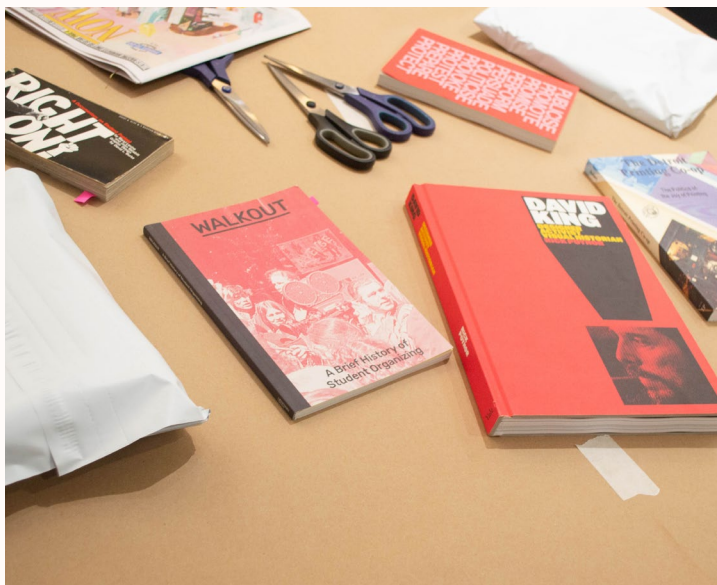


SOLIDARITY  
THROUGH  
DESIGN

ONTARIO  
CULTURE  
DAYS

2021



© PHOTOS BY  
ISABELLA MARÍN HERNANDEZ

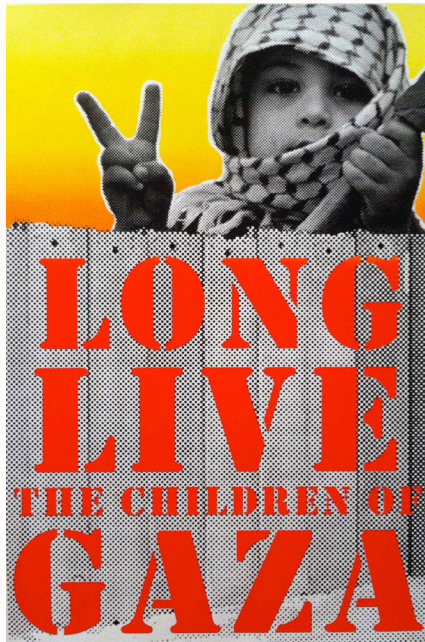
As part of the Ontario Culture Days 2021 festival, we hosted *Solidarity Through Design* — two poster design workshops with an online component that took place in late October, inviting participants to learn about the powerful history of radical graphics and the ways in which design can serve as a tool for encouraging social and political participation. We explored design principles like layout, typography, and colour and browsed graphic archives for inspiration, all while reflecting on the following prompt based on our personal experiences:

*Take a moment to reflect on your experiences: what is an issue that affects your life today? This can be personal, economic, societal, or environmental. Looking at the challenges that exist in our world, what is something that can be done to contribute to making things better?*

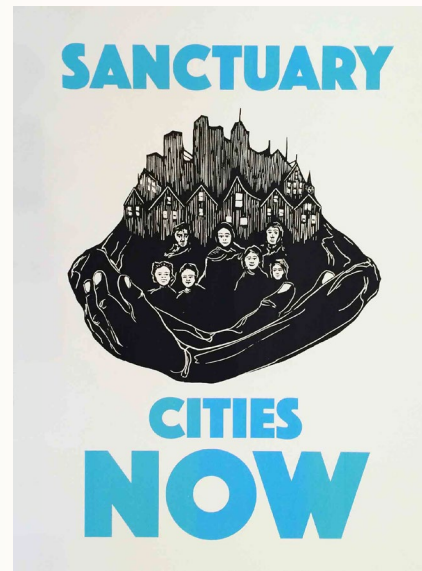
Participants were provided with free art kits to make their own posters, encouraging the creation of analogue works. The medium of the poster allows us to amplify our voices through text and graphics and facilitates the dissemination of our ideas in public spaces— keeping this in mind, our partners at the North York Central Library and TO Live offered to photocopy the finished works so that the artists could take copies home and put them up in their neighbourhoods. In November, poster submissions were also exhibited on the street-facing screens outside the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts for passersby to see.

