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On Emptiness

Sarah Workneh, Co-Director

As I write this, our hub in New York City sits mostly empty as we wait through another COVID surge here in NYC. Simultaneous to this, our campus in Maine is also largely empty except for Bill and his team, the animals, the birds, the plants preparing for spring (and some might say the ghosts).

Part of what has been interesting to think about in these COVID months as it relates to emptiness is the question of how we fill up space in moments of crisis, and moments of discomfort. In our office, we have spent a lot of time talking about working remotely—what it means, what the expectations are, how output is tracked. In the earliest moments of COVID, in the larger world, it seemed as though everyone's first impulse was to find ways to just move everything on-line as if the only thing that had changed was the emptying of buildings. Partially driven by a need for "normalcy" and being okay, but maybe also partially driven by the kind of neo-liberal impulse to fill empty space with something new.

There was a funny moment this past year when I realized that in many ways we were working more effectively remotely. We were producing work at a really high and inventive level: we continued to plug along on a historic & transformative capital campaign; we responded to the moment. Rather than focusing on new programs, we quietly delved deeper into how we deal with & treat the natural environment, and investigated where, from an organizational values perspective, Skowhegan fits into the larger world. But then I felt weird. Despite all of that, I felt like I was still measuring productivity by the metric of making something out of everything.

Part of why I was attracted to Skowhegan (and I have said this publicly before) is that one can get away with a lot when no one is looking. We have been working on a book about Skowhegan's history (also over these COVID years) and I think, in many ways and for many important reasons, our founders also felt this way, which makes me think that in its remoteness, its seclusion, Skowhegan itself—to the larger world at least—is always empty.

I think about what happened on our campus in Maine over the course of 2020 and 2021—the buildings we highlighted in the next pages of the journal were being constructed by Bill, his team, contractors, tradespeople: a new dining hall, a new dorm, a new studio building, the glorious Moffett-Gober Sculpture Pavilion that was made not through construction, but through destruction. The land itself was engaged in production: the meadows left wild in the absence of summer cows; the lake, the vernal pools, the new population of loons carefully monitored by volunteers not only to preserve the community but also as an indicator of lake health. The tiny ecosystems that are evident on a large scale but that which we barely acknowledge outside of an idea of nature—the birds, the butterflies, the mosquitos, the voles, the worms, the family of foxes who were emptying upper campus of any other kind of mammalian life—were all doing their work to create not just a site for Skowhegan but their biological mandates to sustain the world on our campus and beyond. This, too, is productivity on an otherwise empty campus.

And in the summer of 2021, we welcomed 53 alumni artists to our campus in a truly intergenerational gathering of artists from the classes of 1963 through 2017, age 27 to age 80. We were nervous about COVID; we didn't know what people were going to make; we didn't know how people would relate. Our staff team who had been working together for years understood how to enact and enable the program in a normal summer. But in the last days of June, just before the first group joined us on July 1, we weren't sure if we, as a team, would make sense to this new group, or would know how to anticipate and how to support them in the same way—would our jokes work?! This is another kind of emptiness, one where we couldn't quite envision what was about to happen.

Over the course of 6 weeks, secluded on those almost 400 acres, the two groups of alumni were both the same and completely different from a regular summer. There was work, lots of work; there was community,





friendships, intimate walks up and down the hill on the way to the new Dining Hall; there were projects that didn't quite work out and projects that were surprising in their success; there were things made that will never be seen or heard from again and other things that were made that will be remade and enter the world beyond the studio walls. That is some of the sameness. But what was different, what emerged in the space of emptiness offered by the new experiment was a new kind of questioning.

In a regular summer, there exists a kind of urgency to make the most of each summer that also somewhat just comes with the territory of being an emerging artist—a desire to fast forward towards the stability of success, to have things on their way or even resolved—to be outside the discomfort of not knowing, not being complete, not resolved. And as much as we work at remembering to be present when we are here, with our work, with the process of learning, with *patience*, there is still a lot of rushing that happens. It's thrilling, don't get me wrong, but the means are still somewhat focused on the end.

When each class leaves Skowhegan, we diligently return the campus to a state of blankness so that the next group can come in and create a community and experience of their own. But each group leaves its mark, oftentimes abstractly, but in a way that guides our thinking for years to come. The classes of 2021 have left behind a new consideration. Divided into two sessions, we were gifted a continuum of puzzling that feels central to questions of production, consumption, sustainability, but always possessed by an almost compulsive love.

How do you create something that IS a lifetime... something that understands that exuberance doesn't necessarily expend itself; that curiosity, and not a tightened kind of expertise, is what will always be needed to drive a practice; that the joy of making isn't a resource that is scarce or antithetical to ambition; how does one stay in the moment while leaving openness for what lies ahead? How do you build the confidence in your voice so that openness doesn't feel like the thing you are working to resolve, but actually becomes the job itself? How do urgency and presence live alongside each other?

In the days after the program, when the campus was once again slowly starting to empty out, I turned back to thinking about pacing; of making something out of everything, of teleology being one opposite of emptiness. By August, when the program ended, those meadows were lush with blooms that in 12 years I had never seen before. The animals began to return to their normal schedules and pathways that they avoid when all of the people are around. I thought again about the kind of productivity produced by nature that happens imperceptibly slowly and in privacy—one that doesn't necessarily ask for more than the joy and mystery of sustaining life and creation.

No one saw what happened in Maine over the course of those 6 weeks. No one sees what happens during any summer, and each summer is different so that leaves a void in understanding, but a unity of undefinable experience—a productivity that emerges from a different kind of impulse.

