Art & Social Engagement Project at Emory University

Purpose
The purpose of the Art & Social Engagement Project is to engage the Emory University student body with Atlanta non-profits as co-creators of thought-provoking collaborative art projects designed to address important social issues in Atlanta based on proposals by Artist Facilitators.

The production process should involve all participants in a meaningful way - invoking critical thinking and reflection about social issues. The finished project should also communicate a critical and creative outlook about social issues facing Atlanta, should increase awareness about said issues, and catalyze action toward making positive change to address those issues.

Students invited to apply
We welcome applications from students across Emory College and the graduate and professional schools. Students need not have demonstrated artistic skills or abilities but must demonstrate a commitment to public engagement with pressing social and political issues, community-building, and the ability to work well in teams.

We will select 9-12 students to work with three (3) Atlanta-area artists, chosen on a competitive basis, to create public art projects reflecting important social issues in Atlanta. Each student will receive 3 credit hours for participating in The Southwest Airlines Art & Social Engagement Project. The students will be chosen by a panel consisting of the Director of the Ethics & the Arts Program, Carlton Mackey, the Director of the Ethics & Servant Leadership Program, Dr. Edward Queen, and a representative of Southwest Airlines.

Participants will register for the approved 3 hour credited listed course upon acceptance into the program. Participants will attend the weekly course co-lead by Dr. Edward Queen and Carlton Mackey that teaches about pressing social issues in Atlanta. Students also will work on the particular art project under the artist facilitator’s supervision. In addition to the completed art projects, students will work together to produce a white paper describing the impact of the social issues their projects seek to address on the Atlanta community, and the ways in which their projects address said issues.
Students, along with the artist facilitator, will be working with one of three nonprofit partners, **ForeverFamily**, **Gateway Center**, and **Trees Atlanta**.

The course will consist of 6-7 regular 3-hour class sessions where students will be introduced to the topic of art and social engagement, the work of the community partners, and the history of engaged art as well as public art. One session will involve an introduction to WonderRoot and mission of uniting artists and communities to inspire positive social change.

During the remainder of the semester students will work spend their time working with their teams and their artist facilitator in researching and producing the public art installation.

Students will be evaluated on the level and quality of engagement with their teams, their commitment to the work, the completion of the final installation, and the final paper.

**Student Application and Project Timeline**

While applications from students will be accepted through 3 September or until the slots are filled. Selections will be made on a rolling basis. Students, therefore, are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

To apply, please complete the following and submit along with the essay and the times you would be available for the course to chantel.lashay.smith@emory.edu in the subject line please note that you are a student applicant for the art and social engagement course.

**APPLICATION**

Name:

Date:
E-mail:
Phone:

Undergraduates: Major: Year:

Graduate and professional students: School/Program

Please submit the following:

1. A short essay (no more than 2 pages single-spaced) detailing:
   a. Your interest in this course;
   b. The community partner with whom you wish to work and why;
   c. Your art background (if any);
   d. Your volunteer and service experience;

2. A list of 3-hour time blocks when you would be able to attend a class. These blocks may be in the evening.