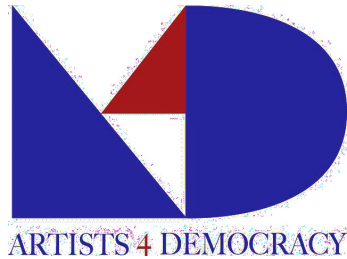


**All proceeds from the sale
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Artists 4 Democracy brings together artists, art educators, and students in Los Angeles to promote democracy by mobilizing the art community for political action and civic engagement. Through voter registration drives, poster design, art sales, fundraisers, canvassing, and political events, we foster and protect our participatory democracy.

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Democratize Your Commute

February 2020



by Bronwyn Mauldin

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Bronwyn Mauldin writes fiction and facts. She's been making zines about how to do democracy since 2016. Remember, democracy works better when you bring friends. More at bronwynmauldin.com/zines.

There are many ways to engage in democracy

- Vote in every election
- Fill out and turn in your Census form
- Volunteer to help register voters
- Donate to voting rights groups
- Sign up to work the polls on election day
- Call or write to your elected officials
- Take a group to meet with an elected official
- Speak up at a town hall meeting
- Participate in a protest
- Volunteer for a local government commission or committee
- Donate to good candidates for public office
- Doorbell, text, or phone bank for good candidates
- Run for public office
- Make art for democracy

Check them off as you do each one!

DEMOCRACY NEEDS ARTISTS

National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. § 951)

It's the law!

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“Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens. It must therefore foster and support a form of education, and access to the arts and the humanities, designed to make people of all backgrounds and wherever located masters of their technology and not its unthinking servants.”

What do artists say about their role in politics and democracy?

“It is important that artists are not outside the equation, we don’t stand on the sidelines. Artists are part of the story of a response, we cannot stand aside and let others make the response.”

Brown, Mark. “Ai Weiwei and Anish Kapoor Lead London Walk of Compassion for Refugees.” *Guardian*, September 17, 2015.



Anish Kapoor

b 1954 in Mumbai, India

“Political art that is precisely geared toward sending an overt, urgent message can be great art.”

Thornton, Sarah. “Wangechi Mutu.” In *33 Artists in 3 Acts*. New York City: W.W. Norton and Co, 2014.

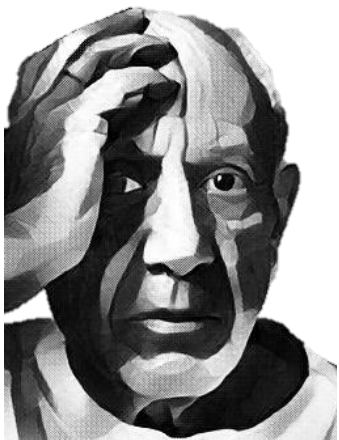


Wangechi Mutu

b 1972 in Nairobi, Kenya

“What do you think an artist is? An imbecile who only has eyes if he’s a painter, ears if he’s a musician, or a lyre in every chamber of his heart if he’s a poet...? Quite the contrary, he is at the same time a political being constantly alert to the horrifying, passionate or pleasing events in the world, shaping himself completely in their image.”

Quoted in Merryman, John Henry, Albert Edward Elsen, and Stephen K. Urice. “Artistic Freedom.” In *Law, Ethics, and the Visual Arts*. Alphen aan den Rijn, Netherlands: Kluwer Law International, 2007.



Pablo Picasso

b 1881 in Málaga, Spain
d 1973 in Mougins, France



Toni Morrison

b 1931 in Lorain (OH), USA
d 2019 in New York City, USA

“All good art is political! There is none that isn’t. And the ones that try hard not to be political are political by saying, ‘We love the status quo.’ We’ve just dirtied the word ‘politics,’ made it sound like it’s unpatriotic or something.”

Nance, Kevin. “The Spirit and the Strength: A Profile of Toni Morrison.” *Poets and Writers*, November-December 2008.



