while others were political or artistic. The range of topics made the series interesting to each person's preference because there was something for everyone. I really enjoyed the starfish presentation because it was something that never crossed my mind. Starfish are such tiny organisms and even the littlest of things need attention. The quote that stuck out to me most was "True education must evolve from the need of people" from the presentation titled "Helping Adult Learners Tell Their Stories Using Photo Literature: The FotoDialogo Method". I remembered this presentation because it was at the beginning of the season and it discussed education. We are all here to learn and how we learn is always evolving. It's important to change methods and cater to each individual. This inspired me to take a better look at how I learn and figuring out what works for me and what doesn't. I love hearing from others and learning from their experiences to build a better understanding for myself in future endeavors. Overall, I enjoyed the Artivism series and look forward to learning more! **JK**



I liked how people could tell their stories and have an audience and a platform to do so. I loved that most presenters had a really strong meaning and connection to their work. I wouldn't say I was inspired to go make artwork, but it did make me think about the things that I'm passionate about and how I can help the community. **JM**



The Artivism series was interesting in that it gave me new visions/perspectives of things I've never considered. Melina going in depth on the declining of sea stars sparked a new hope in my mind for the world to do better to save these creatures from dying out. **ES**



I gained a lot of insight and perspective from the Artivism presentations. I learned about restorative justice and what the practice really meant. As a psychology major and criminal justice minor, the practice behind talking things out in a peaceful manner is something important. The conversations that I had the chance to listen to are something I also found inspiring. **LB**

"It's Never Too Late!", Patty Labriola's presentation, really stuck with me. Patty shared how she wrote her own children's book and how it took over 30 years to publish it. It was really inspiring to hear Patty tell us all the struggles it took to get her there. She emphasized to never give up on reaching for your dreams. A quote that she said in her presentation that was my favorite was " Dreams can't be measured. There is no dream too big or too small, and they happen in stages." I was very inspired by listening to her story, she really motivated me to keep reaching my goals and never give up. **EP**



I learned a lot from the Artivism series. I was moved through the stories and inspirations from people all over the world. What not only interested me but inspired me the most was hearing the presentation Art and Art Therapy in Prison. Art therapy was an interest I've always held, not because I knew of it somewhat, but because I've always experienced the effects of art personally. How art has the power to encourage people to re-label themselves is truly what fascinates and inspires me, and how art has rehumanized many who have been dehumanized in a prison is very beautiful. **MA**

It was nice to hear such cool things that not many people know about, especially when Melina talked about starfish. I never knew you could do anything like that! Another presenter was Patty, who wrote the yawning book. She was really inspiring because she had that book for so many years but didn't publish it until many years later. So don't give up on your dreams, you can still go back to them. I would recommend Artivism because you learn so many different things, meet new people, and learn their stories. **MB**



The presentation by Melina Giakoumis was amazing and really eye opening because of new information brought to my attention: that Asterias sea stars have exceedingly decreased because of human impacts on their natural habitats. This also shed light on the changing environment and urgency of repair of aquatic ecosystems.

Another presentation that caught my attention was the story of Patty Labriola. Patty inspired us to not give up even if our dreams are delayed. She had published her first book after 30 years of having the idea. Patty's presentation made us freshman realize we don't need to rush into things but rather take them one step at a time.

The presentation Valor y Cambio in Puerto Rico was very close to home. Even though I am not Puerto Rican all that gentrification can start there but head to other places like Hawaii. In my country, Honduras, the coastline is pretty gentrified where rich people come and stay just for the summer; this should stop! Frances Negrón-Muntaner is doing an amazing job bringing awareness to the gentrification in Puerto Rico by people from the United States. **AGS**



I like the idea of Artivism and how I got to learn about the impact activists have on the world. I was inspired especially by Patty who wrote the book, The Yawn That Went Around the World, and how important it is not to give up. I also found the presentation about sea stars interesting because I love nature and I appreciate the effort Melina is making to help bring back the sea star population. Overall, I think Artivism is a great way to learn about how each person is capable of making a small change in the world. **MY**



As a student, the closing presentation for Artivism's Season 6 was a calm way to end the day, especially with finals coming up. **CG**