

ROOTS OF

POWER

A ZINE ABOUT ART CULTURE & PLACE



FCYO



ABOUT THE ZINE

WE ARE EACH MEMBERS OF COMMUNITIES STEEPED IN A SENSE OF PLACE.

AND WE ARE EACH THE INHERITORS OF THE CREATIVE AND CULTURAL PRACTICES EMERGING FROM THE HISTORIES OF RESISTANCE AND RESILIENCE OF THAT PLACE.

OUR HISTORY, OUR ART, OUR CULTURE, OUR PLACE - THEY ARE WHERE WE ORGANIZE FROM, AND WHAT WE ORGANIZE FOR.

THIS IS A ZINE ABOUT ART, CULTURE, AND PLACE. IT IS ALSO ABOUT HOW WE ORGANIZE FOR POWER.

ALL ART, POETRY, WORDS, AND WORKS INCLUDED IN THIS ZINE WERE CONTRIBUTED BY YOUTH ORGANIZERS AT FCYO'S FALL 2022 CONVENING.

ZINE MAKING

CONTRIBUTE TO THE ROOTS OF POWER ZINE!

In this zine, we're exploring roots - our connection to place, to art, to culture - and the role they play in our organizing. We'd love for you to create an entry that responds to any or all of the following questions:

- How do you use art to organize your people?
- What lessons from your ancestors guide your work?
- What is the culture of the future we are fighting for?
- What is one of your family's best recipes?
- What song will you play when we win?
- How does your connection with the land guide your organizing?



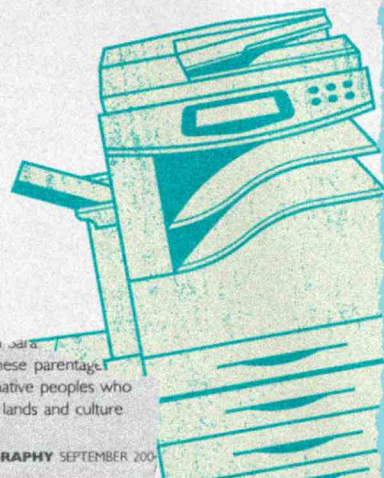
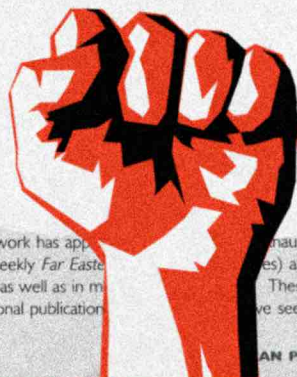
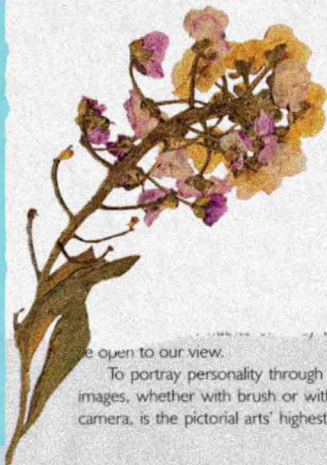
*Systems change
organizing culture*

Responses can take any form!!

- Sketches, drawings, mini-comics
- A manifesto
- Selfies/pictures plus words (use the camera!)
- Lines of poetry, quotes, lyrics
- A diary entry or letter to a beloved
- A magazine collage
- Recipes with fun illustrations

**The only requirement is that it fits on a half sheet of paper
(it can be multiple pages - just has to be that size)**

They have in me struck down but the
trunk of the tree; the roots are many
and deep - they will shoot up again!
Toussaint Louverture



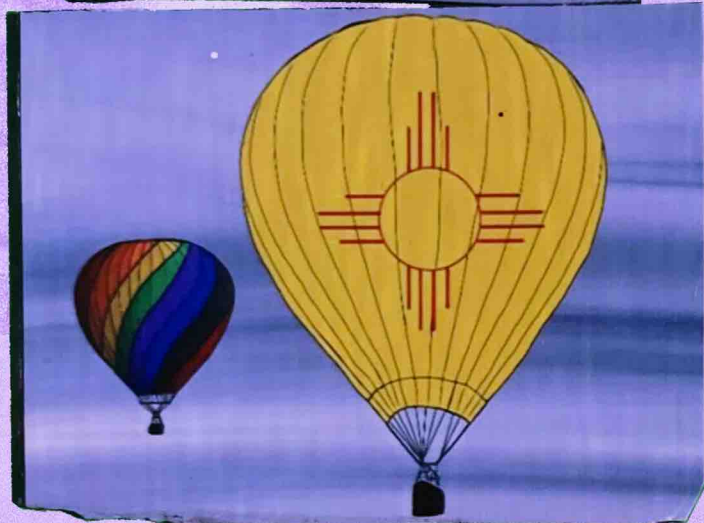
...e open to our view.

