

EMERGENCE

OUR STORIES IN PRACTICE

2024

IN-PERSON
ROOT DIVISION
SAN FRANCISCO

MON
JUNE 3
10-4

EMERGING *Arts*
PROFESSIONALS
SAN FRANCISCO / BAY AREA

EMERINGSF.ORG/EMERGENCE-2024

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EMERGING ARTS
PROFESSIONALS

PRE-CONFERENCE
SESSIONS ONLINE
MAY 29 - JUNE 1



Welcome to Emergence! the annual convening of the EAP network, provides a collaborative platform for Bay Area arts & culture workers to connect, share ideas, and elevate their work and voices. For this, our thirteenth year of Emergence, we feature arts & culture workers sharing our own stories of becoming and how our creative practices and leadership practices continue to influence and inspire each other. Join your fellow arts and culture workers and emergent leaders for our first in-person convening since 2019. Share, reconnect, and celebrate the power of our diverse practices — Your EAP Team: Amber Lee, Ahiannon Evans MacFadyen, & Reyna Brown

MUTSUN-OHLONE CALIFORNIA INDIGENOUS TWO
SPIRIT RELATIVE, ARTIST, POET, AUTHOR,
ACTIVIST, STUDENT, AND TEACHER

KANYON SAYERS-ROODS
OPENING KEYNOTE
10:45-11:15AM



HEALING THE MOVEMENT

ROUNDTABLE
DISCUSSION &
MOVEMENT ACTIVITY
SHARING STORIES OF
DANCE, HEALING, AND
MAKING CHANGE IN
SELF AND COMMUNITY

BREAKOUT SESSIONS
1:15-2:45PM

CHRIS EVANS & TYESE WORTHAM



GRAMMY NOMINATED ARTIST, RITUAL SOUND
EXPERIENCE DESIGNER, INTERNATIONAL
PERFORMER, FACILITATOR, AND DIRECTOR

TOSSIE LONG
AWARD OF RECOGNITION
& KEYNOTE
11:15-12:15AM



A CONNECTING THREAD

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
& WEAVING ACTIVITY
SHARING STORIES OF
TEXTILE ARTISTS AND ARTS
WORKERS CONNECTING
PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR
PRACTICES

ALYSSARHAYE GRACIANO
& MICHELLE LIN



CRAFTING SOUL REMEDIES
FELLOWSHIP COHORT XIII

PANEL, ACTIVATION,
AND HERBAL TEA-MAKING TABLE
+ COHORT XIII COMMENCEMENT
3:00-4:00PM



SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

ROUNDTABLE
DISCUSSION &
WRITING ACTIVITY
SHARING STORIES OF
USING LANGUAGE AND
THEATER TO EDUCATE
AND ADVOCATE

ASHIA AJANI & REYNA BROWN



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- ALL DAY | 10AM-4PM
- COMMUNITY ALTAR | ROOM 1 (FRONT GALLERY)
 - HELP BUILD AN ALTAR TO CENTER OUR INTENTIONS AND CONNECT OUR TIME TOGETHER
 - CRAFTING SOUL REMEDIES | ROOM 2 (BACK GALLERY)
 - CREATE A COMMUNITY-SOURCED LIST OF OUR ARTS WORKER ILLS AND OFFER ANTIDOTES TO HEAL THEM.
 - RESPITE AREA | ROOM 3 (CLASSROOM)
 - A SPACE FOR SNACKS, THOUGHT, CRAFTS, AND BREAKS

MORNING PLENARIES | 10:30AM-12:00PM

- 10:30-10:45AM | WELCOMING REMARKS WITH EAP STAFF
- 10:45-11:15AM | OPENING PLENARY WITH KANYON "COYOTEWOMAN" SAYERS-ROODS
- 11:15-12:15AM | AWARD OF RECOGNITION AND KEYNOTE WITH TOSSIE LONG

LUNCH BREAK | 12:15-1:00PM

- A LIGHT LUNCH OF SALADS AND SANDWICHES WILL BE PROVIDED
- PLEASE NOTE, LUNCHES ACCOMMODATING ALLERGIES AND OTHER SPECIFIC FOOD NEEDS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE

