

Spring, 2019

Newsletter



Institute for Human Development and Well-Being



A Word from the Director

As this issue of the McGill IHDW newsletter goes to press, we are celebrating the International Day of Happiness at McGill and around the world, with institutions such as the Montreal-based Canadian Centre for Architecture poised to celebrate its a special exhibition in May with the theme 'Our Happy Lives'. It is an important time to be recognizing the meaning of terms such as happiness and flourishing in our everyday lives as well as in the context of research, teaching and policy.

It is also critical to interrogate the idea of well-being. In this issue we give prominence to a McGill-based initiative involving researchers and graduate students from various disciplinary areas responding to the prompt 'well-being – what a concept!' Readers of this newsletter can also visit the IHDW website <https://www.mcgill.ca/ihdw/> to experience powerful video capsules on the subject. We hope this will spark many new discussions about well-being.

We thank the many participants from so many different units at McGill and from other universities and NGOs in Montreal who participated in the IHDW Think Tank earlier in the academic year and who offered such valuable suggestions for the future work of the Institute.

Sincerely,

Claudia Mitchell
Claudia Mitchell

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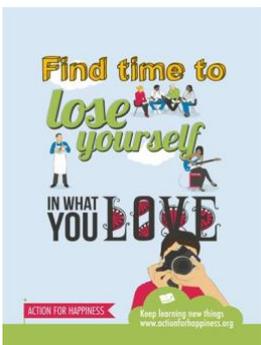
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INTERNATIONAL DAY of HAPPINESS

20 March



Origin

Jayme Illien is an Indian-American social entrepreneur, philanthropist, and activist. In 2011, as the Chairman, President, and CEO at Illien Global Public Benefit Corporation, he launched an initiative at the United Nations (UN) to promote a new global day. On 19 July 2011, the UN General Assembly approved a resolution which recognized happiness as “a fundamental human goal” and called for “a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic growth that promotes sustainable development, poverty eradication, happiness and well-being of all peoples”. One year later, on 28 June 2012, in the first UN conference on Happiness the UN general assembly proclaimed 20 March (also the date of vernal equinox) the International Day of Happiness and invited all organizations and individuals to “observe the International Day of Happiness in an appropriate manner, including through education and public awareness-raising activities”. The International Day of Happiness is currently celebrated by 193 countries, 2 observers and 11 territories.

Action for Happiness

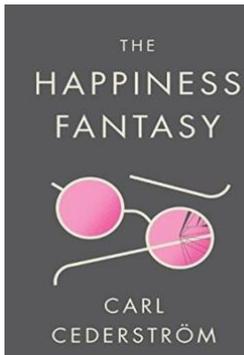
Today, more and more organizations are focusing on happiness and well-being. There are also different organizations teaching happiness skills to individuals. One of these movements is Action for Happiness Project. It was founded in 2010 by Richard Layard, Geoff Mulgan and Anthony Seldon, who are passionate about promoting happiness in societies. Their patron is the Dalai Lama, who “encourages each of us to live more compassionately and put the happiness of others at the center of our lives. This is the path to lasting peace and happiness”.

“Action for happiness encourages each of us to live more compassionately and put the happiness of others at the center of our lives. This is the path to lasting peace and happiness”.

Dalai Lama

Book Review: The Happiness Fantasy

By Valerie Thomas



Is happiness about being freed from constraints? Could we have ever thought that striving for personal freedom and authentic selfhood could become constraining? In this thought-provoking book, Cederstromm explores the happiness fantasy which addresses the transformation of the human potential movement that became widely popular in the Sixties' countercultures. It was a dream of a new world, against a society based on conservative values, wealth accumulation, domination and violence. More than fifty years later, this fantasy that once stood in opposition to power and domination, is no longer posed as an alternative to capitalism, but rather has become an integrated part of it.

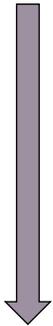
Popular slogans like « your fate is in your own hands », or « realize your full potential » have evolved from their original marginal response to an oppressive power, to become a popular imperative that may have lost its truly liberating character. Cederstromm takes us through the ideological shifts that have given words like authenticity, human potential and pleasure a different meaning and significance for us today.

