

[SOCAP 2020](#)

October 18-23, 2020

General notes, themes, questions, ideas, links gathered throughout the week of programming as heard by Victoria

Email Victoria at TINYisPOWERFUL@gmail.com to continue the conversation.

Art bringing TINY BUSINESS into conversations about a new, circular, inclusive economy;

Carrying the voices and stories of *art and tiny business* (and our communities) of the past and present **to serve the viability of TINY BUSINESS the future**

Artists as investors

As designers

As generators of shared imagination and collective legacy building

Here are some notes for SOCAP 2020 --

Fueling the systems that fund education for the next generations

The country is becoming more black and brown -- these are underdeveloped assets

[research: [venture philanthropy](#)]

- Broadband
- Devices

Corporation employees make up communities [*is this still true in the future?*]

People want to know how they can help [*note: I'm wondering does 'help' need to be clearly defined/redefined/stated for our purposes*]

Decolonizing our mind

there is something other than capitalism

Reparations and restorative justice are needed

Are there any wealthy indigenous people?

Unseen on the social, economic, political landscape

Currently philanthropy is the other side of capitalist structure -- success metrics are determined by investor's terms

Organizations of color investing in people of color

Investing in indigenous women

Micro finances vs big money

7th generation is arising -- this is when to shift

Return in community for generational wealth instead of extracting

How has our organization benefited society?

Sharing assets

Climate change

Sustainable capitalism is the future of investing

Value for all stakeholders

Shift in collective consciousness

Healthcare

food/water

Security

Supply chain

Most vulnerable in society

Worker rights

Climate change

Global Challenges

Solutions oriented

Diabetes is a growing epidemic

Societal direction profile AND purpose

Products and services that address critical needs [*TINYisPOWERFUL as services that address critical - social - needs*]

Dismantling structural racism

COVID time is both hyperproductive AND fatigue

Moving toward equilibrium people & technology

[2% solution](#) to reverse corporate history of structural racism

Bonds from fortune 500 companies as financing vehicles (???)

Sustained levels of investments across dimensions

Microsoft, Paypal, Square committed to 50,000 BIPOC small-medium businesses by 2025

Lack of capacity vs lack of investments

Communities can self heal with resources

64% of black wealth goes to servicing student loan debts (back to federal government)

- We don't have generational wealth

"We can't remain pure in the system, we have to participate to undo it"

Move through capitalism to achieve a world not motivated by profits

Social wealth

Food sovereignty

Land sovereignty

New economics and equity criteria

Investors investing in changing culture → that makes money

Inclusive ecosystems

- Get people into an industry
- Change how industry functions

Objective - regenerative new economy

Money nourishing new economies

Art to inspire community led change

Change leaders finding film and art tools

Art leads to activism

Short form content and videos

Thrive with groups of people

Space to enjoy art and discuss activism

Catalyzing conversations about how things can look

Amplifier art to help imagine a different future

EX: download poster art from imperative21.co to inspire community conversations about a more just future --

Women and people of color are majority
Investments need to reflect the world
Longterm action and change

We are in the age of human

Coalition impact
Next to others at the table

OPINION - reactive diversity policy is whack. If you're just now waking up, it has to be radical.
(victoria's opinion)

Closing the wealth gap by 2028 will result in GDP growth

Holistic and systemic approach to generate economic growth
Help the most vulnerable populations
And individuals who have been left out

Country is majority black and brown

CDFI's are the heros of the moment (*are they heroes for TINY?*)

There is a false narrative around the capacity of businesses of color

SC has 5 million residents

Document everything even the challenges so it can be replicated

We have a blueprint

Research [LISC](#)

Individual choices can make a dent in achieving race equity

Community partnership assets

- Art tools
- Organized community leadership
- Sustained engagement

Seed Spot - home for impact-driven entrepreneurs
Safe spaces

Removing barriers

Success measured by -- sustainability, jobs created, under-represented founders, capitol raised, lives impacted

Top 5 private venture firm

“Producing the culture we want to be part of”

Artists provide other frameworks

Supporting artist residencies

Relationships with communities

Keeping the team and venture’s priorities aligned

Building

- Place
- Culture
- Pathway

Illuminate alternate forms of capacity and infrastructure

This work is not siloed

Cultural production

- Films
- Food
- Crossing spaces

You have to do a little bit of everything

Margins

Multiple skills

5-10 years southern focus

The south funding the south

Embrace hybridity for solidarity work in the south

We have many things going on

In a way that does not replicate power dynamic

Partnerships beyond ownership and debt

Internal plans with viable outcomes

From Opportunity SC

- Know local policies that are harming low income communities of color
- Compare with policies in other places
- Advocate collectively at the national level
- We are the most culturally diverse area in the country
- Eliminate racial health disparities
- Eliminate racial wealth gap
- Reorient police funding
- Work in coalition with other organizations
- Get to know neighbors
- Build trust
- Build community power
- Value public knowledge and expertise at the same level as consultant expertise

NOW BACK TO SOCAP

Through what lens do we see our work?
Narrative influence?