NETWORKING & ACTIVITIES BREAK | 1:00-1:15PM

- POETRY READING BY ASHIA AJANI
- COMMUNITY ALTAR, CRAFTING SOUL REMEDIES, AND RESPITE AREA
- NOTE: THE RESPITE AREA WILL BE USED FOR A BREAKOUT SESSION FROM 1:15-2:45PM

AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS | 1:15-2:45PM

- PLEASE SIGN UP FOR YOUR SELECTED SESSION WHEN YOU ARRIVE
- SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER WITH ASHIA AJANI AND REYNA BROWN
 - HEALING THE MOVEMENT WITH TYESE WORTHAM AND CHRIS EVANS
 - A CONNECTING THREAD WITH MICHELLE LIN AND ALYSSARHAYE GRACIANO

NETWORKING & ACTIVITIES BREAK | 2:45-3:00PM

- COMMUNITY ALTAR, CRAFTING SOUL REMEDIES, AND RESPITE AREA

CLOSING PLENARIES | 3:00-4:00PM

- 3:00-3:40PM | FELLOWSHIP COHORT XIII: CRAFTING SOUL REMEDIES + HERBAL TEA-MAKING TABLE — THROUGH DISCUSSION AND ACTIVATION OF CRAFTING SOUL REMEDIES, OUR CURRENT FELLOWSHIP COHORT WILL SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE AND LEARNINGS IN THE PROGRAM AND OFFER THEIR IDENTIFIED ILL IN THE ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR AND THE REMEDY THEY OFFER HERBAL TEA, INSPIRED BY OUR FELLOWS AND MEDICINE FOR OUR ILLS
- 3:40-4:00PM | COHORT XIII COMMENCEMENT — CELEBRATE OUR NEWEST COHORT AS THEY TRANSITION FROM FELLOWS TO ALUMNI AND JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF 200+ FELLOWSHIP ALUMS

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR EMERGENCE 2024 FUNDERS
CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL AND WALTER AND ELISE HAAS FUND

STRIKE PARTY & REFRESHMENTS | 4:00-4:45PM

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GET INVOLVED

EAP FELLOWSHIP

EAP's Fellowship program holds space for arts and culture workers to conduct research in our field, participate in hands-on learning, receive personal and professional development, and develop a project that shares our learnings over the course of our time together!

During the 9-month program, 12-16 fellows will meet on average twice per month in-person and on Zoom and will spend one weekend in January on a community-building camping trip.

Learn more and apply by August 1st:
tinyurl.com/EAP-xiv-apply



ARTISTS' ADAPTABILITY CIRCLE

The Artists' Adaptability Circles (AAC) is a community-driven program designed to support Bay Area artists, culture bearers, and arts workers to creatively address issues arising in their lives and communities through shared experience, dialogue, and mutual aid.

Applications for AAC's Cohort II are now live! Apply as a group with five total participants to receive one of five \$20,900 grants, including individual stipends and \$10,000 to dream up & implement your Circle's solutions centering Mutual Aid and flat-model collaboration.

Apply by July 5th:
tinyurl.com/AAC2-application



For more upcoming events in the summer & fall, follow @emergingsf on Facebook & @emergingarts on Instagram, and join our "Bay Area Arts & Culture Workers - EAP SFBA" Facebook group!

EMERGING ARTS PROFESSIONALS

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JOIN OUR NETWORK

Monthly Healers/Makers' Circle

A virtual space for arts and culture workers to deepen their personal arts practice once per month. This lunch hour is intended to inspire us to regularly create.



Register for Zoom link
Every 1st Wed of the month,
12:30pm-1:30pm

Monthly Fiscally Sponsored Directors' Circle

A virtual meetup for fiscally sponsored directors of arts and culture based organizations in the Bay Area looking for a community of support, creative solution building, and organizing.