We are taken through Aldous Huxley's early claims for personal emancipation which sparked the human potential movement, the development of the Esalen Institute in California, to the encounter of this movement with William Reich's dissident psychoanalytic thinking, notions of sex salvation and the program of pleasure that have shaped our social imaginations, shared fantasies and self-help culture. The context in which these emerged differ greatly from how they have come to influence the current dominant values and autocratic ideologies such as Donald Trump's appeal and allusion to the untapped human potential that will "make America great again".

“Cederstromm takes us through the ideological shifts that have given words like authenticity, human potential and pleasure a different meaning and significance for us today”.
Valerie Thomas



The Happiness Fantasy



Reaching our full potential



For Cederstrom, in the West we have a shared fantasy of self-actualization according to which there is only one way to become happy, and that is by reaching your full potential as a human being. It is to pursue happiness in the form of pleasure, realising your true inner potential, both as a market resource and as a human being. We are required to “curate our market value, manage ourselves as corporations” and live according to what he coins an “entrepreneurial ethos”. Some of the moral values that seem to undergird happiness today are to be real, work hard, always have the right attitude, enjoy ourselves, be productive and most importantly not rely on other people to achieve these goals. This can translate into “radical individualism, the cult of authentic individuality or the imperative to enjoy”.

While the Renaissance brought happiness from heaven back to earth, it was not until the Enlightenment that it became a right; something that each and every person was able to pursue and perhaps even attain. As Cederstromm points out, when Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence that the pursuit of happiness was an unalienable right, he did not just intend to say that we should pursue pleasure, but that we should also have the right to acquire and possess property. A question that comes to mind after reading this book is; has happiness become an acquisition as well? Has it become something to organise, to predict, to conserve and to own like private property, contrary to the spontaneous liberating character it may have had in the Sixties’ counterculture?

Cederström, C. (2018). *The Happiness Fantasy*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.



Valerie is a student in the Individualized Ph.D. program at Concordia University. She is focusing on developing creative tools to reflect on curriculum and policies in end of life care at the intersection of ethics, arts- based methods, spirituality, policy analysis and medical education. She is interested in developing compassionate educational practices to support caregivers within holistic models of care and reflecting on how these models translate in public medical institutions. Valerie is also a spiritual care counselor working mostly with patients and families in palliative care. Aside from her academic and work interests she is very involved in her music project as a singer songwriter and has just finished recording a full-length album.

“A question that comes to mind after reading this book is; has happiness become an acquisition as well?”

Valerie Thomas



Well-Being: The Overlooked Dimensions



In the Fall of 2018, the IHDW launched a new [video series](#) called “Well-Being: What Concept.” Interviewing a variety of IHDW members and affiliates, the series aims to highlight various aspects of well-being that are overlooked and misunderstood. Five themes that arose across these videos included:

- (1) well-being and shared lived experience
- (2) the importance of participatory research in improving well-being;
- (3) how the well-being of caregivers affects the well-being of patients
- (4) the intersection of art and well-being
- (5) the meaning of well-being

These themes were tied together in the “Well-Being: What a Concept: The Overlooked Dimensions of Well-Being.” This [compilation video](#), weaved together the various interviews into a unifying statement on well-being.

“Well-being has to be a consultative process. That is, you have to ask the person who is distressed and impaired what constitutes *their* definition of well-being – not our definition. Dr. Jaswant Guzder

Well-Being and Shared lived Experience



[Dr. Argerie Tsimicalis](#) of the Ingram School of Nursing discussed her work helping children who have osteogenesis imperfecta, a rare bone disease that leaves the body highly vulnerable to damage. Due to the physical fragility that comes with osteogenesis imperfecta, children who have the condition often find themselves socially isolated and unable to play with their peers. Dr. Tsimicalis is developing numerous solutions to address these issues of social isolation and help connect children who have the condition with one another. These solutions include games, apps, and books that teach children with osteogenesis imperfecta about their condition, how to communicate with others, and how to navigate the healthcare system.

Kinesiology and Physical Education professor [Dr. Shane Sweet](#) also discussed the importance of connecting individuals who have shared lived experiences with one another. His research focuses specifically on people with spinal cord injuries, and how bringing these people together can foster well-being. Dr. Sweet advocates that by connecting people who have spinal cord injuries with one another, these individuals can share tips and tricks for managing their injuries, trade recommendations for treatments and physicians, and just have the opportunity to talk with someone who has been through the same things that they have. Talking to someone who “gets it” Dr. Sweet explains, can be incredibly emotionally beneficial for someone who often has to struggle with an injury that not many other people around them have experienced themselves.



