

Citizen-Artist™ - Who takes our course?

At *Citizen-Artist™*, we are building a diverse, global community trained in best practices within a transdisciplinary research framework, to mutually learn from and explore new pathways to address current ecological challenges.

Since the summer of 2020 over 180 students have completed our online course 'Introduction to *Citizen-Artist™* and Art-Based Research Methods' where we offer training in ABPE research methodologies for field-based studies and increased accessibility to science for underrepresented populations. Our students, to describe a few, include researchers, educators, and doctoral and master's students hailing from 17 countries and 22 states, 95% of whom belong to science disciplines (within which 15% are interdisciplinary) and 3% of whom are in the arts. Each of these individuals is working with a larger constituency of stakeholders at universities, government agencies, NGOs, and with Indigenous communities. These students are from Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Canada, Iceland, France, Bolivia, Spain, Bosnia, UK, Ireland, Netherlands, Scotland, Wales, and the U.S. They are scientists at EPA, BLM, AmeriCorps, and National Parks; and professionals in the fields of ecology, hydrology, environmental management and policy, agroecology, biology, geology, entomology, organic chemistry, ethnobotany, Native Hawaiian and Indigenous knowledge, environmental studies, community science, sustainability education, oceanography, environmental education, marine pollution, wildlife and conservation biology, environmental and social justice, and science communication just to name a few; and they are leaders at science and conservation organizations, land trusts, nature centers, and science research labs who engage in transdisciplinary research, such as:

- *Laboratorium* - the experimental lab for art/design and biotechnology at KASK /School of Arts Ghent, Belgium. As a biolab in art and design they focus on exploring different interactions between art, science and technology.
- *SMARTlab* - a research institute at University College Dublin, Ireland supporting Creative Technology Innovation for social change promoting user-driven, transdisciplinary research.
- *FIRE Lab* - in the Department of Biosciences, Swansea University, UK, where they explore young peoples' relationships with freshwater environments using sci-art approaches.

Participants in our online course included science and art directors of community science projects, situated in nature centers and nature conservation organizations across the globe. They also included librarians, public school teachers, STEAM educators, and a public health nurse conducting research on impacts of smoke from forest fires on human populations. And innovative leaders in the field such as a chief scientist delivering science education programs for urban k-12 students out of a bus and a marine biologist delivering citizen science experiences from a trimaran.

Students also included independent scholars and artists, students who define themselves as free-lancers, gig workers, or independent researchers and scholars who engage in these topics: grassroots conservation, digital art/science collaborations with scientists, research on large animal and human interactions, and sustainable practices in urban refuse planning.

At *Citizen-Artist™*, we believe integrative approaches to science diversify and strengthen the field. Including transdisciplinary approaches to both scientific practices and ways of thinking opens the field to communities of creative co-collaborators, expanding the boundaries of scientific innovation and transformative solutions. I hope you will join us. For more information: www.citizen-artist.com