

MSU BROAD

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MSU Broad Art Museum Science Festival Events Spotlight the “Art” in STEAM

East Lansing, MI — The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University is pleased to partner with the 9th annual MSU Science Festival, hosting three virtual events that explore the intersection of science and art. Through the lens of the current exhibition, *Seeds of Resistance*, the events explore the importance of protecting biodiversity, and encourage us to imagine better, more sustainable futures.

“Artists and scientists are part of the same larger project: an effort to better understand the world in which we live and describe the many visible and invisible forces that shape our existence,” said MSU Broad Associate Curator Steven L. Bridges. “MSU Science Festival thus offers a fantastic opportunity to explore the intersections of these efforts across disciplines, with a focus on how the socially-conscious powers of creativity and imagination can guide us to a just and more equitable future for all life on planet Earth.”

The 2021 MSU Science Festival’s virtual line-up includes over 200 presentations on topics of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM), and every event is free and open to the public. The MSU Broad Art Museum has participated in the MSU Science Festival since 2014.

“Our methods and processes may differ, but I believe both artists and scientists are moved by a curiosity and desire to explore and examine the world around us,” said Science Festival Associate Coordinator Katherine Hagman. “Exploring the spaces where artistic and scientific inquiry collide empowers us to think critically and creatively as we tackle societal challenges.”

The MSU Broad Art Museum will host the following MSU Science Festival events:

MSU Science Fest: Seeds of Resistance

Wednesday, Apr. 21, 7–8:30pm

Join us on zoom for an interdisciplinary panel exploring the subterranean power of seeds in our lives, featuring artists from the exhibition *Seeds of Resistance*—Beatriz Cortez (artist and Professor of Central American and Transborder Studies, California State University, Northridge), Dornith Doherty (artist and University Distinguished Research Professor, University of North Texas), and Claire Pentecost (artist and Professor of Photography, School of the Art Institute of Chicago)—as well as Curator Peter Carrington (W.J. Beal Botanical Garden, MSU), Assistant Professor Krista Issacs (Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences, MSU), Assistant Professor David Lowry (Department of Plant Biology, MSU), and Assistant Professor Ashley Shade (Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences).

Studio (in)Conversation: Dornith Doherty

Thursday, Apr. 22, 8–9pm

Get a behind-the-scenes peek at the tools, methods, and spaces that *Seeds of Resistance* artist Dornith Doherty uses to make her stunning photographs of places that support ecological sustainability worldwide. Studio Educator Britta Urness from the MSU Broad Art Museum will visit the studio of this photographer on Instagram Live.

Night at the Museum

Saturday, Apr. 24, 7–8pm

Experience an evening of family-friendly learning about seeds on zoom! Together, we'll hear the seed stories of a few artists who make artwork about biodiversity. Then we'll get our hands dirty as we think more about the nature found outside your door and share ideas for making art at home using natural materials.

The full Virtual MSU Science Festival runs from April 1-30, 2021. Learn more about other MSU Science Festival events at sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Seeds of Resistance is on view at the MSU Broad Art Museum through July 18, 2021. Reserve your free timed-entry tickets at broadmuseum.msu.edu.

About the MSU Science Festival

The MSU Science Festival, now in its ninth year, is the largest free science festival in Michigan, with more than 50+ statewide partners and 70+ MSU partners. New this year, the Festival encourages people to get outside and explore their surroundings by promoting a Citizen Science project. They are hosting a Citizen Science Bioblitz to record the natural world around us through the MSU Science Festival page on the iNaturalist app.

About the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum

The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad) connects people with art through experiences that inspire curiosity and inquiry. Presenting exhibitions and programs that engage diverse communities around issues of local relevance and global significance, the MSU Broad advances the University values of quality, inclusion, and connectivity. Opened on November 10, 2012, the museum was designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid and named in honor of Eli and Edythe Broad, longtime supporters of the university who provided the lead gift of \$28 million.

Michigan State University has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

Image: *Seeds of Resistance* installation view at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, 2021. Photo: Eat Pomegranate Photography.

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