

# Jesikah Maria Ross

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## EDUCATION

- MFA, Interdisciplinary Art, Goddard College, 2017
- M.S., Community Studies and Development, University of California Davis, 1999
- B.A., Spanish, University of California Davis, 1987

## ACADEMIC TEACHING

**Lecturer**, Davis Humanities Institute, UC Davis, 2010 - 2012

- *Creating Community Media: Collecting & Curating Public Histories*
- *Chicano Movement Sacramento*

**Lecturer**, Department of Women & Gender Studies, UC Davis, 1999 - 2006

- *Fashion, Globalization, & Advocacy Video*
- *Personal Essay Documentary*
- *Community Media, Gender & Development*
- *Feminist Video Production: Making Media & Making Change*
- *Cinema and the American Jewish Experience*

**Lecturer**, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz, 2005

- *Latino Community Media*
- *Using Media: Video Production & Community Change*

## COMMUNITY TEACHING

### **Project Director/Media Trainer**

- *Conn@ct Now Participatory Youth Radio Project*, Free Press Unlimited, Gulu & Lira, Uganda, 2011-2012
- *Conn@ct Now Participatory Youth Video Project*, WarChild, Yei, South Sudan, 2010-2011
- *HIV/AIDS Participatory Youth Radio Project*, UNICEF, Addis Abba, Ethiopia, 2006 - 2007
- *Reel Change Agents Youth Filmmaker Fellowship*, Bioneers, Santa Fe, NM 2007
- *HIV/AIDS Participatory Photo Project*, Amy Biel Foundation, Capetown, South Africa, 2001
- *Picturing Our Community Photography Project*, Appalshop Media Arts Center, Elkhorn, KY, 2001
- *DisabiTV*, West Sacramento, CA, 1994 - 1995

### **Artist-in-Residence/Media Trainer**

- *Troubled Waters: Tracing Waste in the Delaware River*, Haverford & Bryn Mawr Colleges, PA, 2014
- *My World Cup*, University of Washington Bothell and Cape Town Community TV, South Africa, 2010
- *Radio for Community Development*, Radio Netherlands Training Center eLearning, Uganda 2005 - 2006
- *Community Radio & Development*, Radio Netherlands Training Center, Hilversum, Holland, 2001 - 2006
- *From the Holler to the Hood Prison Media Project*, Appalshop Media Arts Center, Whitesburg, KY, 2002

- *Best Practices in Youth Media Training*, Youth Media Network, New York, USA 2000, 2002
- *Video Diaries*, Factor X/Casa de la Mujer, Tijuana, Mexico, 2001
- *Community Video Production*, Community Media Coop, Dublin, Ireland, 2001

### **COMMUNITY MEDIA MANAGEMENT**

- **Senior Community Engagement Strategist**, Capital Public Radio, Sacramento, CA 2013 to present
- **Founding Director**, UC Davis Art of Regional Change, Davis, CA 2008 – 2012
- **Assistant Director**, Mediaworks Community Media Center, Cape Town, South Africa 2001
- **Special Projects Director**, Davis Media Access, Davis, CA 1991-1996

## COLLABORATIVE DOCUMENTARY PROJECTS

*Place and Privilege*, Sacramento, CA, 2016 - 2018

Directed community engagement initiative involving public radio journalists and six diverse regional service organizations for multiplatform documentary and podcast series on the housing affordability crisis in California's capital. Formed a 30-member advisory board, created mobile storybooth, produced the [Community Voices](#) digital platform and travelling exhibition, generated resource materials, led national project evaluation team, and orchestrated ten public dialogue events (Story Circles, PostCasts, Civic Socials) throughout Sacramento using project content. [capradioview.org/housing](http://capradioview.org/housing)

*#YearAtEncina*, Sacramento, CA, 2016 - 2018

Led community engagement component of public media documentary exploring resilience, challenge, and change in an impoverished suburban school. Established school and museum partnerships, taught youth media workshops, and collaborated with journalists to produce video profiles, photo essays and student produced media. Curated project content into an interactive exhibition at the California Museum and collaborated with students to design and facilitate exhibition reception and associated programming. [capradioview.org/encina](http://capradioview.org/encina)

*Hidden Hunger*, Sacramento, CA, 2014 - 2015

Devised and directed community engagement initiative involving public radio journalists and four diverse anti-hunger coalitions for multiplatform documentary project on food insecurity. Established partnerships, created mobile storybooth, produced the [HiddenHungerStorybooth.com](http://HiddenHungerStorybooth.com) interactive website and resource materials, and orchestrated a series of large, high profile public conversation events sparked by project stories and images. [capradioview.org/hunger](http://capradioview.org/hunger)

*Troubled Waters: Tracing Waste in the Delaware River*, Philadelphia, PA, 2014

Co-created and orchestrated interdisciplinary documentary project that brought students, scholars, artists and activists together to explore the causes and impacts of pollution in the Delaware River. Participants worked in teams to generate interactive digital maps, data visualizations, photos, and videos which they posted to a collective website and presented to the public. Developed and led mobile media training, produced and curated multi-authored project website, and organized a public showcase of the work. [troubledwaters2014.tumblr.com](http://troubledwaters2014.tumblr.com)

*Class Dismissed*, Sacramento, CA, 2013

Designed and led community engagement initiative involving public radio journalists, ten community-based organizations and 90 multiethnic youth in multimedia documentary project on high school dropout. Established partnerships, facilitated youth storytelling workshops, produced the *RView209* community media blog, designed the *209Talks* resource site, and coordinated 34 community dialogues using media produced through the project. [capradioview.org/classdismissed](http://capradioview.org/classdismissed)

*Restore/Restory: A People's History of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve*, Yolo County, CA, 2010 - 2012