It is problematic to constantly define things in binary terms. But, for the sake of this note, emptiness is one opposite of fullness.









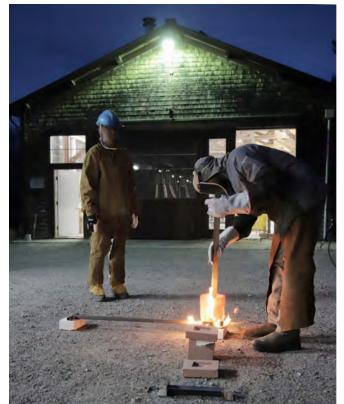






























































2021 Participants

Session A

Thai Bui (A '87)
Anne Burton (A '87)
Enise Carr (A '99)
Domingo Castillo (A '12)
Vladimir Cybil Charlier (A '93)
JoAnna Commandaros (A '91)
Annette Cyr (A '76)
Christopher DiRaddo (A '86)
Nicholas Fagan (A '15)
José Figueroa (A '09)
Pio Galbis (A '82)
Mookwon Han (A '08)
Royce Howes (A '74)
George Mansfield (A '90)
Michael O'Malley (A '98)
Walter O'Neill (A '74, F '90)

Cynthia Phillips (A '95) James Rose (A '96) Douglas Shippee (A '83) Sylvia Snowden (A '64) Katayoun Vaziri (A '10) Debra Vodhanel (A '79) Connie Walsh (A '96)

Session B

Kitty Alward (A '83) Sarah Anderson (A '12) Justin Bryant (A '17) Ernest Bryant III (A '05) Lili Chin (A '10) David Antonio Cruz (A '06) Robert Franca (A '72) Adam Frelin (A '02) N. Sean Glover (A '03) Diane Grams (A '80) Russell Hamilton (A '90) Erin Henry (A '15) Wayne Hodge (A '06) Liu Kincheloe (A '13) Becky Kinder (A '04) Lihua Lei (A '98)

Kathryn Lynch (A '91) Megan Marlatt (A '85) Al Peters (A '65) Wanda Raimundi-Ortiz (A '02) Jean Sausele-Knodt (A '83) Jef Scharf (A '00) Stephen Shanabrook (A '87) Shawn Thornton (A '02) Cynthia Underwood (A '99) Rosa Valado (A '89) Sandy Walker (A '63) Deborah Wasserman (A '97) Furong Zhang (A '89)

CAMPUS

Master Plan Update

During 2020, Skowhegan continued with several major building projects which were completed in time for the 2021 Summer Session.



Gund Dining Hall

From the outset of the Master Plan, a restoration of Skowhegan's iconic Dining Hall was a top priority. Along with the Fresco Barn, the Dining Hall is the only place on campus where the full community can gather, and mealtimes assume an essential role—not only providing sustenance and nourishment—but fostering community. The new building, a thoughtful and sensitive redesign by Board President Alan Wanzenberg and his associate Jeff Bird, is distinguished by locally sourced reclaimed wood floors, windows overlooking the lake, an open kitchen and improved food storage for what is largely locally sourced produce, pantry staples, and meat. A new industrial composter will further evolve our relationship to the food we eat, how it is prepared, and how it is disposed of to minimize waste. The Dining Hall was built by Bill Holmes, Ralph Drouin, Kevin Flanagan, Peter Jillson, and Ron Pinkham with local contractors BNF Building Contractor. Funds were made possible through a leadership gift from Ann and Graham Gund. Christened in summer 2021 by the alumni residents and program staff, we look forward to using this incredible new space for generations to come.



Gund Dining Hall

Opposite: View of the Gund Dining Hall at night.

Clockwise, top-bottom:
View from Wesserunsett
Lake; breakfast during the
2021 Summer Session; the
expanded kitchen and food
storage area.







David C. Driskell House

Designed by Alan Wanzenberg, the participant residence is a thoughtful, supportive building that will house up to 11 participants. Crucially, the new house frees up space in other living accommodations, enabling Skowhegan to eliminate all triples and tight doubles, and ensuring all participants have more privacy, better rest, and feel more supported in taking on challenging work and growth in the studio. The 8-bedroom residence was completed in time for the 2021 Summer Session.

The new house is named in honor of David C. Driskell, a defining figure at Skowhegan, who passed in April 2020. David manifested Skowhegan's possibility and impact. This vital project honors the expansiveness of his life, practice, and career, and recognizes his leadership in forging a path towards a more open art world. Naming a building after him on the historic campus—a place in which he spent so much time—is a fitting and well-deserved tribute to this extraordinary artist and teacher, and will vitalize David's legacy with future generations of young artists from across the country and around the globe.







David C. Driskell House

Opposite: View of the porch.

Clockwise, top-bottom: Hallway interior; upper level common space; overhead view of the main common space and living room area.

Photography by Michelle Rose Studio.

OFF CAMPUS PROGRAMS

Skowhegan Bird Club

Concurrent with the start of the second session of the Skowhegan Bird Club, organizers and members decided to take inventory of its inception and trajectory. What follows are excerpts from a larger discussion about the Club's impact on individual practices, outlooks, and everydayness, as well as hopes for the Club's future.



Pallavi Sen (A '17): Because we spend these relatively brief evenings together a couple of times a month, my hope was that through listening to somebody whose entire world is occupied by thinking about birds in different ways, that on leaving that evening and then waking up and living one's life, each of us would be more attuned to the world that we live in and experience it on a different layer. So that we can begin to notice the things which have been with us—but were invisible—and care more about the world around us, and not be an observer.

