

Proposals, Sloup #59

Special thanks to:

UIC

The Vine

Union Loafers Bakery

Nebula Coworking Space

STL Design Week

Wait to cast your vote until artist present their ideas at 6:00, then submit your ballot into the ballot box or leave it with one of the Sloupies. Vote using the # on the top corner of the proposals.

Select your top 3 ideas, **ballots with only one idea selected will not be counted!!** Thanks :)

If you are interested in applying to a future Sloup, or have any feedback, visit stlsloup.com or e-mail us at stlsloup@gmail.com.

#DOODLESTONES

1 What is #Doodlestones?

Doodlestones is an interactive online treasure hunt that combines elements of storytelling, art, and community.

It starts by collecting flat white stones in various Missouri rivers.

Each stone is brought to life through personification, a process of interpreting the shape with a marker to create a unique character (People, animals, objects, food with faces).

All stones are labeled with 1. River of origin 2. The Date 3. "Finders Keepers" 4. #DOODLESTONES

The stones are photographed in groups (called rounds) and posted online on Insta and Facebook.

Then one by one they are hidden in various places around the city, to tell the story of each character. Some are funny, some are poetic, some bring attention to iconic locations or to overlooked beauty. A photo is taken in their hiding place, the photo goes online as a clue and the stone is left for the first person to come upon it.

The game is simple, but it is aimed to cross all cultural, social and political boundaries to encourage people to get out of their homes, experience new places and appreciate art. The goal is to create a new community.

2 SUCCESS

#Doodlestones communities have begun to pop up all over the world (UK, Australia, NJ, and Ottawa).

Hundreds of individuals have taken it upon themselves to participate in the project by doodling on stones in their local communities. Many of them post their results to the Facebook page.

Over 100 teachers have added it to their curriculum this year (Elem, middle, high school, college).

#Doodlestones following has grown to more than 8,500. Many stones are found and reported to the page, including stones I have hid in other states.

The project has been featured on Upworthy and in The St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

3 #DOODLESTONES NEEDS YOU

I specifically am seeking funding for an opportunity to take #Doodlestones to Nepal. I have been invited by Global Arts Therapy to teach my programming in January to three villages, while Nepal writes a new constitution. While everything in country will be paid for, I need \$2,000 for my plane ticket and visas. I will be in small villages for four weeks using art to build community.

This will help #Doodlestones grow in concept and create a stronger bond for St. Louis and its connection to the rest of the world.

Dysfunctionalware is an ornate, "functional" set of china, but its usual application-- sharing and connecting over a large, special family meal--is disrupted by illustrations of white privilege on the dishware, calling into question its functionality, and highlighting the dysfunction of systemic racism in our city.

The set uses the tradition, especially common among wealthy white families, of handing down fine china through hundreds of years of lineage, as a metaphor for white privilege. A person receives their great, great grandmother's expensive dishware--not having earned it or chosen it--and promptly puts it in that giant piece of furniture in the dining room to largely forget about it. Though it's always there, only in the context of guests who don't own such china is it usually discussed or recalled.

The work will be a table setting for 8, with multiple decorated pieces per setting, for a total of 40 unique illustrations of everyday situations of privilege in the set. Local artists will be paid to create 1-2 black-and-white illustrations each, in their own aesthetics, to be reproduced on the dishes.

There will be an initial public event showcasing the pieces in November, then, December 2015 through Spring 2016, a series of dinners at a variety of local venues, where guests can sit around the table and eat a catered meal, uncovering the white privilege on their plates bite by bite and word by word. Guests will share their learning and help one another come to a better understanding, through an invitation to the table rather than a facebook argument.

Many have called for white people to teach and support each other, rather than going to people of color for racial justice support and education. Dysfunctionalware is intended as a succinct tool for facilitating conversations about white privilege. Its design will meet groups wherever they're at in the process of unraveling what privilege means. It will get the illustrators' voices heard by and questions posed to new audiences, and bring people together, over such a divisive topic, in their will to be better supporters of justice.

