

Craft as Social Justice

It's said that art can't change the world -- but, in important ways, it can shape the way we live and work. Just as crucially, it can form our perceptions of place. What we make (as artists, makers, designers, architects) responds to the influences of politics, economy, IDENTITY, LABOR and EQUALITY.

The CCA Libraries Exhibition Program presents a digital exhibition by Maria Porge's undergraduate course, *Craft as Social Justice*. Students looked at how object-making and activism intersect in order to propose solutions and open up dialogue. From the Socialist origins of the Arts and Crafts movement to contemporary activist practices, they examined how object-oriented strategies have connected to politics and everyday life in order to turn things into agents for social change.

Students have each curated an online exhibition to present a social-justice issue through groups of objects, designing their sites to present their ideas through both image and text. The collected exhibitions seek to make visible the connections between skilled making and materiality to the lived experiences of the makers and users. The curators sought to tie the issues and the makers to the current political moment.

Exhibiting students include *Anisha Sachar, Anthony Ybarra, Ashley Corso, Camilo Villa, Carly Terreson, Channah Harris, Chloe Roberts, Heather Bauder, Jessica Milavitz, Julianne Villegas, Julie Tran, Mia Candelaria, Samantha Espinoza, Valerie Cienfuegos, and Vivian Harp.*

Viewers are invited to view the student projects via the iPad display; follow the links and videos embedded on the *Craft as Social Justice* landing page.