“Creative place keeping”
Keep people in place and anchored in an internal idea of place

Through the lens of blackness

[Afro-futurism](#) informing practices and ways of working

Research [Allied Media Projects](#)

“The darkest part of the eye attracts the light” to global society

Envisioning a future outside of trauma realizing potentials unchallenged by systematic racism --
Healing

Identities we are framed in → implicit bias and systemized social control
Programming our brains with imagery of black trauma

Space for bold imaginings more than deficit identities

“Afro-futurism is critical at this moment”

Indigenous communities + black futurism

Where scale isn't the goal -- relationships are valued over the need to get ahead

"What is enough"

Centering our own happiness is radical

Circular economy providing needs

Octavia Butler novels

"Futurist" collection of people, space, thought, research, practiced arts

Black people forward

Social alchemy

How people can be in relationship

Human thriving and well-being

Design of process how people interact with each other and space

Monetization without extracting but putting money in hands

Indigenous wisdoms and technology

Imagining even 15 minutes into the future is challenging to society emphasis on now

Vision centered

Healed by bodies not informed by trauma

Relationship prioritized

Creative practice

- Focus and direct our work
- Afrofuturism powerful technologies

Polymath

Multiple intelligences

Creative practice

Intersections

Decision making and commitments can be hard

Multitasking

Multidisciplinary

Research - [Making a New Reality](#) (Ford Foundation)

Coming to the end of capitalism as we know it
Circular economy
Regenerative systems

Sophisticated understanding of oppressive history of United States

Systems at the macro level were designed to influence micro

- Racism
- Classism

Science of learning

[Epigenetics](#)

New sectors emerging

Complex memory system

- Positive and negative influences
- Relationship with stress

Intersections and complexities of identity

Dimensions of input around development [*this part made me think of Aysha and Rain's 5 Health Series*]

- Biological
- Psychological
- Sociological
- spiritual/moral

Preparing people for new jobs

Decentralizing expertise

4 hour work day

4 days per week

Cultural balance

- Value for mutual survival and shared prosperity
- Time in nature
- Time in creativity

Artists work with the currency of community

Abundance as a norm

Cultural anthropology

In some cultures the more items and objects you have the poorer you are versus a scarcity based mentality in a legitimately scarcity based environment is killing us

Recentring marginalized voices → complex ideas for better design

Relationships -- artists have to work beyond monetization

Balance and wellbeing

Part-time artist work \$55,000 per year and eventually part time benefits

Some businesses/ventures aren't meant to last forever -- organizations that live forever might not be the goal

If it fails but contributors were paid well then that is success

Time limited work to maintain energy

\$125 per hour

Decentering certain kinds of expertise

Currently we take wisdom and expertise and extract

Opportunity to disrupt

through process

in the DNA of space and structure

Making common wisdom into common practice

Understand how the market will shift

How labor and skill will be valued

[No-Code Revolution](#) is already happening [*we should as Ennis her thoughts on this*]

Whenever we finally get into something (i.e. youth learning to code) its devalued

Black people are 225 years behind in the wealth gap

Co-ops

- Input and investment
- Engagement and commitment
- Grow slow

- Provide a source of income
- Equity share for bringing creative projects in
- Pool wealth

Philanthropic LLCs

For some of us the only access to capital we see is student loans

Resources beyond cash

- Skills

Call and response website vs social media addiction design & capitalism

Digital divide

Our content, voices, opinions

Sign very narrow NDAs and receive compensation up front

Organizing for things that are better

- Community benefits agreement as boundaries
- Reciprocal growth
- Make us less vulnerable to giving away power

For philanthropy

- Visionary outcomes with no indicators
- 6-12 months is impossible

Indigenous virtual space

Intergenerational work

Ancestors have been fighting for

Reconciliation is a false narrative because it would have had to start with good relationships

Outcomes

- Truth telling
- Righting wrong
- Intergenerational healing
- You can't have justice without healing, you can't have healing without truth

What's happening?

What needs to be healed?

How are people included?