Monetary Project Expenses (through Nov. 30):

Studio rental:	\$1500
Firing:	\$609
Materials:	\$450
\$50/image to 20-30 local artists/illustrators:	\$2000

To illustrate, host a dinner, stay updated on the project, or otherwise get involved, email sendtaramail@gmail.com

A drawing to heal

A manifesto to overcome

MY NAME IS STRONG

A poem to protest

A song to sing truth to power

My name is Strong is an anti-violence community arts initiative, led by a small group of social work students, encouraging people to make art and creative work as a form of healing, consciousness-raising, and building community. All people impacted by violence - friends, family, loved ones, survivors themselves - are invited to express their thoughts freely, anonymously, and creatively in order to show the world what empowerment looks like.

This year, we've chosen to expand the project in order to honor the experiences of a community traumatized in the wake of Michael Brown's death. We consider this project to be an apt vehicle for encouraging people to heal collectively, creatively, and politically—to engage the community beyond the walls of the university to meaningfully create dialogue, community, and change. We are asking, **“What makes you feel strong? What does your intersectionality look like?”** as we invite members of our local as well as global communities to participate in a dialogue about the intersections of violence, oppression, human connection and strength. Through a constellation of creations, we hope to turn the complex webs of *gender-based violence, power-based violence, trauma, institutionalized oppression, racism, classism, sexism, and generational poverty* into a connected tapestry of human strength.

We are seeking funds for arts supplies to engage even more community members in creating over the next month. So far, we've been fronting the costs ourselves! Because we've provided supplies for women shelters for an extended amount of time, we cannot use the same supplies for our community workshops. We would like to hold creative spaces up until our exhibition opens at **Yeyo Arts**, a local empowerment collective, on **November 6th**. We're excited to see how far this project can go, and would deeply appreciate the support of the Sloup community in enabling community members of all backgrounds and levels of need to participate.



UrbArts

Urban Artists Alliance for Child Development (UrbArts) is a 501 (c) nonprofit organization seeking financial support for our performing arts program VerbQuake Youth Poetry Slam. If supported, funding be used to help pay sixteen performance poets to coach, mentor, and prepare young griots in high schools throughout the St. Louis region for the VerbQuake poetry slam tournament to take place in Old North St. Louis in 2015. Additionally, funding would support the VerbQuake tour of twenty of St. Louis high schools featuring the 2014 UrbSLAM team, ranked top ten in the country.

UrbArts started VerbQuake in 2012 with four public high schools. Gateway STEM, of St. Louis Public Schools, built an early dynasty by winning the first two Grand Slams, even as the field expanded to seven schools in 2013. Earlier this year, fourteen high schools were represented at the VerbQuake tournament with K-Word (Kirkwood High School pictured below) emerging as the champion, with poems gave voice to students who lacked access to platform.



Last year, funding constraints made it impossible for UrbArts to place a poet in each school we served, which weakened impact on youth poets. Funding and programmatic changes for the coming season will resolve this issue by giving students at each school a dedicated poetry slam coach (mentor).

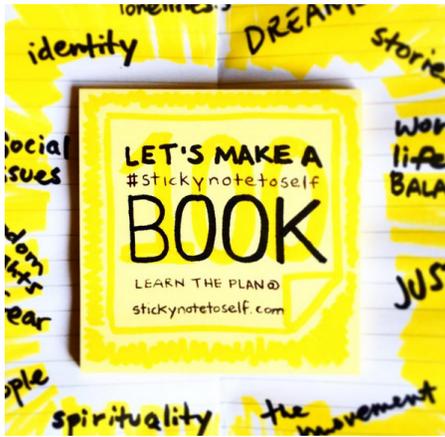
Funding would empower VerbQuake to do the following:

- UrbSLAM team tour of high schools promoting VerbQuake Youth Poetry Slam and
- Enable sixteen high schools welcome poets to mentor and coach students.

It is our view that framing poetry slam as a space for developing critical literacy skills, platforming artistic self-advocacy, and providing mentorship in performing arts carers is worthy of financial support. We hope that you agree.

#STICKYNOTETOSELF#5

---SEE THE NOTES BEFORE YOU VOTE VIA THE HASHTAG ON INSTAGRAM AND/OR STICKYNOTETOSELF.COM---



The #StickyNotetoSelf project is an online series by designer/artist, De Nichols, that visualizes reflections on personal life lessons and current social events one sticky note at a time.

