

Olivia Blumenthal

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Education

B.A. Biology, with a minor in Water Studies- Metropolitan State University, Denver, Colorado 2014- 2017

Awards and Scholarships

Cum Laude Honours- Metropolitan State University of Denver 2017

First Place Eco-Artivist Challenge- Americas Latino Eco Festival, Denver Museum of Nature and Science 2017

One World One Water Scholarship- Metropolitan State University of Denver 2017

Research Interests

- Environmental education
- Social cartography
- Agroecology
- Socially engaged art methodologies
- Decolonization studies
- Biocultural memory
- Phenology
- Philosophy of time and space
- Posthumanism

Research Experience

Landscape Ontario- Research Assistant 2019
Gathered, organized and communicated data on presence of invasive moth, *Cydalima perspectalis*, in order to monitor its spread following recent introduction into North America

Metropolitan State University of Denver- Undergraduate Water Studies Capstone Research Project 2016- 2017
Conducted semi- structured interviews exploring the intersections of activism and the human relationship to water along the 'Front Range' of the Rocky Mountains, and composed and recorded an album of "docu-songs" titled "Rain Shadow"

Metropolitan State University of Denver- Research Assistant for Urban Water Quality Study 2016- 2016
Conducted field and lab work to monitor water quality along urban stretch of the South Platte River

Metropolitan State University of Denver- Research Assistant for Wildlife Population Monitoring 2016
Conducted field count of North American Beavers and the endangered Boreal Toad at Cucumber Gulch Wildlife Preserve in Breckenridge, Colorado

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)- Boulder, Colorado- Data Management Intern 2011-2012
Processed and organized data from meteorological and aerosol testing instruments coming from atmospheric observatory in Tiksi, Russia, working under NOAA's lead polar scientist, Taniel Uttal

Community Engagement

Romero Theater Troupe- Denver, Colorado- Collaboration in performance and creation of community theater telling stories of local history and experiences of theater members, promoting social justice	2010-2021
Ancestral Herbalism Healing Collective- Colorado- Collaborated in community herbalism collective dedicated to the education on the intersections of plant medicine and social justice	2017-2020
United Plant Savers Botanical Sanctuary- Ohio, USA- Assisted as intern in maintenance of botanical sanctuary with tasks including; propagation of woodland medicinals, control of invasives and community outreach	2019
Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition- Denver, Colorado- managed of a team of 15 canvassers delivering voter education for local elections	2017, 2018
Quaker Acres Farm- Denver, Colorado- Designed integrated perennial and annual polyculture gardens using principles of agroecology, and organized community workshops and gatherings	2016-2018
LiberateED, Casa Mayan- Metropolitan State University of Denver- Collaborated in the creation and organization of a week of alternative education	2016
Todas Las Sangres- Denver, Colorado- Collaborated in creation of community performances exploring biocultural memory, titled Cultivando Cultura	2016
Inspiring Connections Outdoors- Sierra Club, Colorado- Trip leader with group dedicated to providing skiing and rafting opportunities for those otherwise unable to participate due to financial or other constraints	2010-2016
Student Farmworker Alliance- Denver, Colorado- Collaborated on local and national campaigns to support the Coalition of Immokalee Workers	2010-2012

Experience as an Educator

Thorne Nature Institute- Boulder Colorado- Ecology Instructor Developed ecology curriculum and delivered instruction to children ages 5-11 in outdoor setting	2017
Camp Rowe, Massachusetts- Art Instructor Designed and led workshops on muralism and recycled material sculpture building	2015
Proyecto Linguistico Quetzalteco- Xela, Guatemala- Coordinator of Students & Spanish Language Interpreter Organized the schedules, housing and teacher arrangements for international Spanish language students and performed live consecutive interpretation of lectures on Latin American history, politics and culture	2013
Art Builds Communities, Metropolitan State University of Denver- Youth Art Mentor Youth mentor assisting visiting artists in art workshops at youth focused community centers	2011

Workshops Developed & Facilitated

Practical Astronomy for Time Keeping- facilitated in Colorado, Ohio and Toronto	2018- 2020
Seed Stewardship- facilitated in Massachusetts, Colorado and Nebraska	2016- 2019
Timekeeping Systems- guest facilitator at Naropa University, Boulder, Colorado	2017
The Political Ecology of Seed Saving- co-facilitated at Metropolitan State University of Denver	2016

The War of Art- facilitated at Camp, Rowe, Rowe Massachusetts	2014
Built to Burn: Effigy Creation - facilitated at Camp, Rowe, Rowe Massachusetts	2014

Albums Recorded

Of Bones and Addicts- Vocals and guitar written by Aruna Antonella Handa, for group, Alluvial Plane	Awaiting Release
The End of Olivia Blu Live- Live solo album	Awaiting Release
Miss Owl's Ode To Invasive Species- Solo album guitar and vocals	2018
Rain Shadow- Concept album of "docu-songs", accompanying capstone research project for water minor	2017
The Rebirth Bug- Debut solo album	2015

Major Projects

Time as Lover- Exploration of timekeeping systems resulting in annual calendar paintings based on Gregorian calendar, intended to be bridges to alternative keeping systems, accompanied by workshops	2014-2021
Zugunrue- Series of multimedia pieces exploring migration and dreams completed during May Tree Artist Residency	2018

Selected Performances

United Plant Savers Botanical Sanctuary- Solo performance- Rutland Ohio	2019
Annual Gathering- Ogalala Lakota Cultural & Economic Revitalization Initiative- Solo performance- South Dakota	2018
Festival Seeds- Group performance- Quito, Ecuador	2018
Eco-Social Solutions Conference, University of Colorado- Baubo Collective- Boulder, Colorado	2017
Convergence at Arcosanti- Baubo Collective- Arcosanti Arizona	2017
Fem Fest- Museum of Contemporary Art- Baubo Collective- Denver, Colorado	2017
Eco Artist Festival- Solo performance- Denver Museum of Nature and Science- Denver, Colorado	2017
Victor Jara Tribute Concert, Su Teatro- Solo performance- Denver, Colorado	2016

Murals

Neighborhood Epic Mosaic Murals- Apprentice in mosaic restoration- Denver, Colorado	2019
Public Collaborative Art Slow Food Nation- Lead artist- Denver, Colorado	2019
Pileated Woodpecker Oroborus- Lead artist- Rowe Conference Center, Rowe, Massachusetts	2018
Migration Ceremony- Lead artist- Whittier Cafe, Denver, Colorado	2017

Pollinator Lighthouse- Collaborative mural- Tepoztlan, Mexico	2017
War of Art- Collaborative mural- Camp Rowe, Rowe, Massachusetts	2014
Twist Apart Collaboration- Lead artist- Cafe RED, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala	2013

Additional Training

Storyteller's Camp- Toronto Storytelling Festival	2019
Tree Identification- Rowe Camp and Conference Center	2018
Seed School Teacher Training- Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance	2017
Seed School- Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance	2017
Permaculture Design Course- Earth Activist Training	2015

Conferences Attended

Ecovida, Universidad de Caldas- Manizales, Colombia	2018
Mountain West Seed Summit- Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance, New Mexico, USA	2017
Front Range Eco-Social Solutions Conference, Bioneers Satellite- University of Colorado	2016, 2017
Lincoln Sustainable Agriculture Conference- Lincoln, Nebraska USA	2017

Presentations

Stewardship of Local Seed Resilience Panel- Uplift Climate Conference- New Mexico, USA	2018
Rain Shadow: The Past, Present and Future of Water on the Front Range- Metropolitan State University of Denver Undergraduate Research Conference	2017

Languages

Bilingual in English and Spanish