I'm not at all somebody who sees a bird and knows exactly about it. I may know it in Hindi and Bengali, but I don't know it in the English language, but I feel a lot less isolated, less alone, and also more joyful

hearing things as I'm walking. I suddenly hear birds and it pulls me out of whatever I'm worrying about or thinking about and feel like, "Oh, there are all these lifestyles and life forms happening around me."

Ash Ferlito (A '12): Similar to that, my life changed and changed for the better when I started really noticing birds. It's a completely grounding experience. When I traveled anywhere, the first thing I started to do was wonder who was around me. That's not how I had oriented myself before. So it was really like fresh eyes for the world.

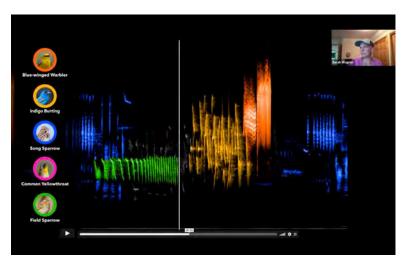
And the more I thought about it, there's all of these links to birding and birds and art. It's about seeing and looking. And the

birds themselves are these beautiful things that communicate and dance for one another, call to one another, perform for one another, and create sculptures in their nests. There's all these ways that we can appreciate as artists the world of birding and birds through the lens of the things that we know, and at the same time injecting this otherness about it that allows us to completely appreciate these things just on their own.

Having that personal gratification of starting to really look at birds, learn about them, and how they move through the world and what motivates them, I just wanted to share that experience and talk to other people that had similar experiences or guide other people that were feeling isolated to have some kind of experience that took them out of them out of their moment or out of their mind; like Pallavi said, to look at the world around us. It's such a cool opportunity to bond over that, and then invite these incredibly knowledgeable speakers with really interesting experiences to talk to us about it. I just think that level of information was both an opportunity for me to learn about what these people study and contribute, but also a really cool opportunity for these sciencebased researchers to talk to artists, and to give them a chance to reframe their work for a different audience. The feedback that I got after every lecture from the speakers that we invited was that people asked really great questions and questions that they've never gotten before. And, I think that's kind of thrilling.

Gail Spaien (A '86): I'm usually a black box when I come to things because I paint when I listen to these meetings. I have to say, you guys have done an amazing job. The people that you've invited and the science-art-sharing curriculum has been really awesome. The people from Cornell Ornithology have blown my mind: like that guy goes and looks for nests in these wild places and that's his job—I was jealous. I was like, I want to do that. So I want to thank you. That Skowhegan has a Bird Club was like, "Oh, that sounds like something I want to hear about." But I had no idea what it was.

Binda Colebrook (A '94): When I got the email about





Screenshots from Bird Club meetings: *Bird Song Share* with **Sarah Wagner** (A '05) (top); *Ink Dwell Studios* with **Jane Kim**.

the Skowhegan Bird Club I was working on a piece called the *Hemlock Disappearing Act* which looked at the demise of the Hemlock and the subsequent effect on species that rely on the Hemlock forest habitat, including a lot of species of birds. I was making detailed gouache paintings of those birds and was totally amazed by their shapes, feather patterns and colors. There is nothing like looking at something up close and in detail to wake you up to something that was there all along. I have loved learning how to be a birder, and all the fascinating research on birds. Since then, new binoculars in hand, and the various birding apps on my phone, I have added a whole new dimension to going out into the landscape.

Gail: I think of birds as animals that make me aware that I'm part of the animal kingdom, because they're with me. And last year, during COVID, I spent the year on an island where my studio was on the level of the height of the trees. I don't know if you noticed, but the bird situation during COVID was crazy. Like, it was more than I had ever seen. Because I was on the level of the birds, it was just stunning to me. I tape recorded them—I don't usually—I videotape them. This is kind of a research, the nest, and the bird song. The illustrator, the woman that talked about the placement of the birds eyes a little bit back on the head, those bits of information add to whatever I end up talking about in relation to any body of work that I'm working on.

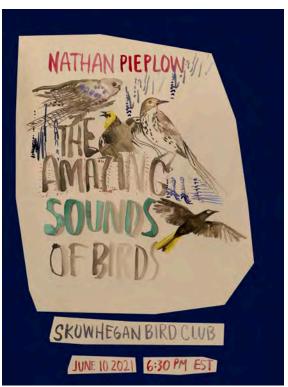
The other thing is, this is a very heartful group. It's poetic and heartful, and scientific and caring. It's just very refreshing and grounding. So you say you find birds grounding. So do I. And that's a joke, right?

Krista Caballero (A '09): I think, as an alum, Skowhegan was such an incredible experience. It was also a complicated experience for me because I found out that my mom had a brain tumor during it. So I had to go back and forth. And, and so for me, actually, my experience at Skowhegan ended up being much more about the people, the support, and what artists as a community can do for each other. Since then, I don't know how to say this, but if you don't have a lot of money—how do you stay involved with Skowhegan? And this has been such a really meaningful way.

My artwork is very rooted for many, many years in birds, so for me this was just such a wonderful way of being able to connect with this incredible community of artists that during my time at Skowhegan was also so supportive. How do you continue that again, afterwards? For me, that's what's been so important. I think that these moments are what makes Skowhegan









so beautiful. The speakers have been fantastic. Absolutely. But I would say it's more like artists coming together on a shared theme and being in dialogue together that has been really important. For me and my artwork, I'm always thinking about how birds are always connecting, right? Us, right? Because one culture or country knows their life cycle at a particular moment, or a particular season, and another country and people in that location though, might know about a bird at a different moment of their life cycle. And in that way, it connects us in all these beautiful ways. So this is such a poetic way of actually reconnecting.

