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**EN FOCO ANNOUNCES**  
**NEW PUBLIC PROGRAMMING SERIES SUMMER 2022:**  
***Immersive Technology: Art, Activism, and Community***  
***Session #3: Community & Immersive Tech***



**BRONX, NY, August, 20, 2022** – En Foco is proud to announce the third of four workshops, as part of its *new virtual summer workshop series, Immersive Technology: Art, Activism, and Community* hosted in collaboration with BronxNet, Pregones PRTT, and the Bronx Council of the Arts. The third session features a panel discussion hosted by En Foco, that will focus on the vast intersections of immersive technology, and Community, as relating to organizations and individuals, continuing the sharing of valuable informational tools and promoting community engagement and accessibility to immersive technology resources.

To RSVP for Immersive Technology: Art, Activism and Community Session #2: Performing Arts & Immersive Tech, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/393299177427>

The third of four sessions will be held virtually on August 30th, 2022 from 5-7pm and explore the intersections of Education, Social Work, Community Organizing and immersive technologies. Panelists include **Najiyah Edun**, **Adriana Gaviria** and **Gabriel Torres** of North Star Projects, **Jessica Quinones** of BronxWorks, **Will Roberts** of BronxNet and moderator **Antonio Serna**.

Attendees will be encouraged to consider how immersive technology can be implemented in their communities to achieve cultural equity and access. The series, which is free and open to the public, will also address the critical lack of tech-based programming and support in the Bronx.

No previous experience or equipment is required to attend. All presentations will be hosted virtually and rebroadcast on BronxNet. Please register for access to the Zoom link. ASL and Closed Captioning services will be provided.

**ABOUT THE PANELISTS**

**NAJIYAH EDUN** is an interdisciplinary artist, spatial designer, and creative technologist based in NYC. Trained and licensed as an architect, she has since worked on the design and development of a number of cultural institutions such as Philharmonie de Paris Concert Hall, the US Embassy compound in Nigeria. For the past few years, she has been examining the intersections of the digital and the physical. Her work has been featured at Le Palais de Tokyo in Paris, at the Gray Area Showcase, at the D3 Gallery in NYC, and at Makerfaire.

**ADRIANA GAVIRIA** is an actor, producer, director, writer, and advocate in the United States. She is a founding member and artistic producer of The Sol Project, a national initiative to support Latinx theater, and the founder and producing artistic director for North Star Projects, an arts initiative that supports independent artists and theaters. Her advocacy also includes leadership roles with the Parent Artist Advocacy League (PAAL).

**GABRIEL TORRES** is a multidisciplinary artist from Colombia and New York. Torres' work deals in the conversations between community engagement, creative placemaking, theater making and film. Gabriel is currently working on Haus of Dust, a campaign to bring awareness about substance use in latinx queer communities from his personal experience. To learn more, visit [iamdust.org](http://iamdust.org) | [gabrielgtorres.com](http://gabrielgtorres.com)

**WILL ROBERTS** is a storyteller, spatial thinker, designer, 3D artist with a background in UX design. His strengths are designing experiences that bridge the physical and virtual. From concept to completion, he builds installations, games and storyworlds in the form of augmented and virtual reality. He's committed to designing experiences that help one maximize their physical potential.

**ANTONIO SERNA** is a Mexican-American artist with both a collective and studio based practice. His current projects include Documents of Resistance: Artists of Color Protest, an art/research project focusing on the history of art and activism of people of color, and The Same Sun / Calendar, a multimedia mediation on time, place, and race. Working collectively, he is currently a member of the NYC Museum Workers' Organizing Committee, a by-and-for worker empowerment and solidarity group.

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**ABOUT EN FOCO** | En Foco, Inc. is a non-profit that supports U.S.-based photographers of African, Asian, Latino, Native American, and Pacific Islander heritage. Founded in 1974, En Foco makes their work visible to the art world, yet remains accessible to under-served communities. Through exhibitions, workshops, events, and publications, it provides professional recognition, honoraria, and assistance to photographers as they grow into different stages of their careers. For more information, please visit: [enfoco.org](http://enfoco.org).

**ABOUT BRONXNET** | BronxNet provides hands-on television production training, equipment access, and channels for Bronx residents. Award-winning BronxNet programs keep BronxNet in touch with the people, issues, neighborhoods, and activities that make the borough what it is today. For more information, please visit: [www.bronxnet.org](http://www.bronxnet.org)

**ABOUT NORTH STAR PROJECTS** | North Star Projects is a new arts initiative whose mission is to create a better world, one project at a time, by engendering experiences that empower, inspire, and build community through various platforms including live events and digital media. please visit: [northstarprojects.org](http://northstarprojects.org)

**ABOUT BRONXWORKS** | BronxWorks helps individuals and families improve their economic and social well-being. From toddlers to seniors, we feed, shelter, teach, and support our neighbors to build a stronger Bronx community. In all aspects of our work, BronxWorks strives for the highest ethical and performance standards. We are guided by the belief that people must be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their present situation or past experiences. For more information, please visit: [bronxworks.org](http://bronxworks.org)

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