

Fall 2019 Assembly Afternoon Workshop Facilitators

Fighting Immigrant Stereotypes with the Moving Image

***Two-Part Workshop with Shireen Soliman and Emerald Isle Immigration Center
with Third World Newsreel***

Shireen Soliman is an artist and designer who lives in Astoria, Queens, where she was born and raised. Since 2017, she has served on the Museum of the Moving Image's Neighborhood Advisory Council, an initiative she helped to found. For over 20 years, Shireen has worked as both a Design Professional in the Fashion Industry and an Educator at Parsons School of Design and Pratt Institute. She brings her professional and personal expertise and experience to the classroom, to workshops and to speaking engagements throughout the community. Shireen holds a B.F.A. in Fashion Design from Moore College of Art and Design and an M.S. Ed. in Leadership in Education in the Arts, from Bank Street College of Education. In addition to offering Digital Consultancy and Training to individuals and corporations, Shireen is also a Diversity Educator, Community Advocate and Public Speaker on themes of Fashion, Identity, Culture and Representation.

Liz Baber has worked in community organizing, social services, and the arts for over ten years in Queens, NYC, supporting grassroots organizations in developing and coordinating educational programs. Originally from Lima, Peru, Liz began her work in arts, immigration, and social justice as a student, program assistant, and instructor with the New New Yorkers Program at the Queens Museum in 2006. She currently works as Education and Outreach Program Manager at Emerald Isle Immigration Center. Liz has been involved in many initiatives supporting the immigrant community, most recently designing her own programs in collaboration with grassroots organizations and local residents. Some of the initiatives include organizing workshops and seminars to educate and inform the community about citizenship, access to healthcare, domestic violence prevention, finance literacy, adult continuing education and immigrant rights. In her role as Community Health Advocate and Navigator, Liz enrolls people in health insurance plans and advocating for healthcare rights. Liz works to establish significant liaisons and partnerships with organizations such as NY Cares and NYC Department for the Aging, developing volunteer programs that supports the community with different services. In media arts, Liz previously worked with the Queens Museum of Art and participated in the New York Women in Film and Television Media workshops. This led her to develop the Rights, Camera, Action workshop for activist immigrant women, combining her interests and art passion.

JT Takagi is the Executive Director of Third World Newsreel, an alternative non-profit media center which works in production, educational distribution and training, emphasizing media by and about people of color and other marginalized communities and social justice issues. An award-winning filmmaker, sound engineer and educator, Ms. Takagi's directorial credits include *North Korea: Beyond the DMZ*; *The Women Outside* and the *#7 Train* made with codirector/producer Hye-Jung Park. As a sound recordist, her credits include the 2018 Oscar nominated *Strong Island*, *Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/*

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Feeling Heart, Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution and numerous PBS projects. Takagi teaches at the City College of New York and the School of Visual Arts, works with community group Nodutdol for Korean Community Development and serves on the board of the Korea Policy Institute.

Emerald Isle Immigration Center is a not for profit entity created to exercise and protect the privileges and interests of the community; to foster a healthy interest in the civic affairs of the community, to help immigrants acquire US citizenship, and to inquire into civic abuses and seek reformation thereof.

Third World Newsreel is an alternative media arts organization that fosters the creation, appreciation and dissemination of independent film and video by and about people of color and social justice issues.

It supports innovative work of diverse forms and genres made by artists who are intimately connected to their subjects through common bonds of ethnic/cultural heritage, class position, gender, sexual orientation and political identification. TWN promotes the self-representation of traditionally marginalized groups as well as the negotiated representation of those groups by artists who work in solidarity with them.

Ultimately, whether documentary, experimental, narrative, traditional or non-traditional, the importance of the media promoted by the organization is its ability to effect social change, to encourage people to think critically about their lives and the lives of others, and to propel people into action.

See more about Fall 2019 Assembly [here](#)