Designed and directed public history project involving university scholars, graduate students, undergraduate students and 100 community residents in generating a multimedia project that tells the complex history of a nature preserve through diverse voices and views. Created and implemented media training and produced a site-based audio tour, digital murals, a storymap, illustrated timeline, series of

live events, and project website in collaboration with project participants, project advisory group, and organizational partner. [restorerestory.org](http://restorerestory.org)

*Youth Voices for Change*, West Sacramento, CA, 2009 - 2011

Collaborated with university-based participatory action research team to involve urban youth to create photos, videos, and an interactive web-based map to help policy makers design public spaces and programs that better reflect the voices, concerns, and dreams of typically underserved youth. Developed and led media training, co-produced youth media products, organized public screenings, and curated a fine arts gallery exhibition of project work. [artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/?page\\_id=38](http://artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/?page_id=38)

*Passion for the Land: Personal Stories from the Sierra Valley*, Sierra/Plumas Counties, CA, 2008 to 2010

Collaborated with UC Cooperative Extension to co-direct community media project involving ranchers, farmers, and extension agents to create digital stories addressing the benefits and challenges to agricultural viability and resource stewardship in the Sierra Valley. Designed, directed & implemented media training and produced 12 digital stories reaching over 5000 viewers through social media outlets and 1000 people through 35 public presentations. [artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/?page\\_id=37](http://artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/?page_id=37)

*Up from the UnderStory*, Calaveras County, CA, 2008 - 2009

Collaborated with youth development organization to direct university-community documentary project involving youth and adult storytellers to create photos, videos, and a blog profiling community revitalization projects in the Blue Mountain region. Delivered media training, co-produced digital stories, and directed a 30- minute documentary on the project for local PBS television station.

[artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/?page\\_id=36](http://artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/?page_id=36)

*Saving The Sierra: Voices of Conservation in Action*, 2006 - 2009

Collaborated with three state-wide non-profit organizations and co-directed regional media initiative using public radio, the internet, a mobile storybooth and public forums to spotlight community efforts to conserve the culture, economy, and environment of the Sierra Nevada. Co-produced 80 webstories, a "Sustaining Rural Places" toolkit, five public radio features, and a radio documentary special that aired on over 200 NPR stations and was 8<sup>th</sup> most downloaded podcast from PRX in 2009. Winner of Dottie Award for "Best Arts & Culture" website in Northern California for 2008. [savingthesierra.org](http://savingthesierra.org)

*Maquilapolis [city of factories]*, USA-Mexico, CA, 2001 - 2006

Collaborated with women factory workers to script and shoot segments for a feature length film documentary that tells the stories of women workers in Tijuana's multinational factories and the transformation of a city and its people by the forces of globalization. Directed community engagement campaign involving 10 social justice organizations on both sides of the US-Mexico border. Winner of numerous awards and broadcast on PBS's premiere documentary series *POV*, Fall 2006. [maquilapolis.com/](http://maquilapolis.com/)

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

*Participatory Media Then and Now: A Conversation on Practice and Pedagogy* (Co-authored with Vicky Funari). Television & New Media 2017, Vol. 18(3)

*Troubled Waters: Tracing Waste in the Delaware River* (Co-authored with Craig Borowiak, Vicky Funari, and Helen White), *Political Science and Pedagogy* Volume 50(1)

*Adventures in Community Media* in Community-Based Multiliteracies and Digital Media Projects: Questioning Assumptions and Exploring Realities, Pleasants, Heather M. and Dana E. Salter (eds.), Peter Lang Press. 2014

*Border Crossing and Genre Bending: A Conversation with jesikah maria ross* by Aggie Ebrahimi Bazaz. *AfterImage: The Journal of Media Arts and Cultural Criticism*, Vol 41 No. 3

*Producing Culture: An Interview with jesikah maria ross* by Laurie Glover. *Boom: A Journal of California*, Summer 2013, Vol 3, No. 2

*Digital Media Meets Informal Learning: Opportunities for Generating New Participatory Roles* (Co-authored with Kathryn Hayes, Angela Booker, and Beth Rose Middleton). 2012. *Learning Landscapes*, 5(2)

*Tool Kit for Change: Using Personal Stories to Sustain Working Landscapes and Rural Communities*, UC Cooperative Extension. 2012

*Community Needs, Scholarly Imperatives, and the Art of Regional Change*. *Western Humanities Review*, McGinnis Reginald and Barbara K. Altmann (eds.) Volume LXIV, Number 3, Fall 2010

*Youth Voices for Change: Opinions & Ideas for the Future of West Sacramento*. Owens, P. E. (ed.), 2010. Center for Regional Change, University of California

*Bringing Community Media into the University: A Strategy for Developing Media Arts Programs*. National Association of Media Arts & Culture, November 2009

*Collaboration in Action: Strategies for Developing and Distributing Multiplatform Documentaries* (Co-authored with Catherine Stifter). Center for Social Media, October 2009

*Like A Bell That Calls: Participatory Youth Radio in Ethiopia* (Co-authored with Esther Obdam). *Youth Media Reporter*, December 2009

The Youth Media Sourcebook, Learning Matters, Inc., 2001

*Building Capacity Through Community Video Training: The Davis Video Project Case Study*. *The Democratic Communique*, Vol. 19, No. 3, Spring 1999

*Training for Community Development*. *Community Media Review* (Guest Editor), Vol. 20, No. 2 Fall 1997

## **RECENT HONORS & AWARDS**

- Public Imagination Fellow, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 2017 – 2018
- Dirk Koning–George Stoney Award for Humanistic Communication, Alliance for Community Media, 2017
- Senior Fellow, Taylor Center for Social Innovation at Tulane University, 2016 – 2017