“It's rare for a child to become sick, and to become *really* sick with a chronic condition. So, you have to come through and think – there's probably no one else in the school where the child attends [who also has a chronic illness]. So how do we connect them with others?”

Dr. Argerie Tsimicalis

Well-Being and Participatory Research



[Dr. Tsimicalis](#) emphasized the importance of working with individuals from the population that she is trying to help in order to most effectively bring about change. A member of Dr. Tsimicalis' team has osteogenesis imperfecta herself, and so is able to offer her first-hand knowledge in order to ensure that the group's research is properly addressing the issues faced by people who have the condition. Dr. Sweet emphasizes the importance of this as well, arguing that in order to effectively do any kind of research that aims to improve the lives of a specific population of people, it is crucial to incorporate those individuals and give those individuals a platform to direct how this research will be done.

Professor of Psychiatry [Dr. Jaswant Guzder](#) also discusses the importance of doing research that listens to and incorporates the voices of the individuals that the research is aiming to help. Dr. Guzder warns against prescribing a unity, western-oriented view of well-being onto all people, because every person has different cultural and religious values that affect how they personally define well-being. An example that Dr. Guzder cites is the case of western psychiatrists in Sri Lanka who came to the country to assist after the end of its civil war. To their surprise, Dr. Guzder, the first thing that many Sri Lankan people wanted was not necessarily better food and living conditions – which they definitely did want and need – but their top priority was to ritually bury their dead. If the psychiatrists had come in without listening to these people and just imposed their western ideas of well-being upon them, Dr. Guzder explained, they would not have been helping them in the most effective way possible.

“Incorporating individuals at the table, when talking about research, might bring you a new question or a new approach. Participatory research allows you to really make sure that your work is in alignment with their needs.”

Dr. Shane Sweet

Well-Being and Caregivers



[Dr. Lindsey Duncan](#) of the Department of Kinesiology & Physical Education and Pamela Lamb of the Faculty of Education are both doing work focusing on the health of caregivers. Both researchers argue that promoting the well-being of caregivers – those providing health care services to patients – is crucial to promoting the well-being of patients. “Across different health conditions,” Dr. Duncan stated, “I would say that the health of a caregiver is often overlooked. It’s only recently become a focus of research attention in the cancer context.

[Pamela Lamb](#) argues that it is imperative to change the culture around nursing, in which tireless work with little relief has become normalized. She cites studies about self-compassion in medical practitioners as a step in the right direction. Dr. Duncan’s work focuses on similar issues, but from the perspective of informal caregivers: close friends, family and partners of patients who take up the responsibility of caring for them after they leave the hospital. Dr. Duncan is currently developing an online platform that provides helpful tips and guides for caregivers on how to stay physically active and mentally well while spending many hours at home caring for loved ones.

“There was a headline published in the *Journal of Nursing* last year that was as searing as it was succinct: ‘When nurses are overburdened, patients die.’”

Pamela Lamb



Art and Well-Being



Dr. Maria Ezcurra, director of McGill’s Art Hive Initiative, discussed the potential of art to promote well-being. “A lot of people use art as a form of therapy,” Dr. Ezcurra explained, “That is how the Art Hive started.” The McGill Art Hive is an open studio on campus that provides free art supplies and a space to relax, create and express oneself. Dr. Ezcurra’s goal is for the space to allow people to communicate ideas that may be difficult to express with words. “We have so many languages here in Montreal,” Dr. Ezcurra said, “And I consider art to be another language – one that is universal and inclusive.”

Dr. Jaswant Guzder also emphasized the importance of art for promoting well-being. “It’s basic to our clinical work that we use art,” Dr. Guzder explained. “When we worked in Jamaica, a great deal of our work with high-risk children is centered on the arts as a vehicle of change and promotion of resilience.”

“Every year we have had two Artists in Residence working in the Faculty of Education. They have done drawing, performance, mural, dance, movement, sound. It’s huge. You can use the arts in so many ways.”

Dr. Maria Ezcurra



The Meaning of Well-Being



Finally, we asked a few of our interviewees to define what well-being meant to them. "The concept of well-being is really related to the freedom to be oneself, to be authentic in every environment that you happen to be in," Dr. Tara Flanagan of the Department of Educational & Counselling Psychology said. Dr. Flanagan's work is centered around promoting inclusivity in work environments for people with disabilities.