Register for Zoom link
Every 1st Fri of the month,
12:30pm-1:30pm

Monthly Curators' Circle

An in-person event for curators and art lovers to connect, discover hidden gems, and gain insights from one another at galleries, museums, studios, and other art spaces,



Register on Eventbrite
Every last Fri of the month,
4-7pm

Bay Area Cultural Data Network

The network explores the intersection of cultural data with equity and industry, individual challenges around data in the Bay Area, and the roles and solutions a Cultural Data Network might serve.

Email
rhiannon@emergingssf.org
to learn more!

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EMERGENCE

10:45-11:15 **OPENING KEYNOTE**
-Rayon Soper - Kadi

11:15-11:45 **ANNALS OF RESISTANCE - KEYNOTE**
-Tara Long

12:15-1:00 **LIGHT LUNCH BREAK**

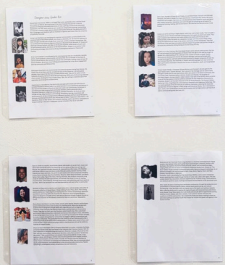
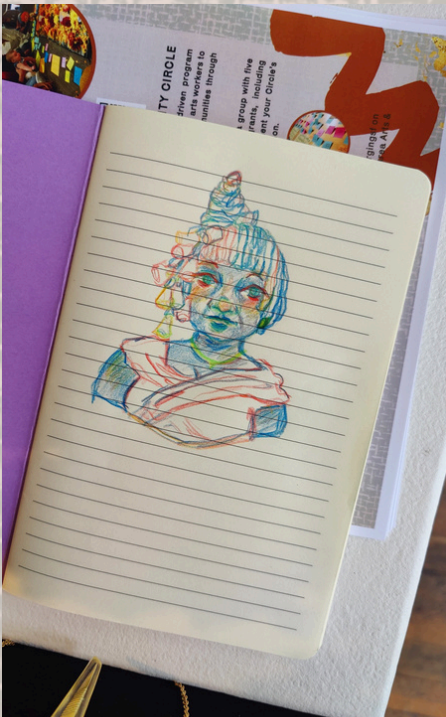
1:00-1:15 **NETWORKING & ACTIVITIES**

1:15-2:45 **AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS**
(Please sign up!)

2:45-5:00 **NETWORKING & ACTIVITIES**

5:00-9:00 **CLOSING PERFORMANCES**
-Fabianna Colon XIII
-Candice Sue Sanders - Hanao Yui-Ming
-Commencement!

8:00-4:45 **STRAKE PARTY + REFRESHMENTS**

Emergence 2024 Speaker Bios



Alyssarhaye Graciano (b. 1994) is a trilingual fiber artist, published author, and the Visual Arts Curator at MACLA. Born and raised in San José, Graciano focuses her curatorial practice on emerging and established artists of color, uplifting untold stories and artistic expressions. Her fiber work combines yarn sculptures and gouache painting, commenting on how we as humans assign value to objects and hoard memories. She graduated with a BA in Languages and Literature with an emphasis in Spanish and French from the University of California, Riverside.



Amber Lee (she/her) is an emerging arts organizer and storyteller currently based on the ancestral lands of the Ohlone people, also known as Berkeley, CA. Her favorite mediums to learn through and play with include food, movement, archive, and their intersections. She has worked with the California Migration Museum, Mycelium Youth Network, SF Taiwanese American Cultural Festival, and Edge on the Square to gather, break bread, un-earth and re-earth ancestral stories, and dream of life beyond empire. Amber is a co-author in the forthcoming anthology, *Asian America Rising: Contemporary Activism in Theory and Practice*.



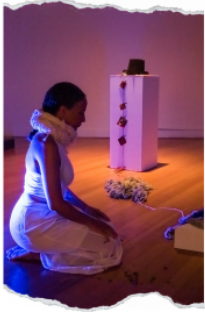
Anna Lisa Escobedo is a multifaceted artist, encompassing roles as a visual artist, muralist, activist, event producer, cultural worker, and networker. As a co-founder of the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District, she chaired the Cultural Arts Committee, leading a team of over 20 active members. Anna Lisa's most fulfilling accomplishment lies in her direct engagement with the community and fellow artists.



