

Art in Society Symposium | WATER



ENGAGE

Collaborative & interactive student works intertwine artistic and academic perspectives on the historical, literary and scientific significance of water, its impact on our lives, and its powerful creative presence in all forms of art.









9:00 - 9:20 am | Morning Welcome in Cargill Commons

9:30 - 10:10 am | First Morning Presentations

10:20 - 11:00 am | Second Morning Presentations

11:10 - 11:50 am | Third Morning Presentations

12:00 - 1:00 pm | Lunch in Cargill Commons

1:10 - 1:50 pm | First Afternoon Presentations

2:00 - 2:40 pm | Second Afternoon Presentations

2:50 - 3:30 pm | Third Afternoon Presentations

3:40 - 5:00 pm | Guest Presentations in Lowman Concert Hall & Livestream

- Gravity Water Guest Speaker Paris Quinney
- Lula Washington Dance Theatre Performance

MORNING PRESENTATIONS

Project 1: Dance / World Languages | Bowman IAF Theater

Project 2: Dramatic Arts / Literature | Pool

Project 3: Visual Arts / History | Husch Field

AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS

Project 4: Film & Digital Media / Science | Bruce Ryan Soundstage

Project 5: Music / Math | Krone Library

Project 6: InterArts / Fashion / Creative Writing / ELL | Holmes Amphitheatre



Erica Nashan Art in Society Director



Abbie Bosworth InterArts Chair and Faculty

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CELEBRATE

Gravity Water announces Art in Society's successful first global campaign: raising the funds needed to build a clean water filtration system for children and families in Vietnam.

Gravity Water is a US-based 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization that focuses on providing clean drinking water to communities in developing countries by utilizing a unique, electricity-free approach. We concentrate our efforts in the Asia-Pacific Region, with established operations in Nepal and Vietnam. Over the next six months, Gravity Water will expand pilots to Taiwan, Malaysia, and Indonesia through corporate support. As water patterns become less reliable and dependency on water increases, Gravity Water believes the solution is to use rain as an integrated daily life practice and a common water source for rural and urban areas.

The Gravity Water Youth Initiative Program (GWYI) empowers young leaders to become active players in resolving the Global Water Crisis. It fosters inclusivity, global citizenship, and equitable access to opportunities. Youth Initiative Coordinators work with K-12 students to raise funds and sponsor sister school clean water projects in countries like Vietnam to secure safe drinking water for children in need. By combining education, leadership, fundraising, and awareness, the Youth Initiative Program provides students with the tools and experience to become true global leaders of change.



Paris Quinney Gravity Water Representative

Paris Quinney is the University Program Manager at Gravity Water and a fourth-year environmental studies student at UC Santa Barbara. Paris originally started her work with Gravity Water as a Youth Initiative Coordinator to help inspire schools to initiate their own clean water campaigns. During the summer of 2022, Paris created a student-run program for university student clubs to work together to raise awareness of the world water crisis while raising funds to build our rainwater filtration systems. The program currently has two University Chapters operating at Cal Poly San Luis Onispo and UC Santa Barbara. Other than philanthropy, Paris is passionate about environmental justice, playing volleyball, and going on hikes.

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FIOW

Special guest Lula Washington Dance Theatre presents a dance performance based on global rituals and movement around water.



Lula Washington
Artistic Director & Choreographer

Lula Washington is Founder and Artistic Director of the Lula Washington Dance Theatre (LWDT). Desiring to build a repertoire company that would perform her own unique, risk-taking, experimental works, as well as the works of legendary pioneers in African-American dance, Lula founded the Company in 1980 with her husband Erwin Washington to provide a creative outlet for minority dance artists in the inner city. In 1983, Lula established her own dance school and provided low cost and free dance classes to neighborhood children. Remembering her own impoverished childhood, she wanted to make dance classes affordable for and accessible to children from low income neighborhoods, where her studio is based. Since then, the School has taught dance to over 45,000 inner-city students. Today, Lula and her Company are revered across the United States and around the world. The Company has danced in over 150 cities in the United States, as well as abroad in Germany, Spain, Kosovo, Mexico, Canada, China, and Russia.

Lula grew up in the Nickerson Gardens Housing Projects in Watts, CA. She was inspired to dance after her junior college dance teacher took her to see the Alvin Ailey dance company. Initially rejected by the UCLA dance program for being too old, at age 22, to start dance training, Washington appealed that decision, was admitted, and went on to become one of UCLA's most successful dance graduates. Lula is admired as a teacher, leader, dancer, and choreographer with a very unique style and approach to dance. Stylistically, Lula fuses African and Afro-Haitian dance. She also incorporates the dance styles of gospel church, classical ballet, modern, street, theatrical, hip hop, while drawing from various ideas and issues. Her works have been praised by critics for their strong political and social commentary, as well as their avant-garde composition and their roots in African-American culture.