Started on April 1, 2015, #StickyNotetoSelf features semi-daily, chronological posts on topics ranging from social injustice, ideas for peace, motivation and self-care, and opinions on public news. It has received an overwhelming amount of social support, and requests are received daily for the sticky notes to be accessed in new forms, namely a book, a calendar, and/or an exhibition that allows the details and elaboration of the stories of each post to be shared.

After being featured on the Humans of St. Louis project on September 15, the #StickyNotetoSelf project reached its 100th post this past week with some huge announcements, including:

1. A new online blog page to share all the sticky notes: www.stickynotetoself.com.
2. The journey to create a book of all the sticky notes (after it reaches #StickyNotetoSelf365).
Hashtag: #StickyBOOKtoSelf
3. Features in two upcoming exhibitions, a #StickyNotetoYou spin-off, and commissioned projects.
4. Updates to the project's style and consistency, including more sizes and colors to the sticky note posts, new drawing materials, and a challenge to post daily (and multiple times a day).

And that's where you come in.

The #StickyNotetoSelf project will benefit greatly in these exciting new opportunities with your support via Sloup. Funding will allow even greater creativity and impact to come alive in the project by expanding the project's reach and capacity as it engages offline and more directly with more people and viewers.

YOUR VOTE WILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING:

More colors and sizes of sticky notes.

Better quality pens and markers for typography.

Printing & purchase of installation materials for two upcoming exhibitions that will feature the project.

First drafts of the design and layout for the #StickyNotetoSelf book.

MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH THE #STICKYNOTETOSELF PROJECT

Follow the hashtag #StickyNotetoSelf on Instagram to see more sticky notes by De and others.

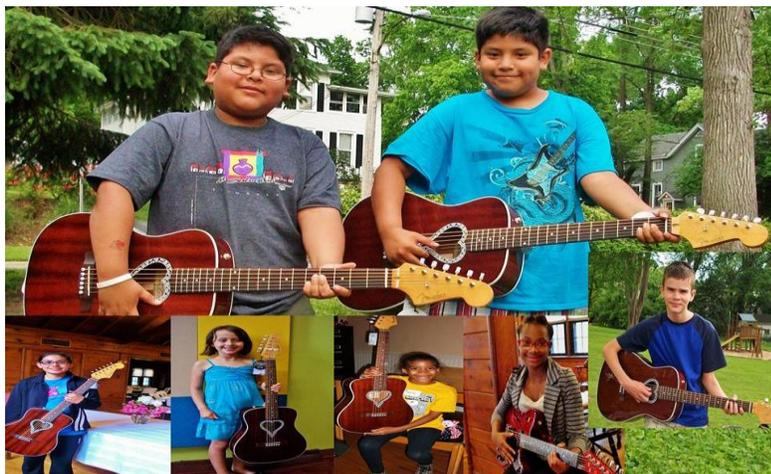
Visit www.stickynotetoself.com to see the plans for the #StickyBooktoSelf.

Attend upcoming shows that will feature them:
October 3 (2-4pm) Art In Struggle at Satori Gallery
November 6 (7pm) My Name Is Strong at YeYo Arts



WANT TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT BEYOND TODAY?

Visit www.stickynotetoself.com or email me, De Nichols, at deandrea@civiccreatives.com.



The Strings Attached project

Strings Attached project was created in 2009 and introduces Ferguson and St. Louis, MO youth to music education, music mentoring, guitar and stringed instrument studies, music notation reading skills and music history within the context of American roots music. We currently serve 200 youth per week in Ferguson, The CWE/Delmar area and Tower Grove.

The project addresses social inequalities that prevent many St. Louis youth from participating in school orchestra and band programs because they lack the skills required to pass note-reading auditions and the economic capital for private lessons. Youth included in the project are from single parent homes, home schooled youth, youth with special needs and emotional challenges, youth who lack music education programs in their school or communities – including lack of access to music education opportunities commercially (lack of music stores in the community.)

Sloup funds will be used to provide loaner instruments so kids can practice at home, music books and lesson costs required for the project. The project has created three collection of recordings combining students and St. Louis professional musicians. **www.stringsattached.info**