To portray personality through images, whether with brush or with camera, is the pictorial arts' highest

...and his work has app...
of the weekly *Far East*
Review, as well as in m...
international publication

...mau (one of Sara...
es) and Chinese parentage...
These are native peoples who
ve seen their lands and culture

AN PHOTOGRAPHY SEPTEMBER 200





Original art and magnets created by @nemmajean



"There's two big roles for culture work. There's one that's about bringing people in. Bringing more people into the work of structural change that actually maybe our door knocking wouldn't get to. You know, we're door knocking in our neighborhoods, but cultural work has an opportunity to bring people in outside of that. And then the other is transformation. People need to transform in order to actually be comfortable taking power. Culture work can do this."


SASHA WIJEYERATNE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CAAAV



IN ORDER FOR
JOY TO SURVIVE
IT MUST HAVE
SHARP EDGES

I CAN BE FLOWER OR THORN
MY PETALS GLISTENING IN MORNING DEW ARE
HOMES OF SWEETNESS AND CARE.

THE BEES DRINK FROM ME, BUT GENTLY, THEY
UNDERSTAND TO LEAVE ENOUGH NECTAR FOR THE NEXT.



I AM THE EMBLEM OF SOFTNESS, OF LOVE. I AM GIVEN FREELY, PLUCKED
FROM THE EARTH AND LAID TO REST IN VASES OF WATER,
A WINDOW-DRESSING REMINDER OF SOMEONE ELSE'S LOVE.

I AM FLOWER.



I AM THORN.

BUT CAREFUL, CAREFUL,
to those who would
take my beauty for
their own.



YOU MAY LOOK BUT BE CAUTIOUS
IN YOUR TOUCH TO PROTECT MY
CARE, MY NECTAR & POLLEN, MY
PETALS THAT GLISTEN IN MORNING,
I HAVE GROWN SHARP.

THORNS SPROUT FROM MY NECK
BIG & SHARP AND SMALL AND STINGING

I DO NOT WISH TO
HARM YOU I WILL NOT
LET MY CARE BE

HARMED

I look to stitches threaded in the
past, to guide the creations I'm seeding
today. to the family lines cast
in quilt blocks- stories of who
came before me, pouring
their time into wrapping

up
the
ones
they love.

A comfort
as we
world.

I look to the
of our dreams-
visions together,
master piece for

to sink into
navigate this

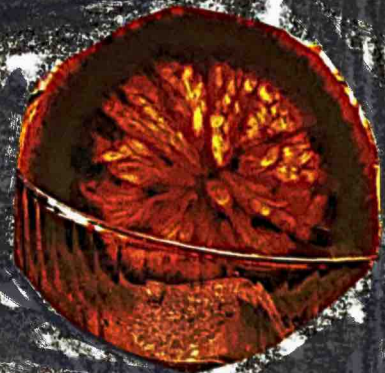
pattern blocks
Sewing our
creating our
a softer future.

