

Heidelberg, 22.10.2020

Invitation to the UNESCO Master Class on Colonial Continuities and Climate Activism

When it comes to climate justice, we believe it is important to not just talk about the connections of climate activism and colonialism, and paternalism and exclusion, but also to talk with the activists who are working within these structures and confront exclusionary practices. We invite you to join the discussion and advocate for an inclusive climate movement.

The UNESCO Master Class: Colonial Continuities and Climate Activism in Heidelberg, follows up on climate justice discourses, shifting perspectives on climate change towards global and intersectional perspectives. The Event will address asymmetries in media attention and the visibility of BIPOC voices within european climate movements, as well the lack of sensitivity for forms of discrimination and racism in the organizations and their activities.

By cooperating with german climate movements, youth activists and multipliers are provided with methods and tools for recognizing and reflecting on their own privileges, narratives and organizational structures inhibiting the inclusion and representation of BIPOCs. Thereby participants acknowledge and familiarize themselves with non-white perspectives and are encouraged to discover their positioning within global power structures.

The Master Class further aims at stimulating reflection processes at an organizational level, providing a foundation for breaking up white centered spaces and structures, as well as establishing inclusive strategies of organizational development.

Day 1 (October 31): Colonial Traces and Continuities in the City

The Master Class starts with a city walk through the old town of Heidelberg, on October 31 at 11am CET. Participants of the city walk, get to know the colonial history of Heidelberg and actively engage with colonial continuities in the city. By showing parallels between colonial past and present, participants are encouraged to also recognize invisible manifestations of colonialism, thereby inquiring the origins of racism and setting a foundation for the fight against discrimination.

Meeting point: 11:00 a.m. at the Völkerkundemuseum Heidelberg

Day 2 (November 1): Privilegien der weißen Klimabewegung - eine Reflexion

In the context of worldwide climate protests and accusations of eurocentric perspectives on climate change, the second part of the Master Class addresses colonial continuities and exclusion within european climate movements. The online event, including workshop sessions and a panel debate, brings together voices from the arts, activism and science. By centering the experiences of BIPOC within the european climate movement, the event promotes non-white and intersectional perspectives on climate change and activism. Participants are encouraged to reflect their own narratives and privileges, and identify organizational structures inhibiting the inclusion of BIPOC. Participants and speakers also develop strategies for breaking up white centered spaces and structures, aiming at a broader and representative coalition of climate activists.

Program:

Opening remarks	
12:00 - 12:05	Linda Tinio (UNESCO) und Danijel Cubelic (City of Heidelberg)
Interventions	
Moderation: Evein Obulor	
12:05 - 12:15	Musical input von Celina Bostic
12:15 - 12:25	Poetic input von Shofie Bahlawan
12:25 - 12:35	Input by Anita Soina
12:35 - 12:45	Input by Tonny Nowshin
12:45 - 12:55	Input by Shayli Kartal
12:55 - 13:05	Input by Leonie Baumgarten-Egemole und Line Niedeggen
Workshops	
Facilitators: Se McCarthy, Aaron Müller, Evein Obulor	
13:15 - 14:15	Reflecting privileges and narratives
14:15 - 15:00	Break
15:00 - 16:00	Inclusive organizational strategies
Paneldebate	
Moderation: Ali Can	
16:00 - 17:00	United for our climate? Avenues for an inclusive climate movement Guests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Imeh Ituen (Black Earth Collective) ★ Asuka Kaehler (Fridays for Future) ★ Jane (Extinction Rebellion) ★ Dante Esteban Davis (BUND Jugend)

Further informations:

Facebook: Day 1: <https://fb.me/e/5ynUKR4Pd>, Day 2: <https://fb.me/e/1JZGhVKRJ>
 UNESCO: <https://en.unesco.org/themes/fostering-rights-inclusion/iccar>
 ECCAR Website: <https://www.eccar.info/en/news/unesco-master-class-colonial-continuities-and-climate-activism>

Registration:

If you want to participate in this Master Class please send a mail to eccar@heidelberg.de until October 28.