Felipe Baeza

b 1987 in Guanajuato, Mexico

“Through my art practice, I aim to challenge the notions that keep marginalized people in the margins.”

Lescaze, Zoë. “13 Artists On: Immigration.” *New York Times*, June 19, 2018.



Marina Abramović

b 1946 in Belgrade, Serbia

“The function of the artist in a disturbed society is to give awareness of the universe, to ask the right questions, to open consciousness and elevate the mind.”

Thornton, Sarah. “Marina Abramović.” In *33 Artists in 3 Acts*. New York City: W.W. Norton and Co, 2014.

“I can go to the studio and I can make a painting about this moment so that it’s not forgotten, so that as more news and more horrific, awful things happen, people don’t just forget.”

Guzman-Lopez, Adolfo. “Ferguson, Fire, Mexico City Protests Ignite LA Artist’s Creativity.” *KPCC: Off-Ramp*, March 5, 2015.



Sandy Rodriguez

b 1975 in National City (CA), USA

“We need to work hard at bringing the political world into better alignment with our social and cultural realities and aspiration.”

Radin, Sara. “From Controversial Cartoons to Political Purses, 5 Ways Artists are Getting People to Vote.” *Observer*, October 30, 2018.



Michele Pred

b 1966 in San Francisco (CA), USA



María del Carmen Lamadrid Zamora

b 1985 in San Juan, Puerto Rico

"Artists, too, have a responsibility when it comes to elections. We can communicate complex, jargon-filled processes in a more approachable and inclusive way that fights for people to feel welcomed. It's not the same to say 'you can participate' as 'we want you to participate.' "

María del Carmen Lamadrid Zamora, email message to author, February 3, 2020.

"I agree with the notion, that my art serves a purpose. I want to exercise an influence in my own time, in which human beings are so helpless and destitute."

Quoted in Fritsch, Martin, Annette Seeler, and Gudrun Fritsch. *Homage to Käthe Kollwitz*. Leipzig, Germany: E.A. Seemann, 2005.



Käthe Kollwitz

b 1867 in Königsberg, Prussia
d 1945 in Moritzburg, Germany

“I love America more than any other country in the world, and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually.”

Baldwin, James. *Notes of a Native Son*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1955.



James Baldwin

b 1924 in New York City, USA
d 1987 in Saint-Paul, France

“There is nothing negative about a group of people crying out for democracy – and if my voice counts I will be vocal.”

Khaleeli, Homa. “Shirin Neshat: A Long Way From Home.” *Guardian*, June 13, 2010.



Shirin Neshat

b 1957 in Qazvin, Iran

GOOD MORNING AMERICA ☀️ I don't care what responsibilities you have today. There's no greater responsibility than being in control of your future and it starts NOW!! REGISTER TO VOTE TODAY at Vote.org & triple check that you are properly registered! Let's go!!

Rihanna (@rihanna)

October 9, 2018

This is National Voter Registration day, research the voting rights in your state and make a plan to vote. By making your voice heard at the polls, you can determine the future of our country's criminal justice system. Call 866.OUR.VOTE to know your rights #NVRD

John Legend (@johnlegend)

September 25, 2018



I am so grateful to be home in time to vote! One vote can make a difference, so make sure your voice is heard! 🗳️ 🇺🇸 now go out and #VOTE!!!!

Demi Lovato (@ddlovato)

November 6, 2018

I'm feeling grateful for everyone before me who fought so hard to give us all the right to have a voice. We can't voice our frustrations and complain about what's wrong without voting and exercising our power to make it right. We need you. We all need each other, because when we are truly united we are unstoppable. Sending you all love and positivity on this happy voting day!

Every vote counts
Every race matters
Everywhere.

Beyoncé (@beyonce)

November 6, 2018

It's #ElectionDay! 🇺🇸 Find your polling place & go vote!!

🗳️ <http://iwillvote.com>

Mariah Carey (@mariahcarey)

November 6, 2018

I voted, animals!! Comment #HereComesTheChange if you voted today ☆☆☆

Kesha (@iiswhois)

November 6, 2018