THE

ONLY

WAY

OUT IS



**Give
Shelter**

be

BOLDER


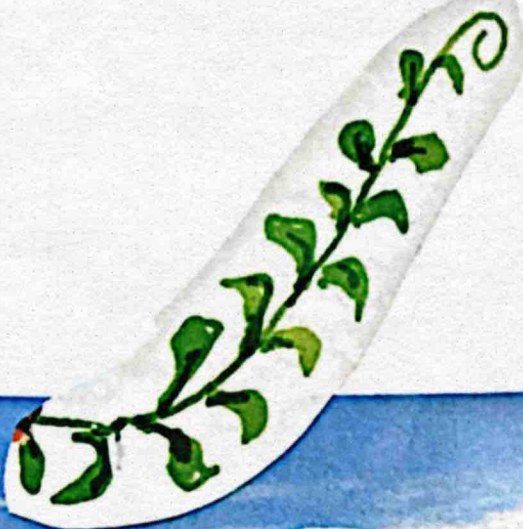
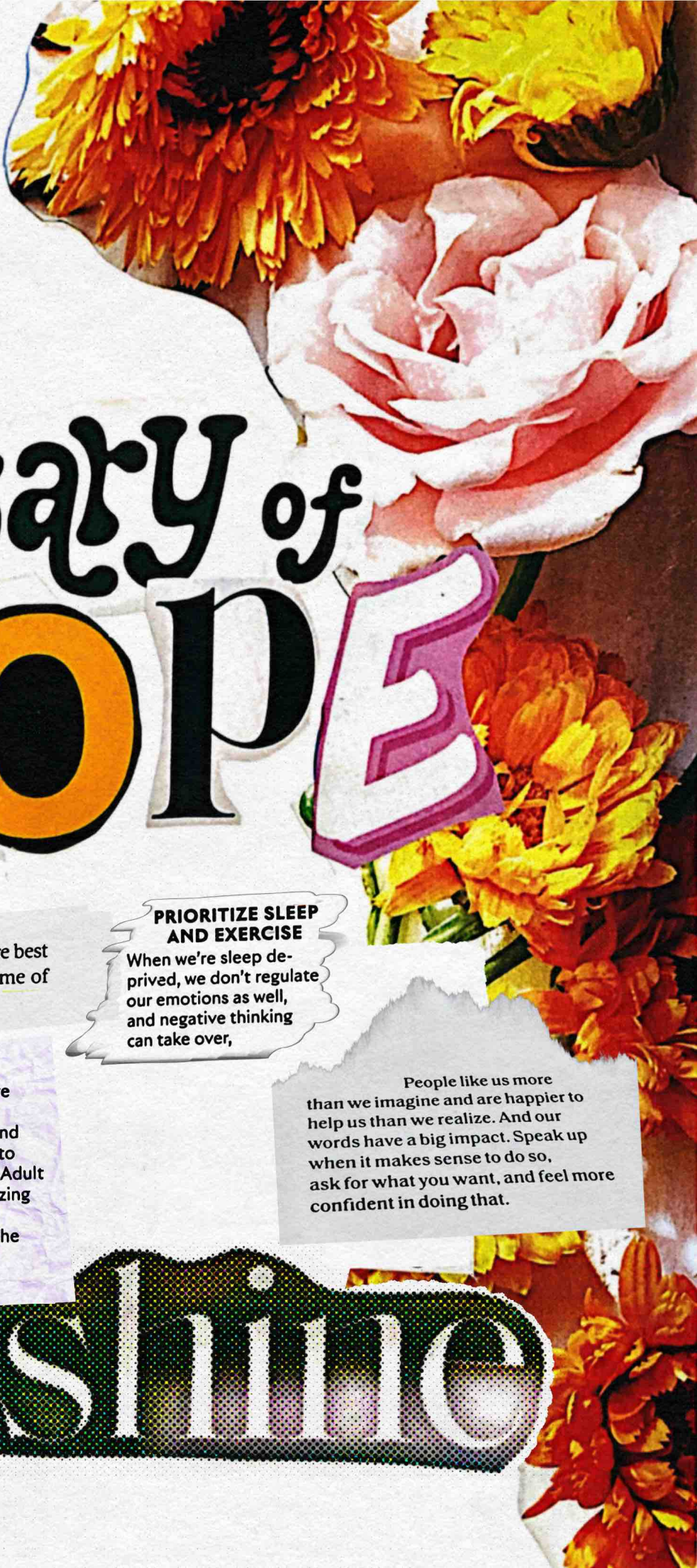
BOOST YOUR OPTIMISM

YOU HAVE A POWER

TAKE ACTION

MOBILIZATION FOR
CLIMATE JUSTICE

Z SPICER



Glossary of HOPE

A CELEBRATION OF LIVING

Many of the things we love most are best honored when shared by others, even during a time of extreme separation

PRIORITIZE SLEEP AND EXERCISE

When we're sleep deprived, we don't regulate our emotions as well, and negative thinking can take over,

DON'T SUPPRESS NEGATIVE EMOTIONS

Good relationships are the one factor most correlated to health and happiness, according to the Harvard Study of Adult Development. Socializing lowers cortisol and activates dopamine, the happy hormone

People like us more than we imagine and are happier to help us than we realize. And our words have a big impact. Speak up when it makes sense to do so, ask for what you want, and feel more confident in doing that.

