

locustprojects

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The LAB (Locust Art Builders)

Ideas and art under
construction from:

June 17 – July 12, 2019
Monday to Friday
9am – 3pm

Exhibition Dates:

July 13 – July 27, 2019

Opening Event:

Saturday, July 13, 2019
Reception: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Summer Hours:

Tuesday to Saturday
11am – 5pm

The LAB (LOCUST ART BUILDERS)



Locust Projects is proud to present The LAB (Locust Art Builders). Now in its ninth year, The LAB brings together a diverse group of high school-aged aspiring artists from schools across Miami-Dade County for a four-week Summer Art Intensive for Teens where they learn to build an exhibition from scratch.

Under the direction of Miami-based contemporary visual artists, Monica Lopez de Victoria, Francesco Lo Castro and Maiteso June Urrechega, The LAB is a unique, hands-on opportunity that allows student artists to widen their perspectives, gain new skills, connect with their peers, and meet local artists, collectors and arts professionals from throughout South Florida.

Students experiment in a range of media including sculpture, video, painting, animation, installation, and photography. In addition to art making, their days include skills lab, and group discussion as they conceptualize their ideas behind the show. Students take the lead in writing their artist statements, designing print and digital materials, promoting via social media, meeting with the press and the public, budgeting their expenses, and coordinating their opening reception.

The artist-led instruction at Locust Projects is complemented by guided field trips to local arts institutions and artist studios, as well as a series of talks by invited speakers from the Miami art community and a special Mentor Breakfast where students get to meet and greet artists, teachers, area arts professionals and other community arts mentors. All students receive full scholarships to attend The LAB. The LAB experience culminates with a public opening reception for the student-created exhibition, where

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students' parents, teachers and friends are invited to celebrate alongside the students and Miami's art community.

Each year's exhibition evolves as a unique and timely reflection of the current issues and ideas impacting youth today. The title of the show, *The nauseating dream danced gingerly in the Volkswagen* is drawn from a game of exquisite corpse, a chance-based game most notably used by the Surrealists in which a collection of words or images is collaboratively assembled. The whimsical title is meant to play on ideas of originality, authorship, fact vs. fiction, and big data, questioning if certain concepts can really be owned. Through the exhibition the students hope to bring new life to preexisting concepts and ideas and examine the relationship between a rapidly fluctuating world and a generation of teenagers trying to adapt.

Participating Student Artists: Nataly Ballon, Liz Cardero, Paula Carrizo, Miles Chestler, Katherine Cifuentes, Carlton Daley, Claire Joseph, Antonella Labrozzi, Katherine Luna, Mireia Molins, Gonzalo Peña, Chloe Sadorge, Mira Sadorge, M. Jamesly Saint-Louis, Marina Velis

Schools represented: Design and Architecture Senior High, Dillard Center for the Arts, Hialeah Senior High, Miami Beach Senior High, Palmer Trinity School, New World School of the Arts, TERRA Environmental Research Institute.

Student intern: Daniela Cruz, University of Central Florida; **Student Videographer:** Michael Vega, Design and Architecture Senior High School.

ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.

LOCUST ART BUILDERS (the LAB): Summer Art Intensive for Teens promotes contemporary art and project-based learning as a means to encourage creativity, critical analysis, and problem solving, while building communication skills. LAB extends Locust Projects' 20-year commitment as an incubator of new art and ideas, by supporting experimentation and innovation in artistic practice with the next generation of South Florida artists.

The LAB 2019 is made possible through lead support from the Hillsdale Fund Inc. Additional LAB funding is provided by Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, and donors to the Team LAB Annual Education Fund.

ART HAPPENS HERE.

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