



art21.org/i-wanna-be-with-you-everywhere



I Wanna Be With You Everywhere

ABOUT

Established
2019

Lives and Works
Various locations

About the Artist

I Wanna Be With You Everywhere (IWBWYE) is a group of disabled artists, writers, and organizers collectively producing cross-disability community gatherings by and for disabled people. Since 2019, IWBWYE has centered disability arts and aesthetics at every level of production—from conception to reception—while building the necessary accessibility and infrastructure for the cross-disability community to flourish both remotely and in-person. The collective’s steering committee includes Amalle Dublon, Jerron Herman, Carolyn Lazard, Park McArthur, Alice Sheppard, and Constantina Zavitsanos. Throughout their work as a collective, they offer new visions of togetherness and artistic practice, embracing what Herman refers to as “the beauty of the mess.”

“Disability is about the beauty of the mess and of the mixture. It’s in our coming together that we get to reflect on why we’re together.” —Jerron Herman

TEACHING CONNECTIONS

Media and Materials

community work
performance
video

Key Words and Ideas

access
activism
beauty
collective
cross-disability

joy
play
systems
togetherness
touch

Related Artists

Tanya Aguiñiga
Tania Bruguera
Hadi Falapishi
Theaster Gates
Guerrilla Girls
Oliver Herring
Christine Sun Kim

KING COBRA
Hannah Levy
Azikiwe Mohammed
Aliza Nisenbaum
Mimi Ọnụọgha
Jamie Warren

How to Use This Guide

Art21 encourages active engagement when teaching with our films. The questions and activities below are recommendations for incorporating Art21 films featuring I Wanna Be With You Everywhere into your classroom. Each class will likely require different adaptations for best results.

NOTE: Please view all films before sharing them with your students. In this film, there is an instance of strong language.

Before Viewing

Establish key ideas, in anticipation of viewing the film(s):

- ① What is access? What does it mean to you?
- ② What are “values” of a society, group, or individual? List a few of your values. This can be a private exercise.
- ③ Describe the sensory experience of going to an art institution (i.e. museum, gallery, etc.)

While Viewing

Support active viewing, and pause the film to clarify particular ideas:

- ① How is access described in the film? How is the film itself accessible?
- ② What are the values of IWBWYE? Note how they structure meetings whether virtually or in-person.
- ③ How does IWBWYE engage with art institutions?

After Viewing

Follow-up on key ideas and synthesize information learned from the film(s):

- ① Why is access important for building relationships and community?
- ② How does the structure of the film align with the values of IWBWYE?
- ③ Why might touch, smell, taste, sound, and sight be important in experiencing art?

Related Activities

Engaging in creative activities after watching Art21 films can reinforce learning and stimulate ideas. Art21 encourages educators to adapt these activities to their classrooms.

- ✓ Take an access tour of your school and write down all of the access points you notice. Then write a second list of the access points that are missing. Create small 4x4 drawings of what those access needs would be and post them throughout your school.
- ✓ IWBWYE is an artist collective whose aesthetics are led by their values. Make an artwork that is led by your values. First, reflect on what morals, ethics, or standards matter to you. Then consider how those values might inform what materials or tools you might use. Using those tools, make a work symbolizing a core value.
- ✓ In the film we hear IWBWYE discuss the “beauty of celebrating the mess.” Using found materials, make “messy” art. Once the work is complete, find a partner and discuss what you find beautiful about the work. Take turns looking at each other’s work and discussing.