This zine is a combination of photos documenting our in-person workshop at Meridian Hall on October 21st, 2021, some of the posters that were exhibited along the walls of the workshop space (printed by Repetitive Press in Toronto), and poster submissions from participants.

# WORKSHOP



CHILDREN OF GAZA  
JESSE PURCELL, 2014



SANCTUARY CITIES NOW  
PETE RAILAND, 2017





WATER IS LIFE  
ISAAC MURDOCH &  
CHRISTI BELCOURT

ART BY ISAAC MURDOCH

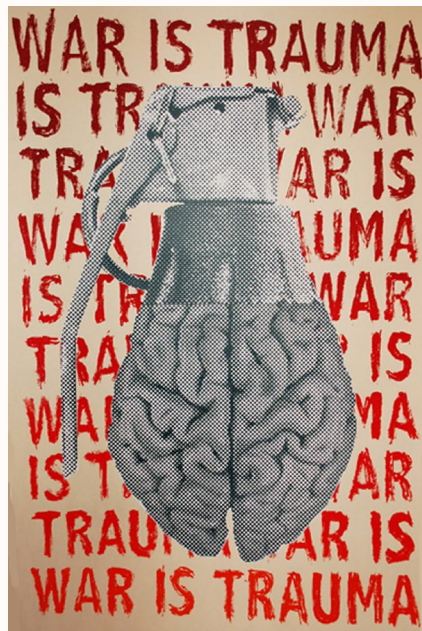


VISIT SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE ONLINE  
GRAPHIC ARCHIVES & RESOURCES:

- [POLITICALGRAPHICS.ORG](http://POLITICALGRAPHICS.ORG)
- [INTERFERENCEARCHIVE.ORG](http://INTERFERENCEARCHIVE.ORG)
- [CULTURALPOWER.ORG](http://CULTURALPOWER.ORG)
- [PALESTINEPOSTERPROJECT.ORG](http://PALESTINEPOSTERPROJECT.ORG)
- [LETTERFORMARCHIVE.ORG](http://LETTERFORMARCHIVE.ORG)
- [DIGNIDADREBELDE.COM](http://DIGNIDADREBELDE.COM)
- [OSPAAAL.COM](http://OSPAAAL.COM)
- [THETRICONTINENTAL.ORG](http://THETRICONTINENTAL.ORG)
- [JUSTSEEDS.ORG](http://JUSTSEEDS.ORG)
- [ONAMANCOLLECTIVE.COM](http://ONAMANCOLLECTIVE.COM)
- [@POSTERS\\_FOR\\_BLM \(INSTAGRAM\)](https://www.instagram.com/POSTERS_FOR_BLM)



