



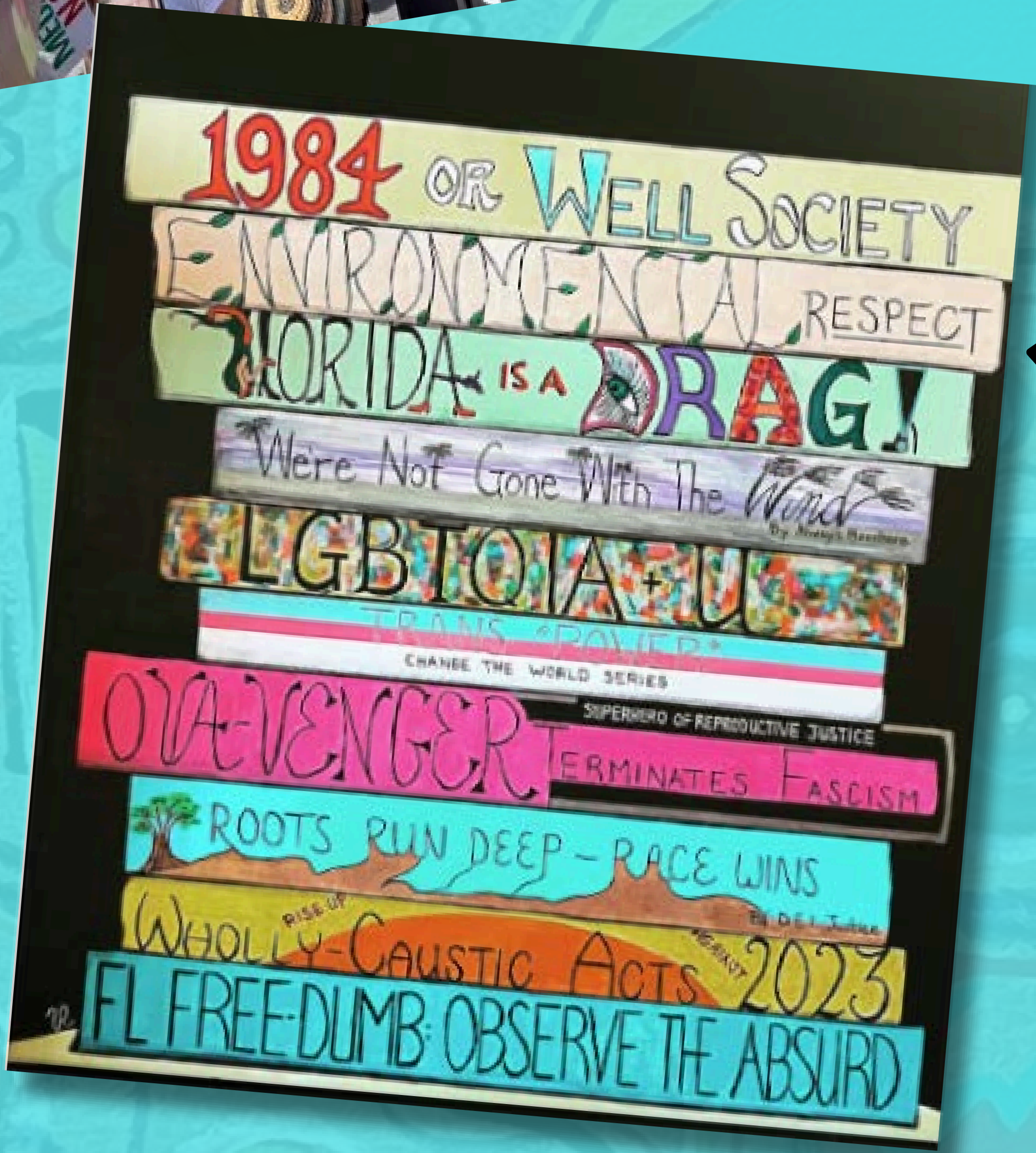
A monthly newsletter highlighting and connecting initiatives/projects that transform society through the power of art

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Advocating with Vicki Rosenthal



click here to learn more about Vicki!



What prompted or inspired your activism and how does this connect to your social work?

In 2018, I had an epiphany to use my creativity and visual art to promote social justice. Before then, I worked with nonprofit organizations that focused on eradicating social inequities and taught Global Citizenship at Florida Atlantic University in the United States. My work today combines professional learning and personal experiences to promote human connections with the passion of righting injustices and affecting social change.

Highlighting some of my work that reflect social work and activism: [“Net Risk”](#) - Depicts a sea turtle trapped in netting discarded in the oceans.

[“Book Freedom”](#) represents and opposes the banning of books. [“Lovelin”](#) portrays a person’s journey seeking asylum in the U.S. after fleeing her country. Her girlfriend died at the hands of the Muslim Brotherhood as she shielded Lovelin from being killed. I met Lovelin via a phone call from the Mexico- Guatemala border needing assistance for an attorney.

With my business, I have created projects that elevate immigration justice, TLGBQIA+ rights, reproductive justice, economic and voting equity, inclusive education, environmental consciousness, women’s rights, and many others. My artwork advances equity - the soul of human rights.

Visit Vicki’s website: <https://vickirosenthal.art>  
Watch her Artivism presentations, Advancing Advocacy through Social Justice Art with Vicki Rosenthal, [here](#)



How have your workshops/collaborations made a difference? What were they and tell us about them?

I intentionally produce art workshops in places with inequity, areas underserved by the government. For example, the leader of a city public recreation center had requested, for years, a soccer ball program for the neighborhood’s afterschool kids. Even with a recently upgraded soccer field at the center, the afterschool program received no benefit. In collaboration with the center’s leader, I created a soccer ball art project: each afterschool child got a new soccer ball, and painted it with their own design. They practiced soccer drills and played scrimmages. Afterwards, the children took their soccer balls and art supplies home for further enjoyment. Comments from the parents and their children: “I loved everything about the project!”, “I liked that the children were being exposed to a new sport!”, “We appreciate you bringing this program to our community.”, “I like that the kids get to keep their own soccer ball!”.

In these troubling times, what would be your key take away for action?

My key take away for action: It is important that we continue to put ourselves in giving spaces, to live the world we want. When I start to feel overwhelmed with the constant injustices occurring, I motivate myself to do acts of kindness: respecting others in being kind, fair, honest / doing right by others.

Love heals disparities in our world for people and the environment. I gain great energy being among others voicing justice and truth, including being in the streets holding signs and / or chanting. As a collective, we are powerful. We are the grassroots (ordinary people) that, throughout history, change the world in the darkest of times. Once we start to give / take action / do something, our creativity starts to bloom. Creativity goes beyond art as we continue to grow in ways we never expected. No one can take that power away. Most important is that we keep on doing what we want our world to be.



"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."  
- Coretta Scott King