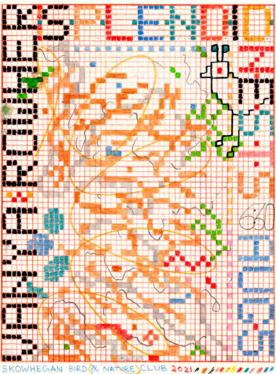
Ash: Oh, totally. The metaphors are so rich—migration and the movement of people, and the movement of animals. So many ways to think about all the things that are often overwhelming when we confront them in the news, but somehow, through birds, we're able to access those parts of ourselves and feel like there's another way to discuss them or connect with important ideas.

Krista: Yeah, and across discipline, right? Because, I found that to be so true. It's like people across generations and disciplines are really interested in birds and, obviously, the speakers you're bringing are an example of this art science connection. As somebody who's really interested in situating the arts outside of just the arts, these kinds of moments are also so beautiful and important.

Mookwon Han (A '08, '21): I am currently in Seoul for an art project, at the south edge of Gangnam. There is a U.S. military airport right next to a wide stream and bike path on my way to the office. This wetland and small river go into the Han River, looking like the Hudson River. A gas power plant and sewage treatment plant are located in the wetlands, like Randall's Island. These plants make warmer water and grow more bacterias in this small shallow stream, and people cannot do anything around the U.S. air base. So, countless insects and birds including Oriental White Stork—on the crisis of extinction—and the Siberian Peregrine Falcon live here, beautifully. But ironically, I could hear the endless 'fireworks' sound from "Airport Bird Control" every time I pass through there. Birds love the wetland, and airplanes cannot fly safely in birds' paradise.

My hometown, Gyeongju, was the source of the Met exhibition *Golden Kingdom: Silla* in 2013-14, which included many tombs. Similarly, "Junshi", "bury alive with dead", "sutteeism" and Egyptian ancient people believed that they ride a bird to go to heaven after









death. Birds are the connector between land and sky, and life and death. It was my starting point for bird research. I like to study the philosophical meaning of birds as much as the Bird Club lectures on ornithology.

Since Bird Club, I've spent more time on my bicycle. I witnessed birds hunting, such as a hawk hunting a pigeon in Central Park, and a crow hunting a pigeon around this wetland. I watched a hawk chase a magpie intensely. The hawk failed and sat on a tree and then more than 20 magpies and crows sat together right next to this predator. Birds are not scared of killer or death. Likely, a dying love... Nature is interesting!

Speakers (Session 1)

Intro/How-To with Ash & Pallavi April 29, 2021 Ash Ferlito (A '12) & Pallavi Sen (A '17)

Color, Material, and Emotion in Birds May 13, 2021 Dr. Dakota McCoy

Show & Tell May 28, 2021 Skowhegan Bird Club

The Amazing Sounds of Birds June 10, 2021 Nathan Pieplow

Bird Song Share June 24, 2021 Sarah Wagner (A '05)

Searching for Lost Birds July 8, 2021 John Mittermier

Show + Tell Recommendations Edition July 22, 2021 Rachel Frank (A '05)

Splendid Nests August 5, 2021 Vanya Gregor Rohwer

Ink Dwell Studios September 2, 2021 Jane Kim

To join or learn more about the Skowhegan Bird Club, visit: skowheganbird.club.

Follow on Instagram @skowheganbirdclub.





Screenshots from Bird Club meetings: *The Amazing Sounds of Birds* with **Nathan Pieplow**; *Splendid Nests* with **Vanya Gregor Rohwer**.

Bird Club Posters featured on pages 14, 16-18 are by Pallavi Sen (A '17).

Reflection

Katie Sonnenborn, Co-Director

Dear friends,

I have likened 2020 to an unplanned institutional sabbatical. With only one interruption, in 1962, Skowhegan operated on a cyclical certainty that crescendoed between June and August when a new group of artists assembled together on campus for their singular summer. The pandemic upended our normal rhythm of programming; a forced pivot that created space to enact priorities that will have a lasting impact at Skowhegan. We turned this into an opportunity to work on critical campus buildings and a major publication on Skowhegan's history and impact (forthcoming), all of which was spurred on by an anticipated impending endpoint to Covid (vaccines! a return to normalcy!) and inspired an urgency to our work throughout that first calendar year.