NO PIPELINES ON INDIGENOUS LAND  
DILAN A.T MINER, 2020



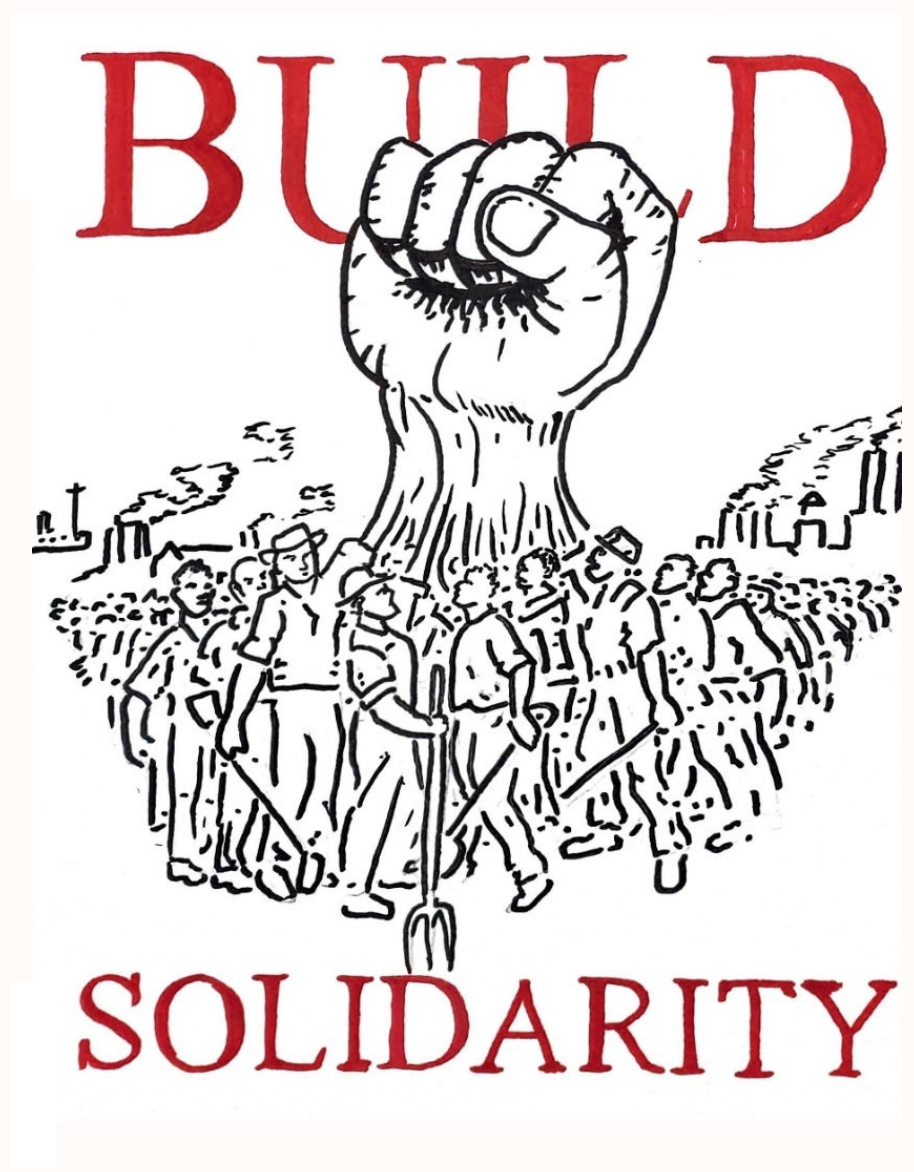
WAR IS TRAUMA  
JESSE PURCELL, 2014



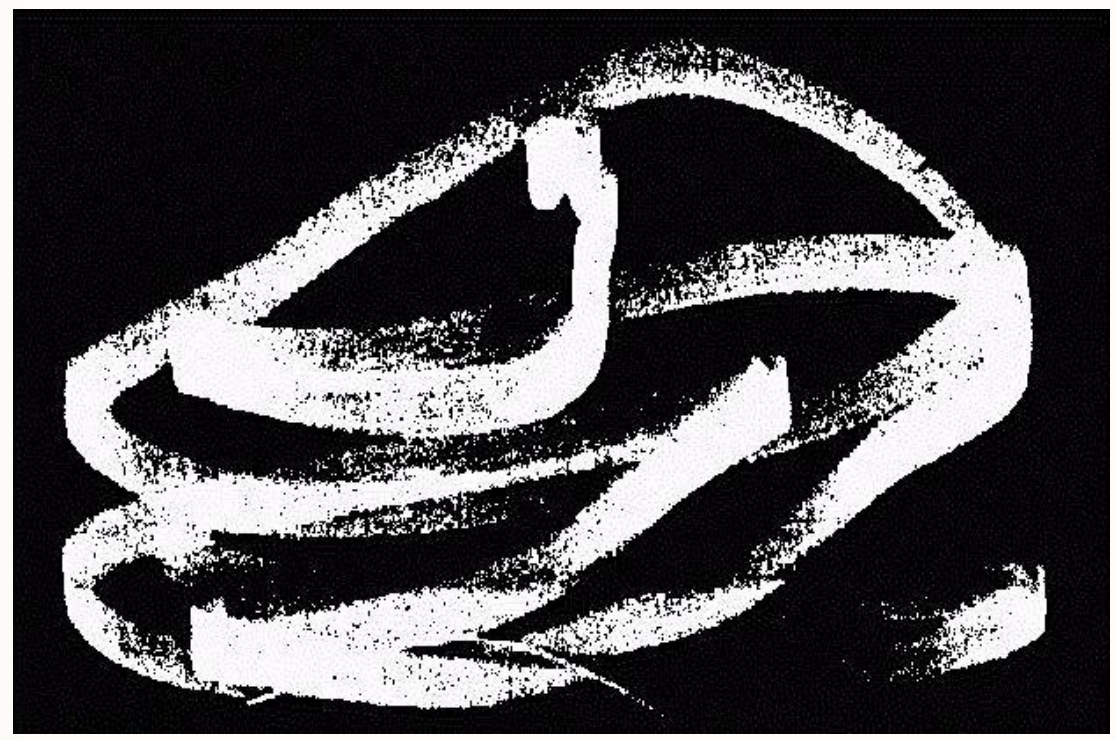
A BETTER  
WORLD IS  
POSSIBLE

HOW  
DO YOU  
ENVISION  
IT?