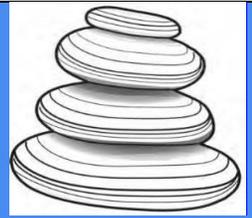
Many people with disabilities are just as capable of contributing valuable work as any other person, Dr. Flanagan explains, but they simply require a few simple environmental modifications. Making these modifications can open up many new doors for people with disabilities, says Dr. Flanagan, and that freedom to do the work that you really want to do is highly essential to well-being.

"Ultimately, well-being means that I feel good about myself, that I like myself, and accept myself the way I am."

Dr. Annette Körner



Working Groups at the IHDW



Game & Gamification for Human Development and Well-being

A Working Group, led by Hani Sadati, DISE PhD Candidate



The team worked two weeks in Addis Ababa Goethe Institute



As part of GHDW Working Group events, supported by IHDW, Hani Sadati, a Ph.D. candidate in Educational Studies at McGill's Faculty Education, organized a Game Design workshop on January 18, 2019 at Art Hive. Hani Sadati's research project is entitled "Participatory Digital Game Development to Address Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Agriculture Colleges in Ethiopia", a response to the high prevalence rates of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Ethiopia's Agriculture Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) colleges (ATVET) colleges.

This study's ultimate goal is to contribute to empowering the instructors in ATVET colleges, expanding their capacity to address SGBV issues, and supporting the development of campus-based strategies to prevent SGBV. Methodologically, this study uses participatory approaches to game development. This locally produced self-educating tool will offer a strategy for sustainability in supporting the instructors in interventions that address the safety of young women.

Developing a digital serious game is one of the main phases of this project, so in the first two weeks of February 2019, a team of experts, including game developers/designers, story tellers, illustrator, sound designers, and education researcher came together under the Dedicated 5 (D5) and made the first playable prototype of this educational game. The team believes these two weeks will go down in the history of serious game-making in Ethiopia, as a time that paved the way for an innovative avenue of contributing to one of the country's long-standing issues of concern, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in colleges.

The game's working title is *Mela* (meaning "find a solution" in Amharic), and it is still in progress at the prototype stage. After receiving feedback from the advisory team, and education experts, the team will continue to develop the extended game. The game will also be field tested in the selected four ATVET colleges, Nedjo, Maichew, Soddo, and Woreta.

This project is being supported by Global Affairs Canada funded project, Agricultural Transformation Through Stronger Vocational Education (ATTSVE), as well as Canada's International Development Research Center (IDRC), and Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Société et Culture (FRQSC). Its local tech partners are D5gamecon and iceaddis.



A collective picture of the game design team on the day of Prototype Test Session in iceaddis



The team in Addis Ababa

For more information, feel free to contact the researcher, Hani Sadati (hani.sadati@mail.mcgill.ca), or the local game development team (d5gamecon@gmail.com). You can also visit the Facebook page of the project: [Serious Game for Gender Equity](#)



IHDW Think Tank: Reflecting Forward 2018 Event Highlights



On September 27th, 2018 the IHDW held its first annual [Think Tank: “Reflecting Forward 2018.”](#) This event invited professors, graduate students and community leaders to discuss the promotion of well-being at McGill and in the broader Montreal community. The session opened with a panel, “Institutes at McGill – Lessons and Inspirations,” led by the Director of the Institute for the Study of International Development Dr. Sonia Laszlo, the Director of the Institute for Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Dr. Alanna Thain, and Director of the Institute for Global Food Security Dr. Hugo Melgar-Quiñonez. The panel was followed by 5 human development and well-being conversation tables: Funding, Teaching and Learning, the McGill community, working with the community beyond McGill, and transdisciplinary research.



The report includes next steps and an action plan for the next 3 months coming out of the discussions, along with several recommendations:



- (1) Developing a platform for institute-led discussion about institutes at McGill
- (2) The need for broad consultation about well-being as a concept in university and other institutional settings
- (3) Supporting the development of courses that address topics and critical perspectives on well-being

[You can click here to view/download the entire report.](#)

“We’ve been talking about the priorities of McGill and thinking about the ways in which the institutes represented here can be a key part of them.”