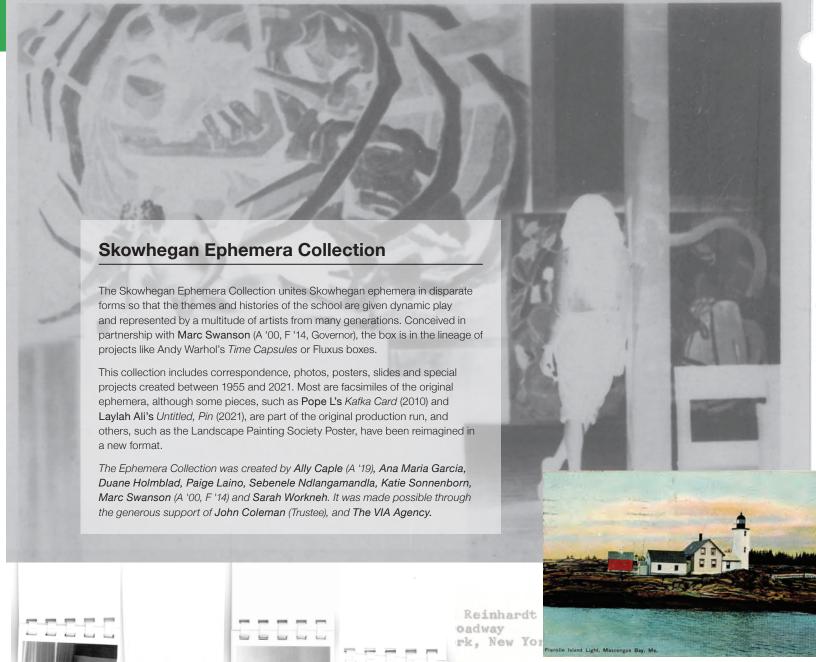
All of which made 2021 that much more complicated. Covid did not end; in fact, its complexity, challenges and contradictions only deepened. And Skowhegan hit a milestone—the 75th Anniversary—which we had been working towards for years and imagined celebrating in very specific kinds of ways (e.g., a very <u>large</u> party).

Our response was, in a word, very Skowhegan. Working in dialogue with Governors, Trustees, staff, and alumni, and guided by our mission and sense of purpose, we devised a year unlike any other. As you'll see in the pages herein, we turned our campus over to alumni for two intergenerational limited-capacity residences that united artists from the classes of 1963 to 2017. The Alumni sessions were not meant to replicate or reproduce their previous summer experiences, but to instead offer the time and space for an intergenerational group to advance, expand, or reconnect to their practices by returning to Skowhegan for a few weeks.

We hosted the 75th celebration in parts, perhaps more reflective of the disparate but united nature of Skowhegan on campus, including: a vibrant Block Party outside our New York space with contributions from 48 alumni; an ephemera box, inspired by Fluxus boxes and time capsules; alumni class reunions over Zoom; council visits to exhibitions and studios; and intimate 75 Salons co-hosted by alumni, faculty and Board members. We launched a microsite to mark the Anniversary and shared an ever-growing collection of video reflections from alumni and faculty. And the 75th Anniversary Alumni Challenge was a \$75,000 joint effort issued by several alumni and a Trustee, to galvanize support and participation. Indeed, it did just that—398 contributors, a 27% increase from previous years—demonstrating the collective commitment we share for Skowhegan. The festivities will culminate this April, when we salute longtime board chair Ann L. Gund for her peerless leadership since 1979.

This fluid and expansive response was possible because the past 5 years have been building capacity in the service of our program through the Master Plan, the strength of our alumni community, and the 75th Anniversary Campaign. In 2021, the iterative impact of this work matured, and we witnessed its compounding, positive effects—maintaining the campus at its core, while engaging more fully with our community through activities, events, and programs.

In the year ahead, we will continue with the Master Plan and develop a Flex Space to support artists working in performance, dance, sound and other non-object based practices. A pollinator garden is in the works, as is a second year of Bird Club. The Alumni Alliance is working on a series of exhibitions organized for the New York Space this summer, and we are planning for the 50th Skowhegan Awards Dinner in October. It will be a full year and the highpoint, surely, will be the return to campus and a new class of participants. Skowhegan's magic comes from the assembled artists and the energy and community they will build together, and after two years deferred, we need it more than ever.









6

ts are still talking about how stimulated and ed they were by your lecture, the seminar and g with you.

ir behalf in particular, as well as on behalf faculty, Bill Cummings and myself, I send

closed is no more than a token of our thanks.

e all delighted that you grought your charmin wife and daughter with you and thus we had a chance to meet.

75th Anniversary Block Party

Held in front of Skowhegan's New York space on October 9, 2021, the outdoor festival, organized by the Alumni Alliance and Skowhegan Council, celebrated Skowhegan's expansive artistic community. The afternoon-long event featured work by over 40 participating alumni artists.

Dear Block Party Artists,

I spend a lot of time at my job thinking about what it means to be part of "The Skowhegan Community": I've never attended Skowhegan as a participant, so fundamentally there is always going to be a disconnect between my experience with the school and each of yours. I like to think, though, that in a funny way, that disconnect is inherent to this collection of artists and humans we call "The Skowhegan Community"—each year is different, each experience is different, but everyone in some way is able to draw from Skowhegan and build upon it, beyond their time on campus.

This is to say, whatever the "The Skowhegan Community" is, it was certainly present at the Block Party. The performances, installations and even the pins provided a cadence for the event that fostered interactions for those present, and the flags, the photo backdrops, the poster and zine were critical in creating a visual atmosphere that spanned both alumni years and geography. Without exaggeration, I think I had at least one conversation about every single piece present.

Every part was crucial. Your work was integral to the celebration—I cannot thank you enough.

- Paige Laino, *Alumni Coordinator*













Opposite: Guests attending the Block Party on West 22nd Street in New York City; Guests playing with kg (A '17) Badminton Set installation.