Ashia Ajani (they/she) is an environmental storyteller & educator hailing from Denver, CO, Queen City of the Plains and the unceded territory of the Cheyenne, Ute & Arapahoe peoples, now living in the Bay Area (unceded Ohlone land). They are the author of one collection of poetry, *Heirloom* (Write Bloody Publishing, 2023) and a forthcoming collection of lyric essays, *Tending the Vines* (Timber Press, TBA). Her writing is a kaleidoscope of her experience as an eco-griot and abolitionist.



Aspensong is a neurodistinct Two-Spirit artist and poet with chronic pain who lives on unceded Muwekma Ohlone lands in so-called Oakland. Ze is an abolitionist and believes in the revolutionary power of the arts to heal and sustain our communities. Ze believes in prioritizing our most marginalized community members, and is passionate about Palestinian liberation, Indigenous sovereignty, and Black liberation. Art forms ze loves include writing, drag, beadwork, printmaking, filmmaking, dancing, movement, and performance art. Ze has a background as a Research Assistant at SFSU's Social Perception, Attitudes and Mental Simulation Lab, and was part of Radar Production's 2023 Poetry + Art Residency, *Show Us Your Spines*. Ze is currently creating a poetry workshop, and grateful to be participating in this year's Indigiqueer Festival in Seattle's Pier 32 on June 29th.



Chris Evans, founder of Deep Breath Pilates, is a certified Pilates Instructor and Massage Therapist, and Level 2 Talawa Technique practitioner, a technique that centers Africanist movement technologies. She is also an interdisciplinary artist trained in music and dance who creates immersive, interactive work with the goal of cultivating sacred spaces for communal listening, healing, and transformation. She directed the Reconstruction Study Project.



Crysta is an artist working in largely digital, watercolor, and written media. Their art style is inspired by anime influence and their writing varies from poetry to short story work. They love to explore new mediums and create collaborative works with friends as well. Professionally, Crysta has grown as a programs manager with Arts Council Napa Valley, taking the opportunity to invest in the artistic community of their hometown. They find themselves lucky each day to be able to directly impact the growth and positive change of the local arts community while growing as an artist along the way.



Crystal Liu is a San Francisco Bay Area-based theatre artist and arts administrator. She has felt and witnessed the healing powers of theatre from the age of nine and has sought to deepen her understanding of the craft ever since. Crystal currently co-leads Theatre Rhinoceros as Development Director & Company Manager, and has performed with, worked backstage for, and held administrative positions in theater companies all over the San Francisco Bay Area. She holds BAs in Theater and Anthropology from Yale University and is particularly interested in theatre that focuses on education, youth, and marginalized communities.



Kanyon Sayers-Roods is Costanoan Ohlone-Mutsun and Chumash; she also goes by her given Native name, "Coyote Woman". She is proud of her heritage and her native name (though it comes with its own back story), and is very active in the Native Community. She is an Artist, Poet, Published Author, Activist, Student and Teacher. The daughter of Ann-Marie Sayers, she was raised in Indian Canyon, trust land of her family, which currently is one of the few spaces in Central California available for the Indigenous community for ceremony. Kanyon's art has been featured at the De Young Museum, The Somarts Gallery, Gathering Tribes, Snag Magazine, and numerous Powwows and Indigenous Gatherings. She is a recent graduate of the Art Institute of California, Sunnyvale, obtaining her Associate and Bachelor of Science degrees in Web Design and Interactive Media. She is motivated to learn, teach, start conversations around decolonization and reinidgenization, permaculture and to continue doing what she loves, Art.