© THE ROAD TO FOOD SOVEREIGNTY  
EMILY LYONS

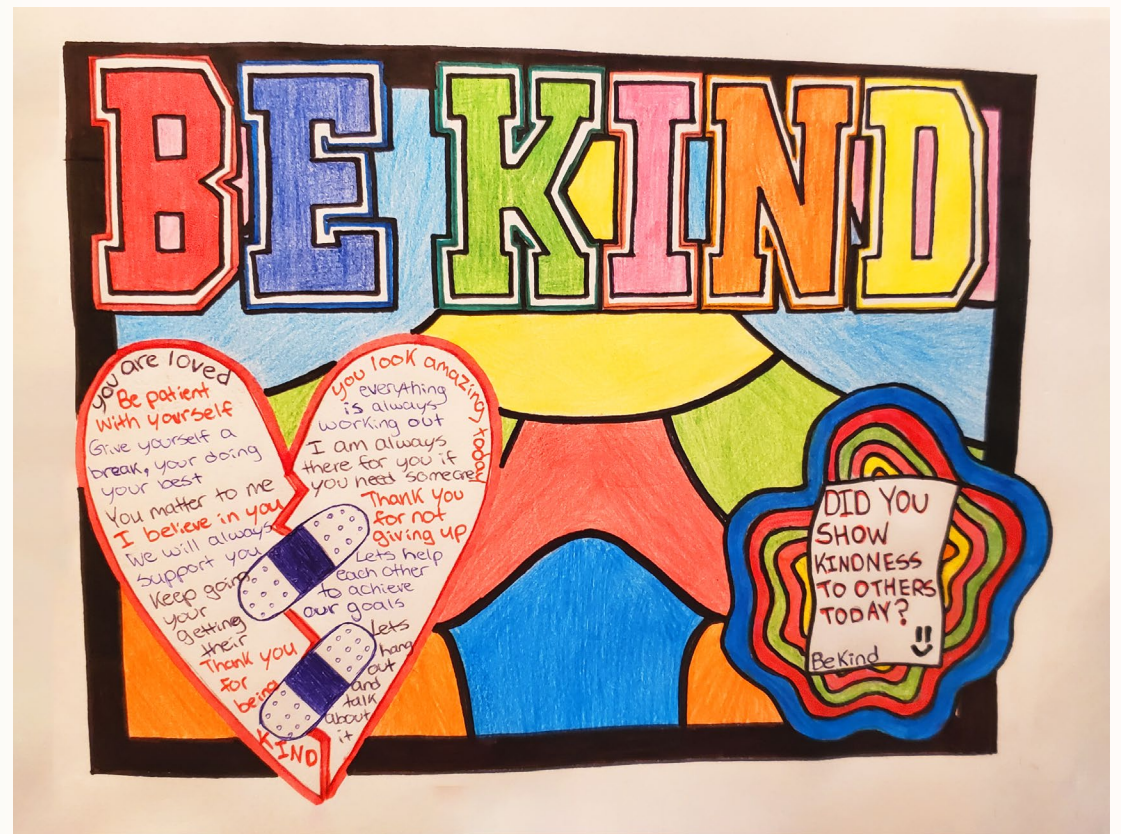


© WYNE TSANG



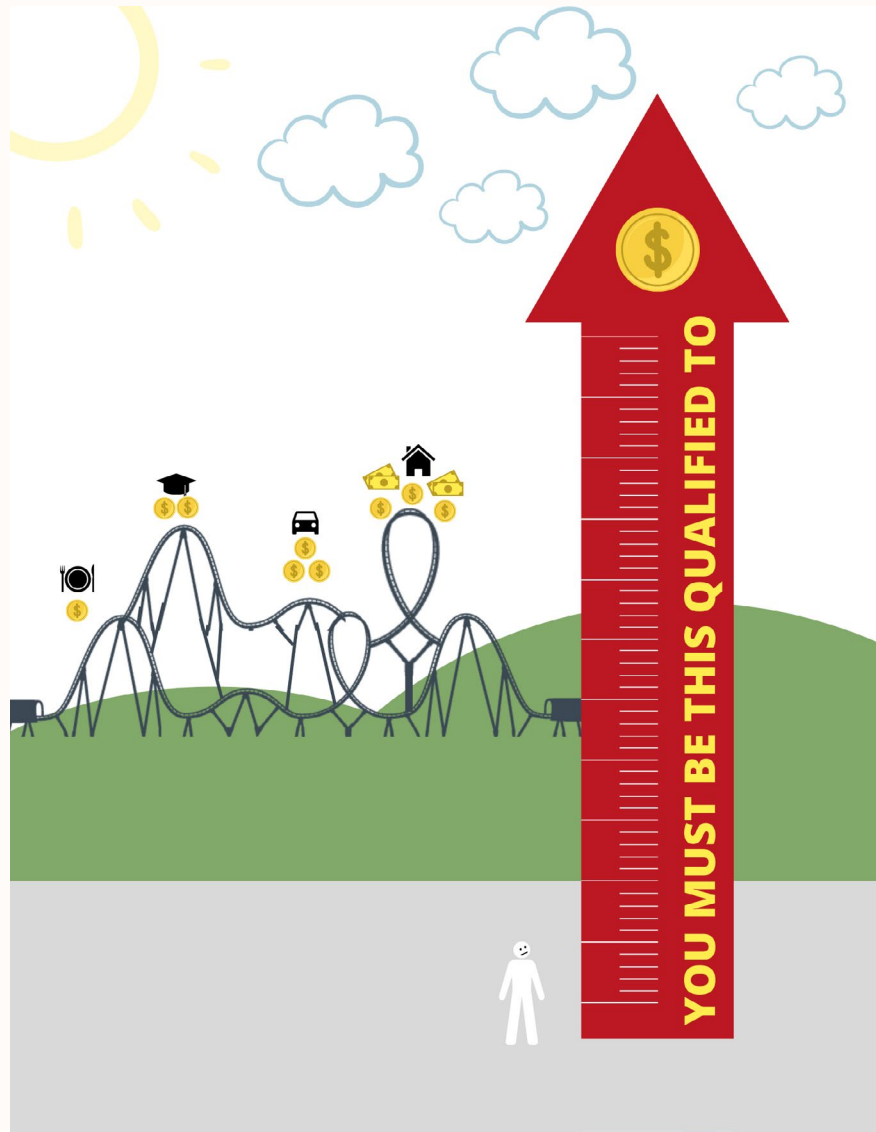


© FREE TRANSIT FOR ALL  
RACHEL ROBBINS



**ARTIST STATEMENT**  
I MADE THIS PIECE BASED OFF WHAT I THINK OUR WORLD CURRENTLY NEEDS. AND THAT IS KINDNESS. THE POSTER HAS AN ILLUSTRATION OF A BROKEN HEART PUT TOGETHER THROUGH WORDS OF AFFIRMATION, KIND WORDS, AND SUPPORTIVE COMMENTS. IT SHOWS THAT THIS IS HOW WE SHOULD TREAT OURSELVES AND ONE ANOTHER. THE COLORS IN THIS POSTER ESSENTIALLY REPRESENT POSITIVITY AND GOOD VIBES.