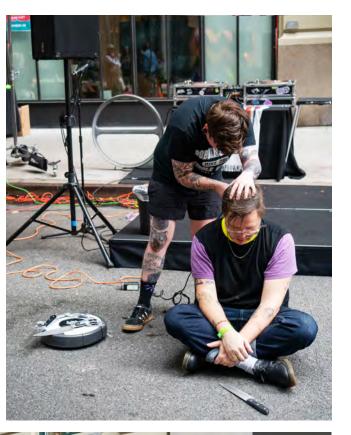
Clockwise, top: Flag installation featuring artwork by (I-r) Birgit Rathsmann (A '04), Brian Alfred (A '99), Michelle Hauser (A '81), Perry Meigs (A '98), Jonathan Ehrenberg (A '11); Block Party on West 22nd Street in New York City; Michele Brody (A '96) and guest during Reflections in Tea performance; DJ set by Barrio Collective.

Photography by Gia Sergovich.

Participating Artists

Brian Alfred (A '99) Laylah Ali (A '93) Nobutaka Aozaki (A '15) Barrio Collective Black Lunch Table Michele Brody (A '96) Lauren Cohen (A '10) Jonathan Ehrenberg (A '11) Linda Ford (A '02) Rachel Frank (A '05) Helen Glazer (A '75) kg (A '17) Baris Gokturk (A '16) Michelle Hauser (A '81) Sarah Haviland (A '85) Maya Hayuk (A '11) and Joseph Choma Anthropussy (Eli Hill (A '19)) Wayne Hodge (A '06, '21) Jack Hogan (A '19) Sarah Hotchkiss (A '10) Tim Hutchings (A '96) Frank Hyder (A '73) Gary Jameson (A '72) Jim Leach (A '15) Juliet Karelsen (A '96) Liu Kincheloe (A '13, '21)

Anna Kunz (A '09) Megan Marlatt (A '85, '21) Kabir Ahmed Masum Chisty (A '15) Jennifer McCandless (A '95) Perry Meigs (A '98) Tracy Miller (A '92) Paolo Morales (A 15) Simonetta Moro (A '03) Alicia Paz (A '98) Lily Prince (A '91) Birgit Rathsmann (A '04) Gabriela Salazar (A '11) Vabianna Santos (A '13) Finn Schult (A '17) and Tommy Coleman Jessica Segall (A '10) Pallavi Sen (A '17) Kuldeep Singh (A '14) Edra Soto (A '00) Fabian Tabibian (A '10) Tricia Townes (A '98) Xander Wrencher (A '18) Furong Zhang (A '98, '21)







Clockwise, top: Finn Schult (A '17) and Tommy Coleman during their Doomba performance; Flag installation featuring artwork by (I-r) Gary Jameson (A '72), Rachel Frank (A '05), Gabriela Salazar (A '11), Jennifer McCandless (A '95), Paolo Morales (A '15), Juliet Karelsen (A '96); Maya Hayuk (A '11) and Kyle Maxey in front of a photo backdrop by Maya Hayuk and Joseph Choma.

Photography by Gia Sergovich.









Clockwise, top: Guests (top, I-r) Desmond Lewis (A '18), John Hulsey (A '18), Jack Wood (A '18), Rebecca Shippee (A '18), Monty Hardy, Abbey Williams (A '04), Dave Hardy (A '04, F '18), (bottom, I-r) Bradley Marshall (A '18), Adam Milner (A '18), Asif Mian (A '18) in front of a photo backdrop by Vabianna Santos (A '13); Anthropussy (Eli Hill (A '19)) performing You Must Destroy It; Co-Directors (I-r) Sarah Workneh and Katie Sonnenborn; (I-r) Smiley Bag Portrait by Nobutaka Aozaki (A '15) with Kay Hickman.

Photography by Gia Sergovich.

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Ross Bleckner (A '70, F '90) giving a studio tour during Skowhegan 75 Salon: Fast Hampton.

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memory of John Button

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Kamron Hazel (A '19)

Carol Hendrickson (A '71)

Nan Niland





Presentation during the Wesserunsett Lake Watershed Conservation Plan in Maine; (I-r) Derrick Adams (A '02, F '13), Paul Pfeiffer (F '05, '10, '16), Lucy Fradkin, and Arthur Simms (A '85, F '10) during Skowhegan 75 Salon: Brooklyn in New York City.

Shelley Herman (A '66), in memory Nils Karsten (A '02) of Marcia Green Gardere Mindi Katzman (A '84) Jason Herrick & Lindsay Smith, Lori & Stephen Kaufman / in honor of Katie Sonnenborn Loraine Kaufman Foundation Chake Kavookjian Higgison (A '77) Elizabeth Keller (A '77) Hana Hillerova (A '05) Timothy F Kennedy (A '79 '80) Hallie S. Hobson Gwendolyn Kerber (A '79) Wavne Hodge (A '06, '21) Water Kerner (A '83) Terry Holleman (A '65), in memory Baseera Khan (A '14) of John Fastman Jim Kielkonf (A '64) Clovice Holt Patrick Killoran (A '98) Susan Homer (A '93) Kyle Kilty (A '02) Peter Hoss (A '70) Lucy Soyeon Kim (A '05) Sarah Hotchkiss (A '10) Irene Kim Royce Howes (A '74, '21) Liu Kincheloe (A '13, '21) Shara Hughes (A '11) Becky Kinder (A '04, '21) Carole Hunt, in honor of Patricia A. Kirshner (A '78) Stenhanie Hunt David Knoehel (A '72) Edwina Hunt Anny Koffler, in honor of Ginny Huo (A '15) Robert S. Koffler (A '58) Vera Iliatova (A '04) Mo Kona (A '17) Sareh Imani (A '18) Harriet Korman (A '68) Michael L. Jackson (A '79), in Joyce Kozloff (F '98) & Max Kozloff memory of Robert Wilbert Melanie Kozol (A '80) Diana Jensen (A '92) Ai-Wen J. Kratz (A '67) Kyung Jeon-Miranda (A '03) Ron Krouk (A '77) Lois Johnson (A '96) Julia Kunin (A '84) Joan Jonas (F '06) Barbara Landreth Jules Jones (A '11), in memory of Wendy F. Lang (A '54, '55, '56) Charlie Jones Heidi Lange[^] Mary Judge (A '74) Anna Chiaretta Lavatelli (A '10) Neil Kalmanson (A '65) Annette Lawrence (A '96) Kari Kaplan Rives (A '82) Peter O. Lawson-Johnston