Karen A. Smith is a vocalist, sound healer, dancer and student of sacred chant, music and dance from around the world. She shares her art in a variety of Bay Area settings and beyond. Her repertoire includes Hawaiian oli, mele and hula, Afro-Cuban, Afro-Brazilian and Haitian folkloric music and dance (and a little percussion), Sanskrit mantras, R & B, inspirational music and more. She performs and studies with many local groups including Arenas Dance Company, NaLeiHuluIKaWekiu, Brasarte, Alafia Dance Ensemble, Loco Bloco, Ayitian Foklo Lakay, Yoga of the Voice, WeSing and more. She conducts community song circles for wellness focused organizations. She believes that music is a tool for healing, empowerment, culture keeping, building relationships, and celebrating significant events in our lives. With it we can build trust and interdependence with each other in community."



Michelle Lin (they/she) is a textiles and mixed media artist, cultural worker, and author of the poetry collection *A House Made of Water* (Sibling Rivalry Press, 2017). Their writing and art practice are rituals of grief and healing from the violence of patriarchy, capitalism, assimilation, and living within the imperial core. Passionate about building liberatory spaces for diasporic and queer artists, they work as the Artist Growth Program Director at ARTogether and serve on the Advisory Councils for Vital Arts and Artists' Adaptability Circles.



Reyna Brown (she/they) is an artist, leader, activist, poet, teacher, director, and facilitator based in Richmond (Contra Costa County). As a teaching artist, Reyna has worked with students from kindergarten through adults with organizations such as StageWrite, University of San Francisco, San Quentin State Prison, and the American Conservatory Theater. They also run their own small business called Amplify that offers customized workshops to help communities understand unconscious bias using art, music, and poetry. In facilitating implicit bias training, Reyna uses storytelling and interactive theater activities to create a playful atmosphere for communities to engage in difficult conversations and meaningful reflections. They graduated from the University of San Francisco with a BA in Performing Arts & Social Justice with a concentration in Theater and a minor in Peace and Justice Studies in 2019 and are pursuing an MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts at the California Institute of Integral Studies.



Rhiannon Evans MacFadyen (EAP Co-Director) (they/she) is a curator, consultant, facilitator, and project-based artist, born and based in San Francisco (San Francisco County). With 20 years experience in the performing and visual arts, Rhiannon is deeply influenced by their own, and their communities', intersectional identities and by their pursuit of "productive discomfort." Their curatorial focus is on projects that push boundaries of scale, scope, medium, venue, and dialogue; and her cross-discipline personal work engages symbols, identity, communication, and the unseen. Founder of A Simple Collective and Black & White Projects and Director of Emerging Arts Professionals SFBA, they are passionate about equity, experimentation, and independence in the arts and provide constructive, flexible consulting to contemporary artists, entrepreneurs, & small institutions.



Generational San Franciscan Tossie Long (she/her) is a Grammy-nominated multi-lingual vocalist, international artist, avant-garde ritual sound designer, producer, director, and facilitator. She explores the intersections of sound, culture, and sociopolitical edges, ranging from rock and roll vocals to Afrofuturist immersive productions. Known as "The Bone Rattler," Tossie practices ceremonial music with a focus on diasporic cosmology. As an ethnomusicologist, she has journeyed to Ayiti, Cuba, Benin, Nigeria, Brazil, and New Orleans, tracing Vodou's migration.

Currently, Tossie is developing Red Clay Sound Haus (RCSH), a sonic-centric immersive project exploring Black sound through themes of Land, Love, Labor, and Legacy. She also curates Sound Haus Excursions, exclusive experiences for ritualistic living. Tossie performs not merely to perform, but to challenge and expand the boundaries of her perceived limits.



After nearly 20 years of serving black and brown communities through the production and presentation of culturally-specific dance, cultural equity grantmaking, and cultural placekeeping, Tyese Wortham shifts her equity lens to the health and wellness industry after suffering silently and in isolation for nearly 30 years with endometriosis and chronic Lyme disease. Now, Tyese speaks her truth boldly and proudly @thrivingwithlyme to bring visibility to Lyme disease and other complex, multi-systemic chronic illnesses and conditions in BIPOC communities. She created Afro-BodyLove Dance Healing to share an alternative pathway to optimal health that helped her reclaim her power and agency in her healing journey.