

THE BRONX MUSEUM

WORKING KNOWLEDGE: *Shared Imaginings, New Futures*

An Exhibition of Interactive Projects by Acclaimed Social-Practice Artists
A Visions2030 Project

Curated by Vera Petukhova

Opened April 11, 2025; Extended Through August 17, 2025



Melanie Hoff, *Dance Poem Revolution*, 2024. Courtesy of the artist.

(The Bronx, NY – November 19, 2024) – The Bronx Museum of the Arts is delighted to announce *WORKING KNOWLEDGE: Shared Imaginings, New Futures*, a Visions2030 project. Opening spring 2025, *WORKING KNOWLEDGE*, features diverse projects by eleven prominent social-practice artists/collectives. The exhibition seeks to create resources and drive positive change at a grassroots level by inviting visitors to interact with artist-designed tools and systems that foster community building, cultural exchange, and creative problem-solving. The aims of *WORKING KNOWLEDGE* align with The Bronx Museum's mission to engage audiences in the South Bronx and beyond in empowering contemporary art experiences. *WORKING KNOWLEDGE* is guest curated by Vera Petukhova. **Visions2030** is a cross-disciplinary organization dedicated to creating opportunities for people to imagine and work towards a bright collective future.

The exhibiting artists/collectives are **Ari Melenciano; Azikiwe Mohammed; Black Quantum Futurism; Kite & Alisha Wormsley; Lynne Yun** (Typeface Electives); **Mary Mattingly; Melanie Hoff; Stephanie Dinkins; Zainab Aliyu, American Artist**, and the **School For Poetic Computation**. Each artist/collective has a unique creative approach to audience engagement.

For example, **Lynne Yun**—a typeface designer and educator—is collaborating with high school students participating in The Bronx Museum’s Teen Council program to create a new typeface inspired by the everyday visual landscape of The Bronx, including signage and street art. The completed typeface will be used as the title treatment for *WORKING KNOWLEDGE* and inform the overall visual identity of the exhibition. The Teen Council will also produce a limited-edition risograph-printed zine featuring the new typeface.

Another exhibiting artist, **Stephanie Dinkins**, regularly combines learning with technologies in her creative practice. For *WORKING KNOWLEDGE*, Dinkins will build a chatbot that culls information from the communities around the Museum and learns from its interactions with visitors throughout the exhibition.

Mary Mattingly creates hand-made or nature-based systems in pursuit of a more sustainable future. At The Bronx Museum, she will devise an interactive, living ecosystem featuring plants that she imagines will thrive in The Bronx as the ecological landscape changes. The installation will be accompanied by a resource map for foraging edible plants from neighborhoods in the borough.

Similarly, **Azikiwe Mohammed** uses themes of food and sustainability as tools for world-building and considering speculative futures. He creates vibrant room-like installations that reference the aesthetics of the Black home to create safe, welcoming spaces for ideation. For *WORKING KNOWLEDGE*, Mohammed’s project pays tribute to the food systems of urban environments by drawing inspiration from sidewalk fruit stands. Grounded in the logic of “you can’t think if you can’t eat,” the work demonstrates how nourishing the body is essential to activating the mind.

Collectively, the artists participating in *WORKING KNOWLEDGE* are united by their efforts to cultivate community, learning, and creativity in pursuit of positive growth toward a bright future.

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About The Bronx Museum:

For over five decades, The Bronx Museum has been a vanguard of cultural diversity and accessibility in the contemporary art world. The Museum offers 100% free admission for everyone to all its exhibitions and programs, providing a vital creative outlet to the public. Through its curatorial practices, including a permanent collection, the Museum seeks to champion and promote artists who have been systemically and historically marginalized. The history and culture of The Bronx are a never-ending source of inspiration for the Museum, and its programs are designed to facilitate meaningful engagement with the people of the borough while also attracting visitors from all over New York City and the world. The Bronx Museum is a leader in the cultural sphere with its unwavering commitment to access, dedication to platforming underrepresented artists, and dynamic community-engaged programming.

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