

RA'ANAA YAMINAH EKUNDAYO

Artist • Activist • Academic

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Philosophy in Art History** exp.2026
Concordia University, Department of Art History
Concentrations: Afrofuturism, Critical Race Theory, Public Activist Art and Social Justice Praxis
Dissertation: Futurities (With)Out the Institution: The Emergence of Black Activist Public Art in N'Swakamok
- Masters of Architecture** 2020
Laurentian University, McEwen School of Architecture
Concentrations: Black Art and Architecture, and Social Justice Praxis
Thesis: The Architectural Segregation of Chicago: Black Identity in the South Side
- Bachelor of Architectural Studies** 2018
Laurentian University, McEwen School of Architecture

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

ACADEMIC

- Sessional Professor** Winter 2023
Laurentian University, McEwen School of Architecture
Course: Art and Architecture in Canada
- Teaching Assistant** Fall 2022
Concordia University, Department of Art History
Course: Postcolonial Theory in Art History
- Research Assistant** 2021-2022
Concordia University, Department of Art History
Project: SSHRC-IDG Afrofuturism and Black Lives Matter in the Canadian Art Scene

ARTISTIC

- Set and Lighting Designer - *Nickel City Fifs*** Spring 2023
Alex Tétrault and Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario
- Advisory Panel Member** Winter 2023
STEPS CreateSpace Public Art Residency
- Producer** 2022-2023
Collective Resistance – short documentary

Guest Curator Summer 2020
Up Here: Urban Arts Festival

Architectural Intern (Co-op Placement) 2019
Architects Four Limited

OTHER

Events and Communications Coordinator 2020-2021
Laurentian University, Liaison Services

ACTIVISM AND ARTS LEADERSHIP

Co-Founder and Chair 2020-Present
Black Lives Matter Sudbury

Installation Coordinator 2018-Present
Up Here: Urban Arts Festival

Co-Founder and Chair 2016-2018
McEwen Nuit Blanche Committee

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship 2023-2026
\$60,000 over three years

Concordia Fine Arts Scholarship 2021-2025
\$54,000 over four years

Barry Pashak Graduate Fellowship 2022-2023
\$5,000 over one year

Young Woman of Distinction 2021
Non-monetary award

CREATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ARTISTIC RESEARCH RESIDENCIES

Black Arts Fellowship 2023-2024
Wildseed Centre for Activism and Art

CreateSpace Public Art Residency 2022-2023
STEPS Public Art

CreateSpace Public Art Forum 2023
STEPS Public Art

Take Roots Among the Stars Arts Residency 2022
Kickstart Disability Arts and Culture

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Elemental 2023
STEPS Public Art CreateSpace Residency. Galerie de Nouvel-Ontario, N’Swakamok (Sudbury, ON)
& Armand-Bombardier Park, Tiohtià:ke (Montreal, QC)

The Lives They Lead 2022
Independent. Amberhill Gallery, N’Swakamok (Sudbury, ON)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

Into the Matrix: Unearthing Black Futures 2021
Up Here: Urban Arts Festival. N’Swakamok (Sudbury, ON)

Ethereal 2020
Up Here: Urban Arts Festival. Kuppajo Espresso Bar, N’Swakamok (Sudbury, ON)

Faces of a Movement 2020
McEwen Nuit Blanche. McEwen School of Architecture, N’Swakamok (Sudbury, ON)

Nuit Noire 2019
McEwen Nuit Blanche. McEwen School of Architecture, N’Swakamok (Sudbury, ON)

Aurora Borealis 2016
Winter Stations. Kew-Balmy Beach, Tkaronto (Toronto, ON)

PUBLICATIONS

Ekundayo (née Brown), Ra’anaa. [Untitled] Reviewed Work: “As We Rise: Photography from the Black Atlantic: Selections from the Wedge Collection” by Teju Cole, Liz Ikiriko, Mark Sealy, et al.. *RACAR - For the preservation of Black diasporic visual histories* 47, no. 2 (2022): 117-119

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED ACADEMIC LECTURES

“Placemaking and Space Being Taken: Black Aesthetics of Existence in So-Called Canada.” ARTH 371: Studies in Canadian Architecture. Department of Art History, Concordia University. Lecture. June 5, 2023.