Claudia Mitchell



6th International Cellphilm Festival



Event Highlights

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in [The 6th International Cellphilm Festival](#)! This year, we were honored to be joined by Thora Hermann (Université de Montréal), Ariella Orbach (Université de Montréal), and Iphigénie Marcoux-Fortier (Université de Montréal), who led a panel discussion entitled "The power of the lens: (re)building community on ancestral lands."

Their presentations were accompanied by three short films directed by their project community's researcher-filmmakers: Ince Ka Mogetun from the Mapuche Nation in Wallmapu (Chile), Nuestro Hogar from the Embera nation in Panama, and Hanna Boade Gaddaj from the Sami nation in Sapmi (Norway). All three films exemplified this year's theme: Making Community. This event was sponsored by the McGill Participatory Cultures Lab and the McGill Art Hive Initiative, under the umbrella of the IHDW.

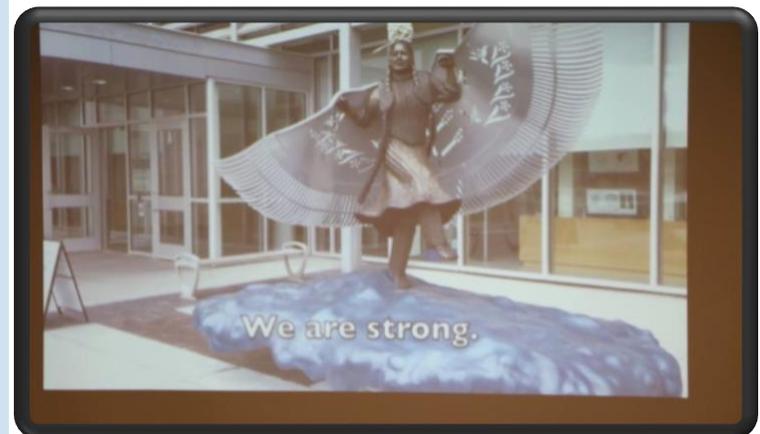
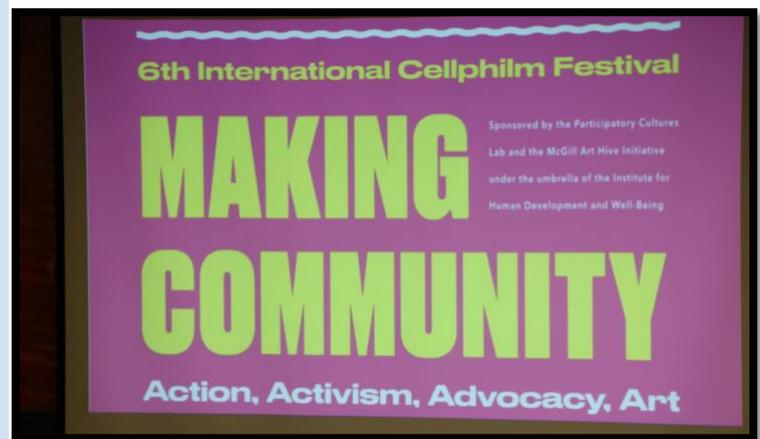
Congratulations to this year's winners!

1st Prize – [Community Gardening for Social Ills](#) (Montreal, Canada), Produced Sven 7ven Creese, Mitchell McLarnon, and Lyne Dwyer

2nd Prize (tie) – [Juala](#) (Nairobi, Kenya), Produced by Ephantus Kariuki, William Kamau 'Shikokoto', Rosemary Nyambura Mwangi, Joab Mutisya, and Kelvin Irungu

2nd Prize (tie) – [Indigenous Young Women's Utopia](#), (Saskatoon, Canada), Produced by the Treaty 6 Girls and their mentors Jennifer Altenberg, Sarah Flicker, Katie MacEntee and Kari Wuttunee

Honourable Mention – [Isolated Network](#) (Kamloops, Canada) Produced by Bobbie Vojtko, Hallan Mtatiro, Ben Laidlaw, and Liz Sax



"For me, collective ownership of our land will make us safer"

