



CONVERSATIONS

NATIONAL ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

# ART EDUCATOR AS ARTIST

TUESDAY, JUNE 8 | 7-8 PM ET

View panelist bios, conversation recordings, and more at [www.arteducators.org/community/town-hall](http://www.arteducators.org/community/town-hall)

**We know you are likely immersed daily in artmaking with your learners, but can we help you tend to your own practice?** Connect with a variety of art educators who have found ways to honor their own artmaking as well as create unique experiences for their communities through projects and workshops. And it's perfect timing, as we prepare for summer and look forward to picking up our own tools and dedicating some quality time to making, creating, and expressing!



**Michelle Angela Ortiz**

Visual Artist  
Philadelphia, PA



**Cheryl Pope**

Artist and Adjunct Full Professor  
School of the Art Institute Chicago  
Chicago, IL

## TIPS FOR ART EDUCATORS

Ask yourself these questions:

- How can art be a tool for social change and amplify stories of communities often not seen or heard?
- How can public art transform spaces to be a visual platform for the community to reimagine their future?
- How is art a tool for representation, community pride, preserving history, and changing minds?

## GO-TO SUPPORT RESOURCES

- I look toward organizers and activists doing the work on the ground.
- I rely on the expertise of the communities I work with on the best ways to advocate for them.
- I look to other artists that are in line with my values on how to do this work in communities.

## SELF-CARE SHARE

I build a team that can support the work so I am not doing all the heavy lifting. I spend time with my family who ground me and remind me that life is more than work. I pray, meditate, and carve out time for myself.

## TIPS FOR ART EDUCATORS

- Change your garment or shoes, something in your physical attire to transition into identity as maker.
- Recognize rules you have made in your process and challenge them.
- Give yourself 3 materials, 3 rules, and 3 hours to make something.

## GO-TO SUPPORT RESOURCES

- Art21
- Essays in art books
- Museums
- Social media

## SELF-CARE SHARE

- Exercise
- Fresh flowers weekly
- Glass of wine
- Silent Sundays: 3 hours on the couch, no phone, no screen



### James Rees

Artist, Researcher, Educator  
Provo High School  
Provo, UT

## TIPS FOR ART EDUCATORS

- Accept the place and time that you're found in. Begin where you are as a creative.
- First make work, then analyze afterward.
- Find your tribe! Everyone needs a support group to encourage artmaking.

## GO-TO SUPPORT RESOURCES

- For a sense of community: Find artists who want to regularly connect.
- For a web presence: [www.squarespace.com](http://www.squarespace.com).
- For stretching your thoughts: [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com).

## SELF-CARE SHARE

I've found a daily bike ride in the mountains not only provides a boost of endorphins but clears my head and provides mindful moments. Taking time each day to be alone with my thoughts has been invaluable.



### Marissa Reyes

Chief Learning and Engagement Officer  
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art  
Bentonville, AR

## TIPS FOR ART EDUCATORS

As we emerge from the pandemic and continue to reckon with social justice, it may seem like such a daunting thing to imagine a return to "normalcy." How do we reactivate our inner artist after such a traumatic year? I take comfort from the words of the great educator, Grace Lee Boggs, whose advice seems appropriate to the topic. "Do something local. Do something real, however small."

## GO-TO SUPPORT RESOURCES

I'd like to answer this question a little differently by naming the city of Chicago as a great resource for innovative and compelling models for art education. Having lived and worked in the city for decades, I have had the great fortune of learning from so many wonderful organizations and cultural institutions who think deeply about this topic and who do a phenomenal job of supporting art educators. Here are just a few:

- Urban Gateways
- Center for Arts Education
- Marwen
- Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Chicago
- Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education (CAPE)
- Hyde Park Art Center

## SELF-CARE SHARE

Nature sustains me. In the midst of the pandemic, watching the sunset or walking in the woods can be enough to get me through the week.

Find out more about NAEA Town Hall Conversations at [www.arteducators.org/community/town-hall](http://www.arteducators.org/community/town-hall)

Online Professional Learning for Art Educators and FREE for NAEA Members! Convenient, relevant webinars to support your learning needs.



Professional Learning

## WEBINARS

[virtual.arteducators.org](http://virtual.arteducators.org)

Art educators worldwide are asking important questions and sharing ideas on Collaborate, NAEA's 24/7 online community!

## COLLABORATE

inspire and be inspired

[collaborate.arteducators.org](http://collaborate.arteducators.org)

Not an NAEA Member? Join your vibrant professional community for support, resources, opportunities, and inspiration!



[www.arteducators.org](http://www.arteducators.org)

The NAEA Remote Learning Toolkit is a repository of resources to help visual arts educators navigate the changing education landscape.



[www.arteducators.org](http://www.arteducators.org)