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of Alyssa Robbins

Leslie Roberts (A '86)

Marrin Robinson (A '86)

Norman Robinson

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Leonard Suryajaya (A '17) Rebecca Suss (A '13) Jane Sutherland (A '61) Marc Swanson (A '00, F '14) Julianne Swartz (A '99, F '08) Monika Sziladi (A '08) Fabian Tabibian (A '10) Michael Tcheyan (A '72) Harrison Tenzer Niels Thorsen (A '03) Elizabeth Tinsman, in honor of Kate Haw Sarah Tortora (A '13) Gretchen Treitz-Brown, in memory of Stephen Brown Nicole Tschampel (A '01) Tomoe Tsutsumi (A '10) Nancy Kay Turner (A '66) John Udvardy (A '57, '21) Cynthia Underwood (A '99, '21) Josue Urbina (A '07) Louisa Van Leer (A '06) Jonathan VanDyke (A '08) Katayoun Vaziri (A '10, '21) Meridith Pingree (A '03) & Kai Vierstra (A '05) William Villalongo (A '02) Debra Vodhanel (A '79, '21) Jasmine Wahi Sandy Walker (A '63, '21) Maria K. Walker (A '11) Connie Walsh (A '96, '21) Colin Thomson (A '74) Margaret Wang Brooke Wanzenberg, in honor of Alan Wanzenberg Estate of Laurence Warshaw (A '57, '58) Cullen B. Washington Jr. (A '10) Marie Watt (A '95) Patrick Webb (A '77)



Whitfield Lovell (A '85, F '01, '02, '05), Katie Sonnenborn and guests during a discussion and exhibition walkthrough of Whitfield Lovell: Le Rouge et Le Noir at DC Moore Gallery in New York City.

Allison Freedman Weisberg & Peter Barker-Huelster. in honor of Sarah Workneh and Katie Sonnenborn Roger White (A '05) Steven White Franklin White (A '66) Scott Patrick Wiener (A '10) Allison Wiese (A '99) Brittney Leeanne Williams (A '17) Abbey Williams (A '04) & Dave Hardy (A '04, F '18) Wayne F. Williams (A '56, 57), in memory of Willard Cummings Marisa Williamson (A '12) Joannah C. Wilmerding (A '59) Matthew C. Wilson (A '10) Carmen Winant (A '10) Bennett Wine (A '12) Gerald Wolfe (A '74) Eileen Woods (A '99) Katie Wynne (A '11)

Ellen Xu (A '16) Lynne Yamamoto (A '96) Zhiyuan Yang (A '17) Gordon K. Yee (A '61) Andy Yoder (A '81) Jennifer Zackin (A '98) Paola Zanzo Arjan Zazueta (A '02) Brian Zegeer (A '10), in memory of Noah Klersfeld (A '03) Mary Zehngut (A '83) Furong Zhang (A '89, '21) Hong Zhang (A '03) Nadia Zilkha Barbara Zucker (F '84, '87), in memory of Stella Chasteen

ENDOWED Alex Katz Sholarship **SCHOLARSHIP** Milton & Sally Avery Endowed Scholarship Scholarship

Bingham Scholarship Brown Endowed Scholarship Camille Cosby Scholarship Cummings Endowed Scholarship Drevfus Endowed Scholarship Donald and Doris Fisher Scholarship

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W & M Zorach Scholarship

* In memory of David Beitzel (A '82)

^ In memory of David C. Driskell (A '53, F '76, '78, '04, '91)

° In honor of Ann Gund

" In memory The Elms

THE ELMS

The Elms was established in honor of Skowhegan's 75th Anniversary to recognize artists, individuals, and families who choose to provide for Skowhegan's future by including the school in their estate plans. Skowhegan gratefully acknowledges the following donors.

Emma Amos (F '86, '97, '06) Mildred C. Brinn Susan Paul Firestone (A '72)

Robert Flynt (A '74, '76) Rae and Robert Gilson Gail S. Hollenbeck (A '66)

For more information, please contact Cerrie Bamford, cbamford@skowheganart.org or visit: skowheganart.org/planned-giving.

Artist Editions

We released four new artist editions contributed by Derrick Adams, Diana Al-Hadid, Christina Quarles, and Rodrigo Valenzuela in 2020 and 2021.









Rodrigo Valenzuela (A '13), Afterwork #2, 2021, photopolymer gravure on Arches En-Tout-Cas, 22 x 25 1/2 inches. Printed by Jniversal Limited Art Editions (ULAE). / Christina Quarles (A '16), Magic Hour, 2016/2021 digital archival print on Moab Entrada, 28 x 22 inches. Produced in partnership with Artspace & Phaidon. / Diana Al-Hadid (A '07), Hindsight, 2020, hand-drawn ball grain plate lithograph on Essex paper, triptych (overall): 38 x 70 inches, / Derrick Adams (A '02, F '13), This Could All Be Yours, 2020, inkjet and 6 color screen print on paper, 19 1/2 x 28 7/8 inches. Printed by the Lower Fast Side Printshop

Alumni Reunions

Shortly after the onset of the pandemic and the reality of isolation set in. it became clear that Skowhegan had to rethink community programming—particularly in its approach to celebrating the alumni community on the occasion of Skowhegan's 75th Anniversary. The result has been alumni-led and organized class reunions over Zoom.