“Black Lives Matter Sudbury: 2020-Present.” Diversity Council Summit. Anti-Racism Focus Group, Ministry of Northern Development, May 2, 2023.

“Futurities With(Out) the Institution: The Emergence of Black Art & Activism in N’Swakamok.” Social Justice Graduate Fellows Lunchtime Seminar. Social Justice Centre, Concordia University. April 6, 2023.

“Postcolonial Black Artivism: The Intersection of Decolonial Art & Activism.” ARTH 379: Postcolonial Theory in Art History. Department of Art History, Concordia University. Lecture. November 24, 2022.

“Black Artivism: The Intersection of Decolonial Art & Activism.” ARCH 4016 - Cultural Sustainability. McEwen School of Architecture, Laurentian University. Lecture. November 22, 2022.

“Emerging Black Artivism: Dismantling Colonial Narratives.” ARTH 384 - Theories of Representation: Art and Activism Online and in the Streets. Department of Art History, Concordia University. Lecture. November 14, 2022.

“Black Artivism: The Intersection of Decolonial Art & Activism.” ARCH 4016 - Cultural Sustainability. McEwen School of Architecture, Laurentian University. Lecture. November 22, 2022.

“Black Lives Matter Sudbury: 2020-Present.” ISWK 2315 - The Helping Relationship in Indigenous Social Work. Department of Indigenous Social Work, Laurentian University. Lecture. February 2022.

“Art, Activism & Black Lives Matter.” ARCH 4016 - Cultural Sustainability. McEwen School of Architecture, Laurentian University. Lecture. November 25, 2021.

“Art, Activism & Black Lives Matter.” ARTH 389 - Ethnocultural Art Historires: Race, Citizenship, and Art in Canada. Department of Art History, Concordia University. Lecture. October 19, 2021.

“Now, Then, When: Art, Architecture, and Race Relations.” ARCH 4515 - Studio 8: Integrated Design II. McEwen School of Architecture, Laurentian University. Lecture. March 11, 2021.

“Black Spaces: Racialized Environments.” WGSX 2046 - Gender, Race, and Racism. Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Laurentian University. Lecture. October 2020.

“Black Lives Matter Sudbury: The Movement in the North.” SWRK 4727 - Strategies for Social Change. Department of Social Work, Laurentian University. Lecture. October 2020.

“Black Lives Matter Sudbury: The Movement in the North.” SOCI 4086 - Class, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity. Department of Sociology, Laurentian University. Lecture. October 2020.

“Black Aesthetic in Architecture.” ARCH 5006 - Architectural Theory Seminar. McEwen School of Architecture, Laurentian University. Lecture. September 2020.

INVITED CONFERENCES AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

“Trust Black Women.” Black Futures: A Northern Caucus, Black Lives Matter Sudbury. Keynote Moderation in conversation with El Jones. March 4, 2023.

“Decolonizing, Dismantling, and Demystifying Design.” The Canadian Architecture Forums on Education. The Canadian Council of University School of Architecture. Panel Discussion. May 27, 2022.

“Art & Activism: Artivism of Social Change.” Amplifying Voices on Turtle Island: An Intersectional Caucus, Black Lives Matter Sudbury. Panel Moderation. February 26, 2022.

“Here to Stay: The Birth of Black Lives Matter Sudbury.” Here to Stay Baby: A Northern Intersectional Conference, Black Lives Matter Sudbury. Panel Discussion. February 28, 2021.

“Racism-Free by 2023: Anti-Racism Activism in the North.” Here to Stay Baby: A Northern Intersectional Conference, Black Lives Matter Sudbury. Panel Moderation. February 27, 2021.

KEYNOTE AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

“Designing While Black.” McEwen School of Architecture Winter Cultural Events. Laurentian University, McEwen School of Architecture. Keynote Presentation. February 17, 2022.

“Black Lives Matter: Un Movement dans le nord.” Centre de Santé Communautaire du Grand Sudbury. Collaborative Community Presentation. January 2021.

“1619-2020: The 400-Year Evolution of Western Black History.” Black History Month Programming. McEwen School of Architecture, Laurentian University. Presentation. February 2020.

WORKSHOPS

“All About Artivism.” Get Radical. Concordia Student Union, Concordia University. November 2022.

“BIPOC Healing Artivism.” Provincial Youth Ambassador Program, Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youth Line. January 2022.