

THE CROSSROADS PROJECT

Educational Outreach Information

Crossroads: Rising Tide is a compelling and evocative performance which serves as a catalyst for initiating deeper exploration of humanity's unsustainable present. It is at its most powerful, however, when presented as a component of an integrated program. The history of Crossroads includes outreach of depth for students and participants of varying ages, including: One-day or extended weeks before and after the performance and comprising events such as colloquia, classroom work, film showings, art exhibits, and outreach by the performers and collaborative artists -- the Crossroads Crew.

The "**Crossroads Crew**" includes the Fry Street Quartet, physicist Robert Davies, composer Laura Kaminsky, painter Rebecca Allan, environmental photographer Garth Lenz and the Crossroads tech director. The quartet and Rob Davies create a talk-back with the audience after each performance, including the composer and visual artists if scheduled. The crew engages students, faculty and the public on multiple and overlapping topics in formal public presentations, informal class visits, departmental colloquia, master classes, hands-on workshops and distance-learning workshops. The Crossroads Crew has served as guest lecturers in courses across the university curriculum, including science, music, design, performing arts, visual arts, sociology, mathematics, natural resources and communications.

Examples:

At the University of Iowa four-day Crossroads residency, composer Laura Kaminsky, joined the FSQ and Dr. Davies for multiple class visits during the week on a wide variety of topics in the scientific and creative disciplines and the Fry Street Quartet gave chamber music coaching sessions, individual lessons and public master-classes for university and community music students. The Crossroads Project was also the subject of a public television interview with which a performance was live-streamed through the university's World Canvas site.

For Arts Are Basic, an aesthetic education platform for K-12 classroom teachers at Doane University, the program included a show of Rebecca Allan's Crossroads paintings in the Doane art gallery, and a distance-learning performance-workshop. The performers in Utah and the conference participants in Nebraska were united -- virtually -- for a performance and discussion three months before the campus visit. The Doane program culminated in a live performance of *Rising Tide*, followed by short performances produced by high school students fashioned on the Crossroads model they had been studying in the intervening months. The students integrated information, visuals and music to tell their own compelling and socially relevant stories.

At Earlham College, the convocation series performance was followed by a day and a half of outreach events including class visits to courses on Human-Wildlife Conflict, Encounters with Cosmos, Calculus, Advanced Photography, a Physics Colloquium, a discussion with High School Honors students and a gallery opening of the Climate Change exhibit featuring Rebecca Allan's paintings.

Post-Performance Talk-Back: Perhaps the simplest opportunity for expanded programming around *Rising Tide* is a talk-back immediately following the performance. After a short break, Dr.

Artist Management

Davies and the quartet assemble onstage to engage in dialogue with those members of the audience who wish to discuss the performance and topic. (Suggested duration: 30-45 minutes)

Guest Lectures, Workshop and more:

Rob Davies — Dr. Davies is a physicist and educator who has worked in climate science and sustainability science communication for more than a decade, giving a wide variety of presentations to a broad spectrum of audiences. An engaging communicator, Dr. Davies can present guest lectures to a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses. Suggested topics include:

- Climate Change Science
- Planetary Boundaries | Ecological Footprints | Systems Science
- Science Communication | The Crossroads Experience: Partnering Science and the Arts

Fry Street Quartet — the members of the FSQ are all experienced and dedicated educators. As the resident string faculty at Utah State University as well as frequent guest clinicians across the country, the FSQ teach and engage with students and the public in a variety of forms:

- Individual lessons, coaching sessions, and public master-classes with string students
- Chamber Music as a Pedagogical Force, a workshop primarily for music educators illustrating the quartet's philosophical approach to educating string students using chamber music as a primary thread through which matters, technical, musical, personal, and collaborative are addressed.
- Presentations and discussion topics include:
 - the art and science of collaboration
 - the role of the arts in society
 - the process of commissioning and working with living composers
 - career-building for music students

Painter Rebecca Allan — the noted painter whose work investigates watershed environments and is inspired by her interest in landscape ecology, botany, and geology, gives presentations on the work of a painter; gallery talks about her Crossroads exhibition; portfolio reviews or studio visits with visual arts students; talks on community engagement and the artist as activist. [<http://rebeccaallan.com/>]

Composer Laura Kaminsky — the award-winning composer and arts administrator offers composition master-classes and lessons; workshops on her work as an artist-activist; and presentations on issues such as: public programming of music events, entrepreneurship and the contemporary musician, new modalities in chamber music, collaboration across genres, and, for arts management students, on fundraising. [<http://www.lurakaminsky.com/>]

Photographer Garth Lenz — highlights the contrasts between the industrialized and the natural landscapes, with a focus on modern fossil fuel production and its associated impacts. He has addresses major corporations and government bodies on the issues of conservation and sustainability (including Kimberley Clarke, the Canadian Senate and the European Parliament). Lenz offers workshops, class visits and lectures. [Sample his TED Talk – The True Cost of Oil. <http://www.garthlenz.com/>]