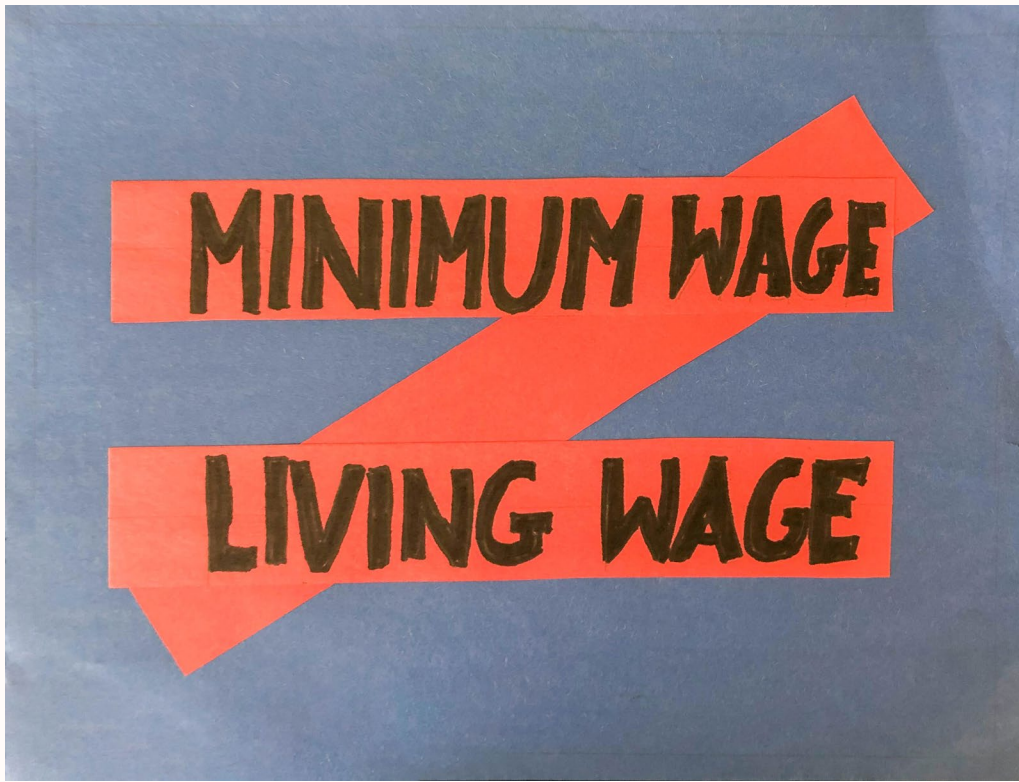
© SALEHA



© NAWAL SALIM



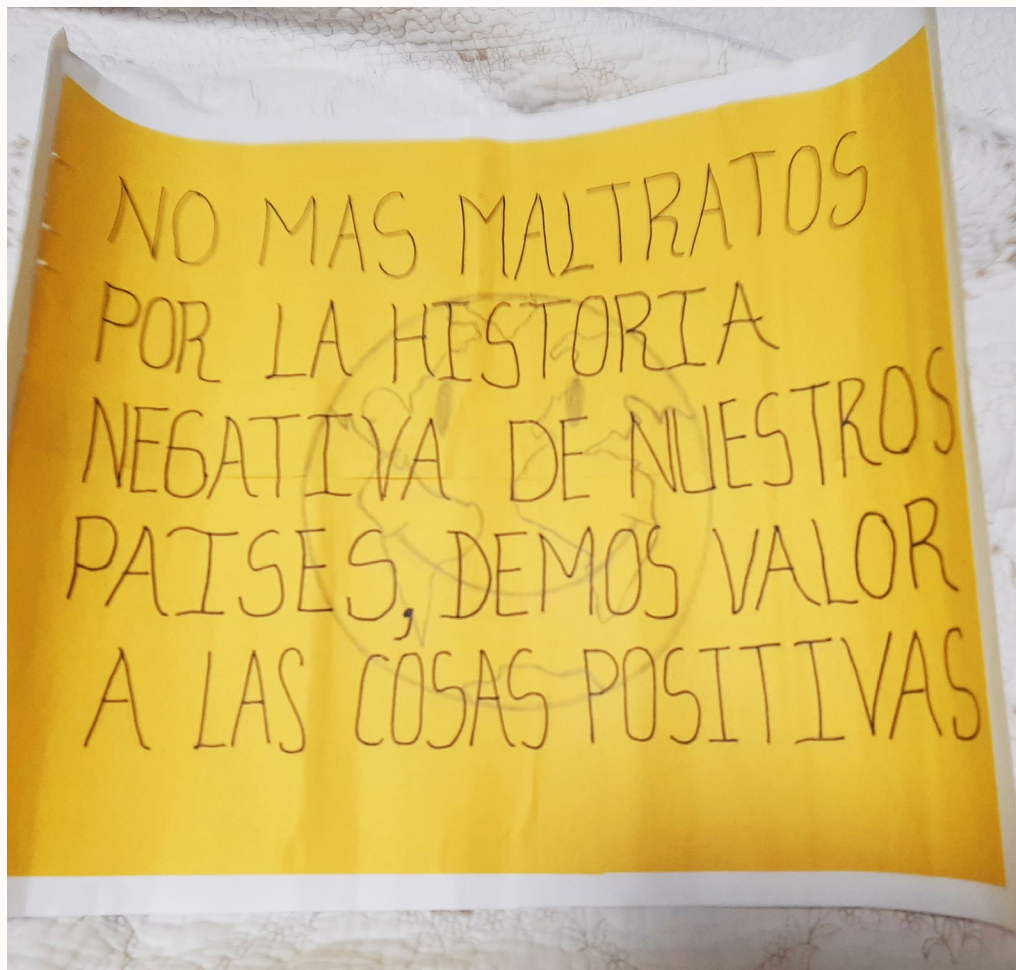
© MICHELLE AMY



© MEAGHAN FROH METCALF



© ISABELLA MARÍN HERNANDEZ



TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH  
NO MORE MISTREATMENTS DUE TO THE NEGATIVE  
HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRIES. LET'S VALUE THE  
POSITIVE THINGS.

### About Ontario Culture Days

Ontario Culture Days is a celebration of artists and cultural organizations in our communities. Every year, we coordinate an exciting celebration of arts & culture programming across Ontario. The 2021 festival took place between September 24 and October 24, 2021. We are dedicated to fostering the public's engagement with Ontario's arts, culture and heritage as a means of enriching our communities while supporting the vibrancy and sustainability of our sector.

### About the Facilitator:

Laura Rojas is a Colombian-born, Toronto-based artist and designer with a BFA in Cross-Disciplinary Art: Publications from OCAD University. She's interested in using art and design as tools for education, participation, and mobilization, as well as exploring how the arts can support community-building, strengthening our connections between each other and the world around us.

→ [laurarojas.ca](http://laurarojas.ca) | @laurrojas

*This publication was produced as part of the 2021 Ontario Culture Days festival in collaboration with Toronto Public Library and TO Live. ON Culture Days @ Toronto Public Library is part of the Ontario Culture Days Festival. Ontario Culture Days wishes to thank its funders and supporters, including: Chicago Title Insurance Company Canada, Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG), Pattison Outdoor, and Star Metroland Media. Our programming is supported by the Government of Canada, FedNor, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Province of Ontario, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council. The Ontario Culture Days Festival has been financially assisted by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, administered by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund Corporation.*

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**ON  
CULTURE  
DAYS**