Sunshine

La vie
est belle



When we
have
the Power

To
WIN

Power2winframework #LUL
Youth power #LOL

Community

AMANS



Music

GRACIELA McMAHAN

FEEDING[®]

JOY

exhilarating

~~hard~~ "It's really
up with
something
that you've
never seen
before."

1:45 pm

Loving

8:42 pm

Hopeful

11:07 pm

Grateful

TROY PRICE

~SPREAD~

an original poem

When I walk into a room,
I spread my Black all over the place.
Each step a deep, velvety berry hue
saturating the rug in slick sweetness.
It soaks into the sitting places,
darkening up the curtains while
perfuming the air with shea butter
and sage.

When my wide hips swivel to heavy
downbeats and swish to reedy woodwind
whistles of the song on the radio,
it's my Black: bathing each corner
in moonlit smiles and beams of light
in rainbows.

When my warm vocal cords stretch
up to heaven and cries of devotion
burst forth from these thick glossy lips,
it's my Black: coating the walls in
honey-golden sunlight & anointing them
with virgin Coconut oil.

best believe it is my Black plastering
itself upon the walls, all myriad shades
and triumphant sounds. When I walk into
a room, I let my Black bloom in whatever
fertile ground offers itself up.

- ty Wilson
(she/they) /atlanta, ga



TY WILSON



"Part of effective organizing wherever you are on the political spectrum is really reaching into deeper cultural markers, histories, traditions. Effective art and cultural work built on top of mass work should actually dig deeper into, "Ok, what are the cultural traditions, values, and things that people are drawing from?" and then connecting that to say "Based on this value, this is the right way to understand the struggle." There should be more exploration of, "What can you draw from within tradition or culture that people are bringing to reach more transformative positions and understandings?"

FAHD AHMED
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DRUM





Get your body humming

If you ground yourself in love, kindness, your heart will bloom.

I don't want to escape unscathed

LOOK INWARD



ADRIAN HERNANDEZ

"She's funny

*in her
element*

"She's just

a ball of light,"

WOMEN

a Re

THE PLANET

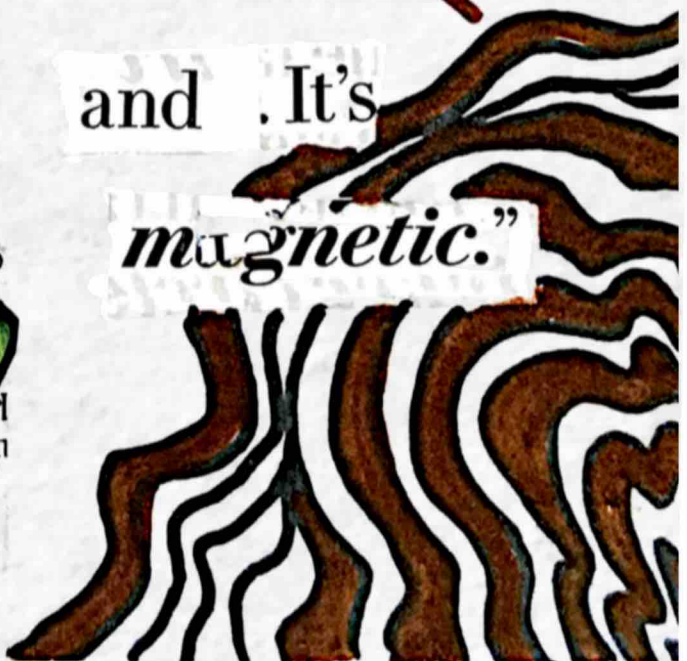
she enjoys life.


and .It's

magnetic."



