



THE THISTLER

SUMMER 2013 • FREE

Visit our website for up-to-date info on our schedule of events:
www.purplethistle.ca

to use the space during the summer contact us and set up a time!



CONTACT

604.255.2838
info@purplethistle.ca
located at: #260-975
Vernon Dr.

SAVE THE DATE!

For the fall **Social Spaces Summit**:

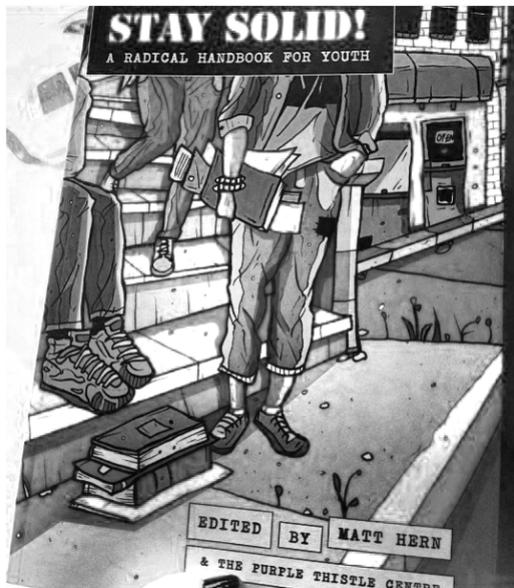
The 2013 Social Spaces Summit will be held in Vancouver on unceded Coast Salish Territory on the weekend of:

November 8th, 9th, 10th & 11th!

If you are interested in getting involved, email us at: institute@purplethistle.ca. We are opening up the organizing process to those who run social spaces and especially those who participated in the 2012 summit.

STAY SOLID!

A Radical Handbook For Youth



The Thistle made a book and we are super excited to share it with you!*

You can buy a copy by contacting us!
You can also pay for it off our website via paypal and we'll mail you a copy!

Thanks for the support!

GARDENING DAYS

THURSDAYS: 2-5 PM
SUNDAYS: 11 AM- 4 PM

Yeah, Write

What we are offering is this:

*a space for youth to come together intentionally with the desire to spend time writing

*scribes who recognize how the disconnect between the pen and the tongue can be the hardest part about writing

*mentorship and feedback.

We would like to have a combination of folks, some of who just want to drop in and free write or respond to prompts and some folks who are interested in specific feedback and response.

Whether you want to work on poetry or prose, you're invited.

We will be meeting for four weeks from 4-7pm on Sundays.

Our first session will be on June 23rd.

Please drop us a short note about who you are, what you want to work on and why you are interested in participating. This invitation is to all interested and at the same time we want to prioritize inclusion of youth who are marginalized - indigenous people, people of colour, women, queer, trans, two spirited folks and working class folks. We have a 15-person max for this project.

We will have snacks.

Please email yeah.write.workshop@gmail.com to register by June 19th.

yeah, write is a project of rain zine.



Below is an excerpt from the chapter on Education: Don't Give Up, Drop Out by carla bergman and Mike Jo

"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete."
Richard Buckminster Fuller

Creating a project/counter institution:

But we are after something else here; we want to make things, learn real skills that can take us places, and connect to others. We want environments for doing and learning that are not oppressive like school. That's why it's important to have friends--new and old--mentors, and physical spaces to meet and build community. Be full citizens in our community and city. We want to move forward from learning in isolation--whether it be the drop-in-an-ocean isolation of school or the isolation of home learning-- and create a collectively powered experience. how do you create a radical project or community space that will have yours and your friends thriving at the forefront of whatever it is you create, and that won't mimic school in any way?

Here's a short list to get you thinking:

1. think small. both with how many people and how big the space is. it can be as little as 5 of you and can be just one room, basement of a friends, a garage, back of a store, etc... be creative!
2. find out what you all really want to do, take your time deciding -- this process will really make the project/space more solid and truly collectively run.
3. decide about funding! are you going to apply for grants? are you going to pool money or welfare checks and collectively pay for it? can you fund raise every month? or will you have a money-making aspect of the space like a book shop or cafe (although these often rely on fundraising and community support anyhow)
4. Reach out to mentors and your community for guidance. people are awesome and love to help.
5. try to make genuine relationships that are based on a real solidarity (not tokenistic gestures... that comes off fake) with those who are unlike you and your crew, and also take steps to create a safe space for those who are systematically excluded from the 'benefits' of society. Be sure to pay special attention to the voices of queer folx, peeps of colour, those indigenous to your area, or anyone who is denied a voice and representation in mainstream culture. create something different!

There are a million ways to do this, and you can try more than one. Don't worry if it doesn't last that long, or if it fails, the gauge of a project is not necessarily its length. Be open, build it based on what folks are wanting, but more than anything have fun!

*All proceeds from the book go to supporting the Thistle!

LOVABLE



Want to learn how to take great photographs?
Interested in smashing patriarchy and patriarchy's ideals of beauty?
Do you identify as a woman (or some variation)?
Hey, maybe this project will be for you!

LOVABLE is a photography program developed for folks who are interested in learning how to take rad photographs but who are also interested in questioning patriarchy's beauty standards! Camera gear will be supplied and this is a no-cost program!

All Bodies are Good Bodies!

Hit up Sylvia (sylviabobilvia@gmail.com) if you're interested in learning more!

d.i.t. FREE SUMMER WORKSHOP SERIES!
(d.i.t. stands for Daughters In Tandem and Doin' It Together)

are you a young self-identified woman of colour?
14ish-19ish years old?

If so, come learn about silkscreening, hip-hop, poetry, photography, zine-making and lots more.

Tell your story and create art that you are proud of.

hang out, be free to be yourself and do your thing.

for more info email or call aly
alystrange@gmail.com
604.655.8026

daughtersintandem.tumblr.com

GUERRILLA GARDENERS OF THE PURPLE THISTLE



Check out our blog and look out for upcoming events and workshops that include Quinoa Sprouting, Food Forest Mushroom Cultivation, Herbal Medicine Making, and Permaculture 101. If you want to **come help out**, our garden parties are **Sundays 11am-4pm, and Thursdays from 2-5pm**. Also feel free to come eat with us at our Monthly Potluck Meetings every first Tuesday of the month. Invite your friends!
Mush Love and Peas!!

Guerrilla Gardeners @ radiclebeets.wordpress.com-going!

Natural Building with Cob - email Jenni to be part of the design team! Actual building of the cob shed will be taking place in July.
jentigchelaar@yahoo.ca

Mushroom Enhanced Greenhouse - We just scavenged about 50 windows to use for our greenhouse. We'll be using mushrooms to boost plant growth as the shrooms release heat and CO2. Help us design and build it for August! Email **Phanh** at abcwhatever@yahoo.ca or **Kelsey** at ki2freedom@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Design/Layout: Carla Bergman/Julian Evans

DIT: aly d

Yeah, Write: hari

Garden write up and photos: by Kelsey

Stay Solid excerpt: by carla and mike jo

LOVABLE: by Sylvia

we are a free place (both free-of-charge, and we are interested in freedom) where youth can engage with each other and their community. The Centre is a physical space to root ourselves, a place to work together, and a site to learn new ways for radical organizing for social change.



Call: 604.255.2838
Write: info@purplethistle.ca
Visit: #260-975 Vernon Dr.
Vancouver, BC V6A 3P2
Coast Salish Territories
WWW.PURLETHISTLE.CA

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