Class reunions are still ongoing, and more information or ways to participate can be found by visiting the link. 75.skowheganart.org/alumniprograms.

Reunions that have taken place so far:

Class of 1966 | April 10, 2021

Class of 1986 | April 20, 2021

Class of 1976 | April 20, 2021

Class of 2014 | May 8, 2021

Class of 1996 | June 18, 2021

Class of 2016 | July 1, 2021

Class of 2018 | July 1, 2021

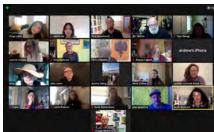
Class of 2017 | August 16, 2021

Class of 2003 | September 12, 2021









Thank You, Waneeta!



Waneeta with her daughter Alisha Rose during a reception on campus

Waneeta began her time at Skowhegan in the summer of 2000. Since then, she has nourished an astonishing 1,300 participants, 220 faculty, countless members of the Skowhegan team, and accommodated just as many dietary needs (no small feat). For a number of years, Waneeta's children Jake and Alisha Rose spent the summers with her on campus, and the whole Farquhar-Marquis family helped set the tone in creating a space where life and art-making are one.

As the gracious host to Skowhegan's legendary Red Farm Dinners and yearly Trustees' and Governors' Weekends as well as countless BBQs and Lakeside brunches, equipped with her grandmother's much beloved recipe for Irish Soda Bread and her knack for classic comfort food, Waneeta ensured the whole school had the sustenance to remain energized in the studio.

Waneeta also led the charge in preparing the housing for all staff, participants and faculty to offer a comfortable welcome to campus. Her hilarious Orientation speech on maintaining hygiene and avoiding the infamous duck itch was legendary, as is her good humor and openness to all who gathered in Maine.

At the close of each summer during the annual lobster dinner, Waneeta would send the class off with the adage "make art and prosper." We thank her for her care and wish her. Franz, Jake and Alisha Rose the best in the next chapters of their lives!

In Memoriam

We regret the passing of these friends from the Skowhegan community.

Siah Armajani (F '92) b. 1939; d. August 27, 2020

John Baldessari (F '93) b. 1931; d. January 2, 2020

Ashlev Bryan (A '46, '56) b. 1923; d. February 4, 2022 Barrie Cook (A '50, '52) b. 1929; d. July 13, 2020

Calvin Douglass (A '54) b. 1931; d. October 26, 2021

Louise Fishman (F '12) b. 1939; d. July 26, 2021 Gail Stetson Hollenbeck (A '66) b. 1942; d. June 11, 2020

Shoichi Kajima (A '55) b. 1930: d. November 4, 2020

Claire Ames Leven (A '52) b. 1931; d. February 5, 2021

James McGarrell (A '53, F '64, '68) Jack Youngerman (F '75) b. 1930; d. February 7, 2020 b. 1926; d. February 19, 2020

Susan Rothenberg (F '80) b. 1945; d. May 18, 2020

Raoul Middleman (A '60)

b. 1935; d. October 29, 2021

Ashley Bryan

(1923 - 2022)

Alumnus: 1946, 1956

Ashley Bryan arrived at Skowhegan in 1946. Like many of his peers, he had come from service in World War II and used the GI Bill to attend the summer session. It was his first time in Maine and he visited Acadia National Park and viewed the Cranberry Isles, which would become his permanent home. Ashley returned to Skowhegan in 1956 when he won a national juried competition to create a fresco for the South Solon Meeting House. As he reflected in an Oral History with Liza Zapol in 2012:

I have no sense of things being formal at Skowhegan. Things flowed in a very natural way, a very open way. That opened up the possibility of friendships, relationships, of talking to each other, picking up on things from one another, and so it was a kind of like a little idyll, an ideal kind of time, of being together with others with what you loved to do, and giving all your time to just that and whatever relations were founded then.



Bryan working in the South Solon Meeting House, summer 1956.

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Lists as of December 1, 2021

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SKOWHEGAN

/ SKOWHEGAN SCHOOL OF PAINTING & SCULPTURE
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WWW.SKOWHEGANART.ORG

Established in 1946 by artists, for artists, Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture is one of the country's foremost educational experiences for emerging visual artists. Skowhegan's nine-week intensive summer program seeks to bring together a diverse group of individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to artmaking and inquiry, creating the most stimulating and rigorous environment possible for a concentrated period of artistic creation, interaction, and growth. Located on a historic farm in rural Maine, the campus serves as a critical component of the program. Fundamental to Skowhegan's pedagogy is an understanding that a multitude of voices, disciplines, experiences, ethnicities, identities, physicalities, and economies is critical to advancing the conversation about art. We do not consider financial ability or circumstances during our admissions process. Still governed by artists today, the program provides an atmosphere in which participants are encouraged to work in contrast to market or academic expectations.

2022 Session

June 11-August 13

Resident Faculty

Abigail DeVille (A '07) Kota Ezawa Gordon Hall (A '13) Suzanne McClelland (F '99) Kukuli Velarde **Visiting Faculty**

To be announced at a later date.