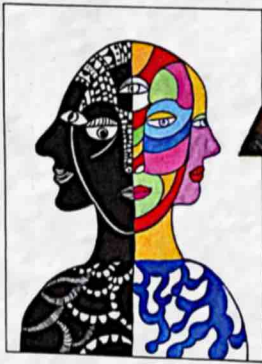
SARAH IMRAN





You **CANNOT**
pit “the Blacks”
against “the
alphabet people,”
nor can you
separate “**THE
BLACKS**” from
“**WOMEN.**”

Sexual **HEALING**

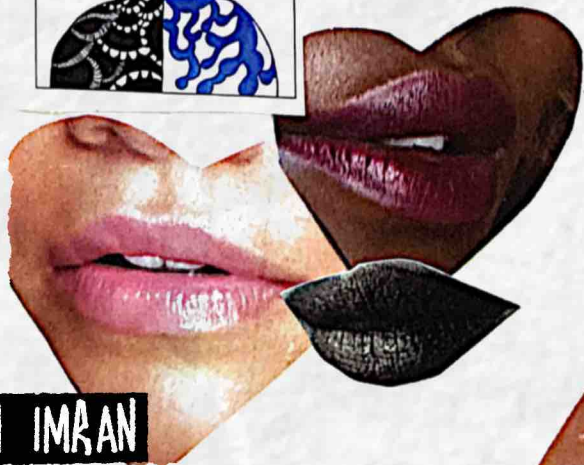


MADE TO

FACE

IT

ALL.



SARAH IMRAN



WOMEN ARE THE PLANET.

Being a woman means constantly being put on a pedestal while simultaneously being buried six feet deep. Only women have the strength, rigor, love, and beauty to take this constant abuse and turn it in to flowers and diamonds and peans. Our bodies are divine and are ours only. We are Mother Nature's favorite and the Sun's only child. We deserve to

BE =
LOVED

SARAH IMRAN



Chasing
the sun

Identity CONNECTION

Political CULTURE

All-in-one
Program



Important at every age

JENNIFER MALDONADO



IXCHEL ARISTA

WHEN WERE GRIEVING

GASEROLE
people

WHEN WERE CELEBRATING

WHEN THE WEATHER IS COLD

WHEN WE'VE
GOT LOTS
OF BELLIES
TO FILL

WHEN IT'S WHAT
WE HAVE IN THE
PANTRY



KEL KROEHL

HOME

IS



MOST TALKED ABOUT BIG CITY



A love letter to my home

counterculture
MASTERPIECE
MEANT TO BE



OWN

BE



thern Living

paving new paths
the Best New things
confident

LIFE

Patience,
Patience,
Patience

TEX-MEX

Awake



EZME LEDEZMA

NOTE

NOTE



POWER

BUILD

[Redacted]

A Room Full of Love

[Redacted]

HARRY SUSALLA

QUEER



LOVE

~~look to others~~ GAYS for love,

BE UNIQUE




GAY
LESBIAN
SAPPHTIC
BISEXU

magic



GAY
LESB
IPP
BISEX

SARAH IMRAN



"If the first part of transforming people to take power is for people to find their voice, for people to have the ability to express, that is a great foundation. But in this current political period that's not the end all be all. It's the way to get people thinking about "Ok, you have a vision. Now, let's actually do the work to actualize it."