Accurate, complete recounting of history

Community racial history

Erased and untold stories

- Native and indigenous history
- Nations that existed

Measurable community vision

- Immigration and migration stories create a shared story in place

Imaginative work

- Imagine charleston without racism
- What would it look like
- How would it feel
- Library partner -- input from communities "what does it take to get there" "who needs to be in the room"
- Individual stories

Elders and Youth

Curriculum and policies that take us in a different direction with how we treat people socially

Share narrative and shared vision carried through art

Culture bearers

- Bringing the past

"Art is the first revolution"

- Cultivate
- Uplift
- Affirm
- Challenge
- The creation of art
- A portal to truth
- And to the sacred
- Connecting
- Devine
- Seeking to share

The art of our people expresses our identity and makes us real; helps keep us alive; carries knowledge through devastation

Without art we wouldn't know how to define ourselves

Find, share, amplify stories of survival and resistance; resilient stories of our ancestors [*tiny businesses who have survived*]

Decolonizing art

De-westernizing art

- We tax artists with being marketers and small business owners

Racial wealth gap

- Fed reparations
- Health care
- Local reformation about what is understood as true

Producing art that tells us what time it is and where to go

Decolonizing the school system

Fund artists and organizations that allow them to center, expand, deepen work; we have to trust them

Decolonizing funding -- currently the system is not investing in transformation

Love and recognize the value of self and purpose

Access to healing, housing...

"We gentrify communities when they become safe rather than have people participate"

Transition framework for creating restorative and regenerative economy

Expand ownership

Expand public health

Infrastructure in communities to steward our own capital

Investing in youth 16-24

Trauma, health and wellness

Full inclusion

Full economic participation

Advice to young people partnering with adults

- Create authentic relationships
- Be vulnerable. Voice what you need."

Full self

Full passion

Full vision

Share hopes, dreams, fears, struggles

Power to young peoples' lived experiences

- Strategy, policy, system change

Artists and culture bearers as investors and to be invested in

[Cultural New Deal](#)

“UN declared 2021 international year of creative economy” *[research]*

Global culture shift away from past systems

This is the moment to dismantle

Chaos is the time to lead with vision

As cultural works its not enough to be in community with artists, we have to demand investments in our community

Culture precedes politics

Stories lead to policy change

Connect the dots

Elevate BIPOC leadership

Tribal sovereignty

Land keepers

Art rebuilds, restructures, reformulates community and how they/we will thrive

Visionary and transformative with how we think about our future

We've been “kept” behind not “left” behind

Decades and generations of work

Bigger than the arts and culture sector

Starts with artists and culture bearers

The big idea is putting wealth and power in the hands of artists

Currently 70% of every dollar goes back into white businesses *[research]*

Research countries with low poverty

Connecting with mission driven investors

Process vs products

Process and invisible infrastructure of people and ideas

A pathway to others foundational to communities

Acknowledging we are on stolen land

We need food in my neighborhood

Systematic racism deeply involved in urban planning

investors/funders want to spread things that work in other places but we can represent what we know to be true HERE

- What do we need
- What's missing

You can be righteous and economically sound

Passion sustains you

- Recognition of past
- Desire to bring people in

Funders add fuel

To strengthen community and people we have to be in community

"Remember your self"

Show up integrated and full in all spaces

Hacking the non-profit industrial complex

Accelerated collaboration

- Yes, we want land to maintain space
- Build organizational capacity through shared resources

Philanthropy is still status quo asking us to build the bike and ride it at the same time

The gift of Global Pause to reimagine systems

[Community Cultural Wealth](#) -- non-financial metrics

Bring your full self to everything you do

Support communities cutting their way through the path

Lots of dancers in the space

Jamie Hand -- ArtPlace

- Arts and activists shape society in a way people can understand, access and be inspired
- [conNECKtedTOO as a research project?]
- Public Health is the overarching sector; what the public understands of public health -- social determinants of wellness and wellbeing
- Making the case to public health practitioners
- Strategic communications to create shared language;
 - Public health crisis
 - Chronic disease driven by poverty and trauma

The arts as “new ways of knowing”

Progress and outcomes you haven't thought of

Building bridges

Employ artists and bridge sectors

Artists deliver messages

Document and catalogue

Expansive definition of art and its functions

Highly nuanced network of practitioners interfacing with data research and epidemiology

A prescription for anxiety symptoms might be a pottery class

- Social prescribing is happening in Canada and UK

Layers of networks

Save money

Make better outcomes

Neighborhood artists as standards for holistic life

Large cohort data

Arts agencies at federal and state level

Arts center (community lab) at local level