Indigenous Young Women's Utopia

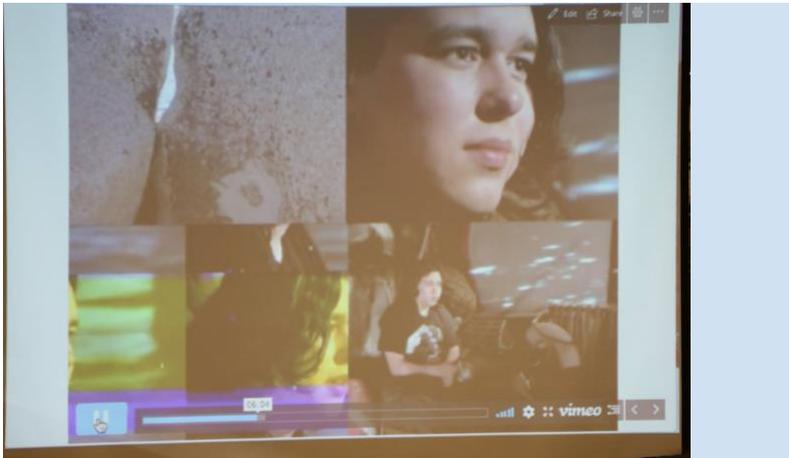
(Selected Film, 6th International Cellphilm Festival)



"Voices in Longitude and Latitude"

Marnina Gonick

Event Highlights



On Friday, December 7th 2018, The McGill DISE Research Talks and Institute for Human Development & Well-Being presented: ["Voices in Longitude and Latitude: Representing Youth at the Intersection of Art and Ethnography,"](#) by Dr. Marnina Gonick, Professor of Education and Women & Gender Studies at Mount St. Vincent University.



"Voices in Longitude and Latitude" is a video installation that explores girlhood across four different communities in Canada: Inuit in the Canadian far north; Transgender in Halifax, Nova Scotia; Jewish in Toronto, Ontario; and Immigrants from different African countries (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Sudan) in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



"When notions of girlhood and what it means to be a girl are challenged [...] I suggest that what may be created, if only temporarily, is something new, something Other."

Dr. Marnina Gonick



Film Screening: Quiet Killing

A film written and directed by Kim O’Bomsawin



2014, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) reported that nearly 1200 Indigenous women were murdered or went missing in Canada. Despite all the efforts made by numerous programs and policies, the situation is even more alarming today. Why is an Indigenous woman eight times more likely to be murdered than any other citizen in Canada? How can this situation happen in a country like Canada, where everybody talks about human rights? Quiet killing is a documentary about how these indigenous women and their loved ones seek help to put an end to this vicious circle of violence and crime.

On February 14th, the Art Hive brought students, artists and faculty together to watch Quiet Killing (2018) with the writer and filmmaker Kim O’Bomsawin. The film screening was then followed by a discussion led by Dr. Bronwen Low, the Associate Professor in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education. The discussion began with a point Kim made on using this movie or similar resources as useful tools to educate people and in particular young people about indigenous people and all of their traumas. Kim believes negative cultures and indigenous people’s difficulties have been hidden for so many years and for this reason teachers feel they are not well-equipped to talk about them in their classes.

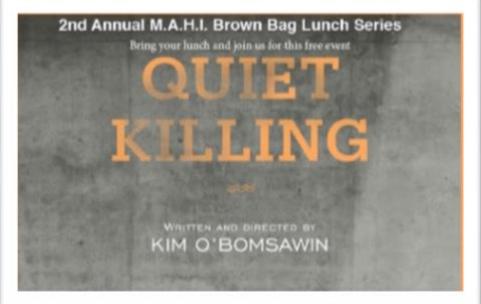
As an Abenaki filmmaker, Kim had always been aware of the sensitivity and complexity of the issue and when she summoned the courage to start her project, she was both amazed and shocked by all people’s stories. It was shocking for her to listen to all those heart-breaking stories; however, she was amazed by seeing that these people were full of hope. In fact, at the end of the day not only was she hopeful herself, but also did she understand the real meaning of resilience.



(left to right) Lori Beavis, Kim O’Bomsawin and Bronwen Low



Students, artists and faculty watching Quiet Killing at the Arts Hive, Education building.



“... When you find out that this person has tried to heal herself. She is moving on and she has goals in life and she wants to become an actress, and even she has won some prizes..... This is the real meaning of resilience.”