JAMES LOPEZ

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

POWER U CENTER FOR SOCIAL CHANGE



CONTRIBUTORS

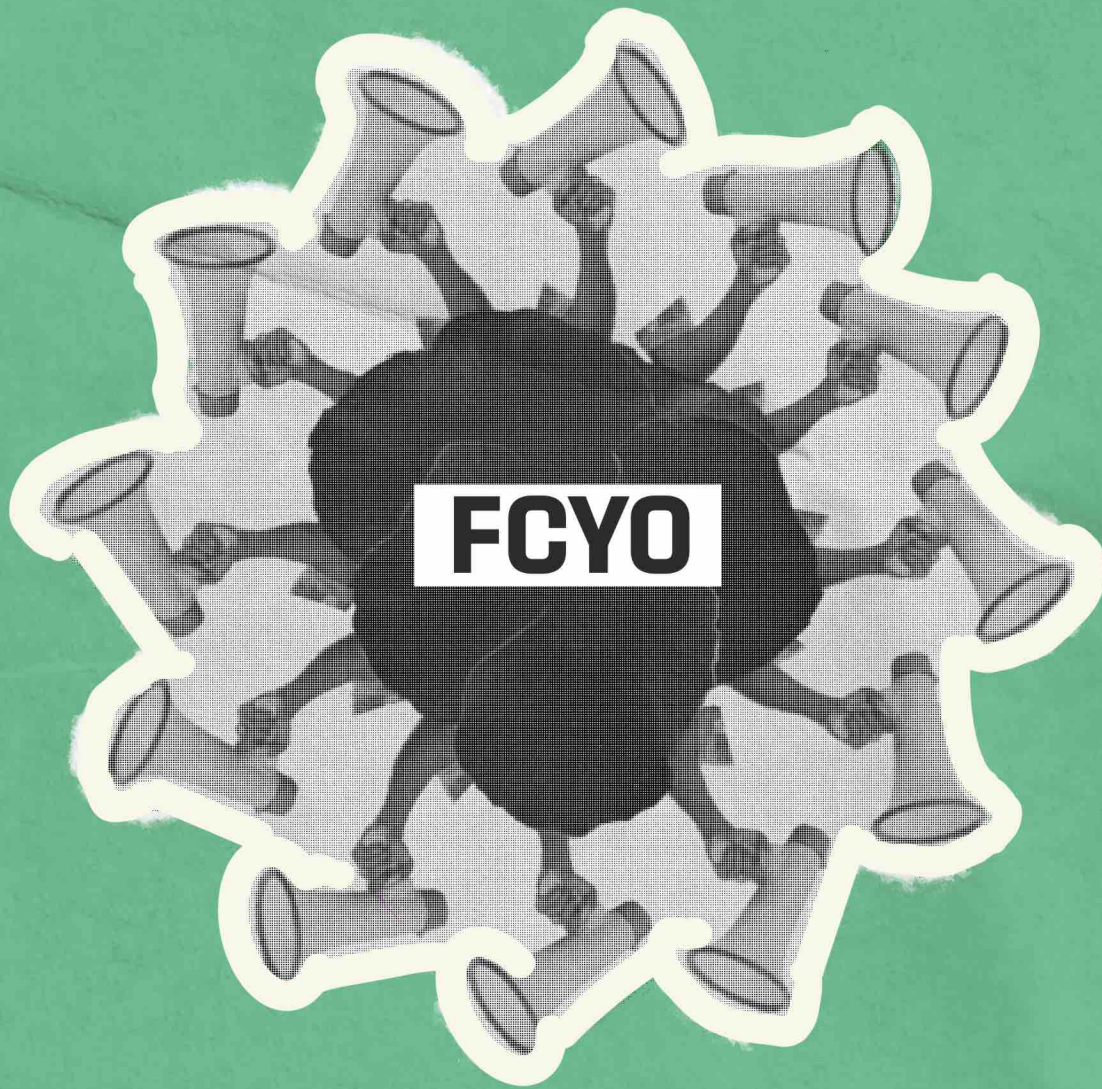
- Flower / Thorn Em Jewett
I look to stitches Kat Smith
The only way out Kit Lee
Give shelter / be bolder Z Spicer
Glossary of hope Yanelis Valdes
La vie est belle Phoebe Dolan
Community tamales Graciela McMahan
Feeding joy Troy Price
Spread Ty Wilson
Get your body humming Adrian Hernandez
Look inward Adrian Hernandez
Women are the planet Sarah Imran
Political culture Jennifer Maldonado
The Rock Ixchel Arista
Casserole people Kel Kroehle
Houston is love Esme Ledezma
Build power Harry Susalla
Queer love Sarah Imran

Layout designed by Nafisa Ferdous



ABOUT FCYO

At the Funders Collaborative on Youth Organizing (FCYO), we envision a society free from oppression that supports the full development of all based on values of equity, democracy, and ecological stewardship. Since 2000, FCYO has helped to build a strong, interconnected, and well-resourced youth organizing field that supports BIPOC, low-income, and gender oppressed young people at the forefront of social change. FCYO brings funders and youth organizers together to ensure that young people have the resources, capacities, and infrastructure they need to play leading roles in broad coalitions for a more just and democratic society. To reach our vision, we engage in infrastructure, grantmaking, and capacity building efforts that directly resource youth organizing groups to cultivate youth leadership, align their strategies, and build meaningful power. In addition, we advance a multifaceted funder organizing and communications program, fostering funder ecosystems characterized by peer learning, alignment, and expanded resources for youth organizing.



FCYO

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