

OPEN INVITATION TO YOUNG WOMEN ARTISTS IN PUERTO RICO

TRANSNATIONAL ART WORKSHOPS MAPPING THE PILLARS OF ONLINE PRIVACY, DISCRIMINATION AND CYBERVIOLENCE

The eQuality Project

University of Ottawa, University of Puerto Rico Law School and Beta-Local

The eQuality Project, centered at the **University of Ottawa** and funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, is collaborating with the **University of Puerto Rico Law School** and **Beta-Local** in the organization of **two transnational art workshops in 2018** where **young women artists from Canada and Puerto Rico** will explore the **pillars of online privacy, discrimination and cyberviolence**.

The **first transnational art workshop** for the Canadian artists will take place in **February 2018** at **St. Stephen's Community House Youth Arcade Studio in Toronto, Canada**, and the **second transnational art workshop** for the Puerto Rican artists will take place in **April 2018** at **Beta Local in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico**.

The young artists from the Canada and Puerto Rico events will be brought together by videoconference or skype event(s) to discuss their projects. The events will also be designed to facilitate the production of an online space, videos and related materials that will be hosted on The eQuality Project website (www.equalityproject.ca) and a gallery exhibition in Puerto Rico to showcase and celebrate the work produced by the young artists.

For those interested in participating, we will offer a preliminary presentation of different scenarios that can be used as imagination primers for the artists and here will be a process of artistic mentorship to guide the creative process and enable feedback among the participants.

If you are a young woman artist in Puerto Rico (up to 25 years old) and are interested in participating in this project, please contact: Prof. Chloé S. Georas, University of Puerto Rico Law School at cgeoras11@gmail.com

Additional Information on The eQuality Project:

The eQuality Project (www.equalityproject.ca) is focused on better understanding how Big Data practices such as those of Facebook, Twitter and Youtube affect the privacy and equality of young women from marginalized communities, and can sometimes set them up for conflict. The eQuality Project is a partnership of scholars, research and policy institutes, policymakers, educators, community organizations, and youth engaged in the creation of new knowledge, policy projects and educational materials related to commercial data practices and their impact on youth, by mapping out how online and mobile information infrastructures combine with social norms to expose young people to discrimination and cyberviolence.

The economic model behind e-commerce (i.e. disclosure of information in exchange for service) creates a bias in favor of disclosure. Youth are the key to understanding the privacy implications of this bias, because, as early adopters of online media, they drop terabytes of data (often unknowingly) as they go about their daily lives. This data is processed to target them with behavioral marketing to shape their attitudes and behaviors. Moreover, the marketing and algorithmic analytics used to sort youth into categories often reproduce real-world patterns of discrimination. This creates a feedback loop that reinforces mainstream stereotypes: online architectures encourage certain kinds of identity performances (e.g. highly sexualized performances of girls), and combine with social norms to open youth up to discrimination (e.g. slut shaming, homophobia).