Kim O’Bomsasawin



P.Lantz Initiative for Excellence in Education and the Arts



On March 21st, 2019, the P. Lantz Initiative for Excellence in Education and the Arts presented their year-end event, “Finding Balance: Creativity

and Sustainability. Hosted by the McGill Art Hive Initiative, this event celebrated the enrichment of education through the arts. Keynote speakers were McGill’s Artists-in-Residence Lou Sheppard and Déborah Maia de Lima, organizers of the McGill Community Garden Project Mitchell McLarnon and Jayne Malenfant, intern of the Art Hive Initiative, Zeinab Yousefzadeh and a guest speaker from UQAM, Susan Sadraee.

McGill Artist-in-Residence Lou Sheppard discussed their recent work. Starting with “Silent Spring: Tiotia:ke/Montreal,” Lou presented a musical composition and graphic score based off of the songs of ten birds whose populations are declining in the Montreal area. Next, Lou presented “Requiem for the Polar Regions,” a musical score based on the concentration of sea ice in the Arctic and Antarctic. The last piece exhibited was “No Word in English,” a project that seeks to highlight words that cannot be translated across different languages.

Mitchell McLarnon, Horatiu Halmaghi, and Jayne Malenfant presented on McGill’s Community Garden Project. Founded in 2015, the project seeks to create an outdoor learning space on McGill’s campus for promoting sustainable development and ecological literacy. The garden hosts a series of mini-lectures called “Free Skool,” which aim to create an anti-hierarchical and anti-oppressive space to discuss issues such as food security, social organizing and critical histories. The project also works to develop gardens in the local community, including at the Benedict Labre House shelter.

Zeynab Yousefzadeh and Susan Sadraee presented a storybook they are developing for children, with the goal of simplifying and educating sustainability concepts for early childhood levels. Their storybook is currently at its initial stage and they hope to publish the final edition after finding some financial support.

Déborah Maia de Lima rounded off the event by inviting everyone to do some movements! To learn more about Déborah Maia de Lima and her work, please look at the following page.



Lou Sheppard Explaining her Projects



Jane Malenfant Presenting Community Garden Project



Mitchell McLarnon Presenting Community Garden Project



Zeinab Yousefzadeh and Susan Sadraee Introducing their Storybook



Mindfulness and Dance

Déborah Maia de Lima, P.Lanz Artist in Residence Initiative 2018/2019



Working with movement and dance at the P. Lantz Artist in Residence Initiative has been a wonderful laboratory of creativity and “self-meeting” to McGill students and staff.

A moment to rest both mind and body, to have contact with your own movement and start to discover it is the “sauce” of those meetings at the Art Hive (Education building library). It all started with my perception of students’ needs to make contact with themselves and release a bit of daily stress. A set of activities in order to increase the capacity of moving the body, the joints, the cells in a joyful and deep way was offered to whoever was present at that moment. The permission of creativity was the most important thing. No standards and no “right and wrong” patterns. Just your moves, and your senses.

My job is only to offer clues of movement and to create a safe place to let participants enjoy the self-discovery process.

Accepting yourself means accepting others, admiring diversity, learning new ways of thinking about your body, changing your posture, being in “here and now” and most of all, accepting your own living process, your own way of learning and of dealing with others around you. That’s what the art of movement provides: we are all equal in our differences.

So, the Dance on Thursday took place... A moment to learn not only your own movement, but also how to be esthetically engaged with it, how to have fun learning to use your body in order to expand your movement vocabulary: shoulders, steps, torso, hands, rhythm, beat of the music, respecting your way of learning and giving you time to find out how to do it. There’s no life out of the movement, so the invitation is that you allow yourself to make a journey inside of your own and a unique form of creating your life throughout your body.

Come to move with us at the Art-Hive *Stretching on Wednesdays* from 1:30 to 2:30 and our *Dance on Thursdays* from 12:00 to 1:00. The activities are all free and made for you.



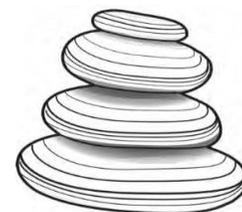
“Accepting yourself means accepting others, admiring diversity, learning new ways of thinking about your body, changing your posture....and most of all, accepting your own living process.

Déborah Maia de Lima

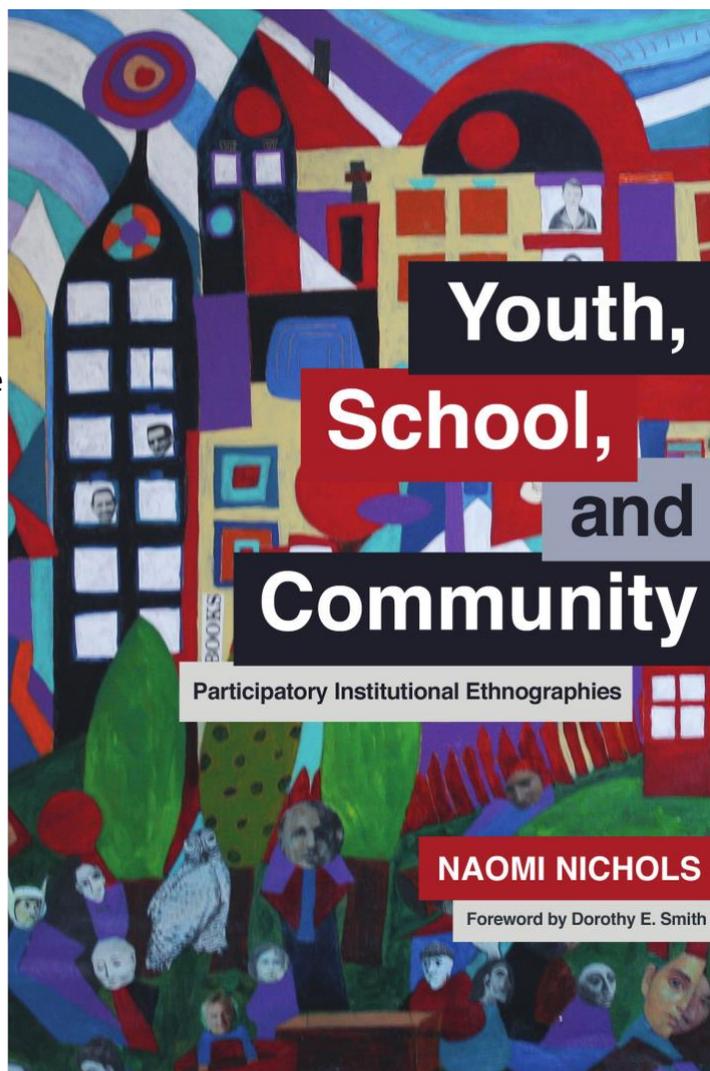


Forthcoming book!

Youth, School, and Community



In August 2019, the University of Toronto Press will publish *Youth, School and Community: Participatory institutional ethnographies* – a new book by Naomi Nichols, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education and a member of the Institute for Human Development and Well-being. Unlike other books *about* youth, this is a book about the extended social and institutional relations that shape how young people grow up and the opportunities that are afforded to them. While research began with what young people know and have experienced, this starting place anchors an investigation of public sector institutions and institutional processes that remain implicated in social-historical-economic processes of global capitalism, imperialism and colonialism. *Youth, School, and Community* connects the dots between the abstract objectified accounts produced by institutions and enabling institutional action and accounting practices, and the actual material conditions of



The book reveals specific policies and procedures that produce young people's experiences of racialized inclusion/exclusion, safety/risk, thus making it particularly useful to academics, professionals, and activists who want to ensure that young people experience equitable access to public sector resources and not disproportionate exposure to public sector punishments and punitive interventions.

Nichols, N. (Forthcoming August 2019). *Youth, School and Community: Participatory Institutional Ethnographies*. Toronto, ON: The University of Toronto Press.



Future Events:

ARNA 2019 | Repoliticizing P/AR: From Action Research to Activism



ARNA 2019 will take place in Montreal, Quebec, Canada over June 26-28th. The conference will be held at McGill University's Faculty of Education, located in downtown Montreal. The theme we have chosen for the conference is **Repoliticizing P/AR: From Action Research to Activism**

Proposal submission: October 2018-April 1st, 2019.

On March 29, 2019, by using his serious game-making experience in Ethiopia, Hani Sadati will hold a workshop in McGill's Faculty of Education. In this workshop, he will talk about forming a dialogue between educator/researcher and game designer/developer and will suggest a method for effective communication between these two parties.

For more information, please click [HERE](#), or contact Hani Sadati at Hani.Sadati@mail.mcgill.ca



Interested?

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