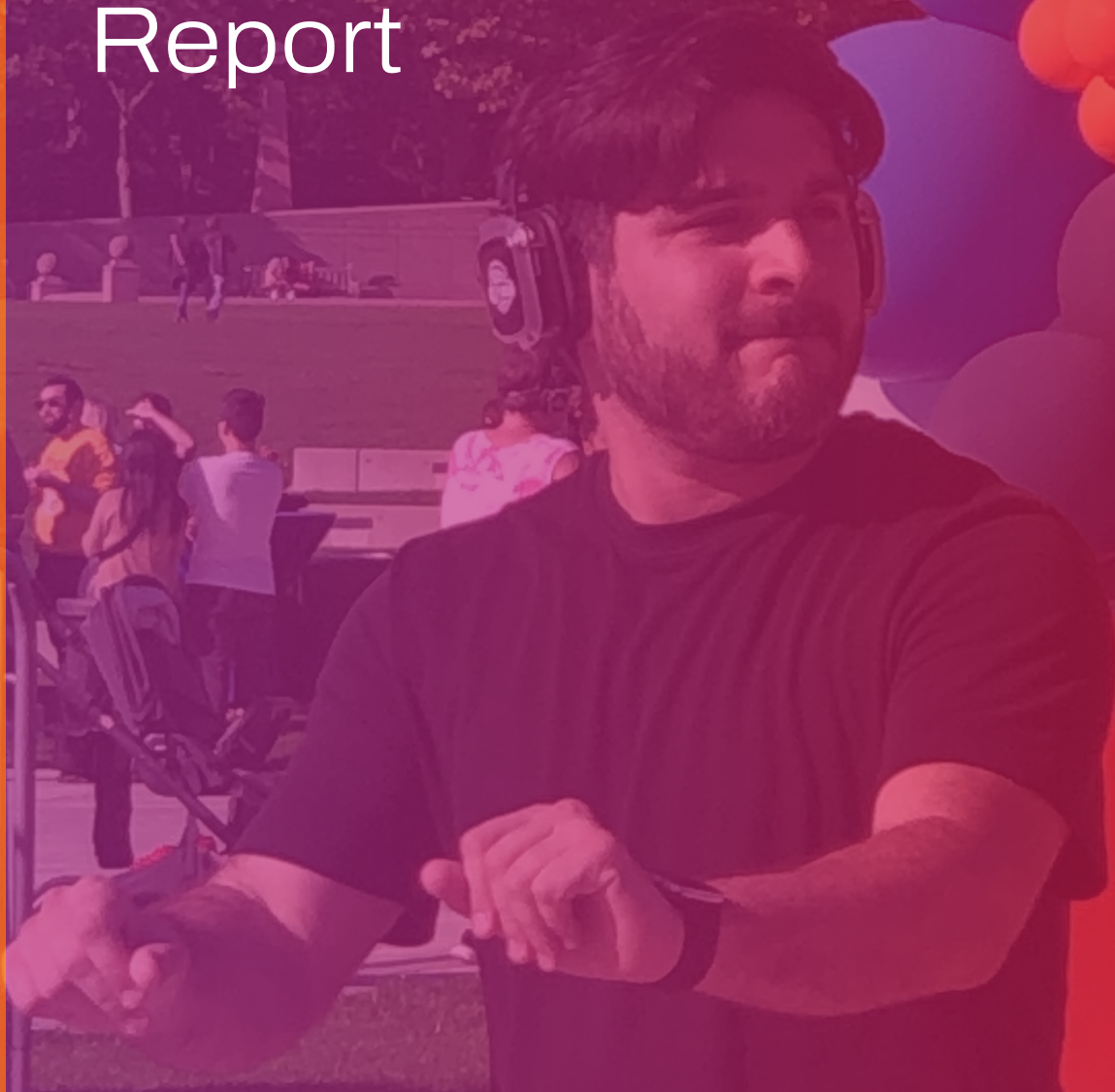




PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER EASTSIDE

Bellwether 2023-2024 Culminating Report



Program Summary

PACE was proud to present Bellwether 2023 and to celebrate the many intersections between artmaking and technology through community placemaking, audience participation and access to all. Bellevue's newly amplified ecosystem of population growth, artmakers and the endless role that technology can play in fostering the creation of art, participation of art and digital access, allows a more equitable stage for both talent and engagement. PACE produced programming that opened the door to ushering Bellwether into its new era of thought-provoking artmaking, technology as a tool for artmaking, fostering art and technology in the education space and community access to joyful entertainment. Student projects and presentations augmented by in-person demonstrations, experiential activities, high-quality performances, and an online digital residency series filled the month-long Bellwether celebration that took place in September. The festival served more than 3,000 people, employed more than 20 local artists, both established and emerging, amplified the work and voices of more than 70 students and boasted a volunteer roster of over 20 local high school and college students.



In-Person Events: 890 People



Date	Location	Event Title	Audience Numbers	Notes
8/26	Hollywood and Vines Studio	Bellwether 2023 Artist Celebration	52	
9/9	The Spring District	Sustain Music: <i>Algo-rhythms</i>	81	This number only includes those who were at the concert, not the 50 or so people all sitting outside at the pub enjoying the concert or the apartment occupants who enjoyed the music from their balconies
9/16	Bellevue College	Art Installations: <i>Connative & Groove</i>	54	
9/23	Marketplace at Factoria	DigiPen Student Original Game Competition	196	This number includes student game team participants
9/30	Downtown Bellevue Park	Silent Disco Party!	507	307 headsets were checked out; we are estimating another 200 people in attendance.

NOTE: Audience numbers were taken hourly, except for the DigiPen Student Original Game Competition where numbers were taken every 15 minutes to account for the number of walk-by participants who did not stay for the entire time. The student game teams and DigiPen volunteers were only counted one time at the start of the event.

Digital Residency YouTube Views: 2,691



Drop Date	Residency Artist	Residency Title	Audience Views	Notes
9/4	Sustain Music Project	Residency 1	220	
9/6	Sustain Music Project	Residency 2	416	
9/11	Cole Devoy	<i>Connectivity</i>	349	Cole created 2 Digital Residencies, but the second one we received was corrupted before we could finalize and render.
9/13	Arabella Bautista	<i>Groove 1</i>	317	
9/16	Arabella Bautista	<i>Groove 2</i>	308	
9/26	Kathryn Van Meter	<i>"I was told there would be no Math..."</i>	525	
9/28	Kathryn Van Meter	<i>"Increase your Movement, Increase your Joy"</i>	556	

NOTE: While there were no digital residencies dropping during the week of September 17th-23rd, we did post and share the students original game promo videos as a way of introducing each finalist team. These views and shares are included in our marketing report.

In-Person Event Activity

Bellwether 2023 officially kicked off with an artist celebration on August 26th at the home of PACE Board Member Kevin Jablonski in his “Hollywood and Vines” 4-room boutique recording studio and music venue in the heart of the Woodinville Tourist District on Hollywood Hill. With a speakeasy theme, the location could not have been better picked.

Festivities began with local artists Roz performing a set before the Tiffany Wilson Band took the stage. Welcoming remarks were made by PACE Executive Director Lora Unger who thanked members of the city Arts Commission, PACE Board Members and spoke about the vision of PACE before handing the mic over to Deputy Director Annie DiMartino. Annie thanked the artists, shared what audiences could expect to see at the in-person Bellwether events, and spoke briefly about the power of creating the impossible.

Bellwether artists, city employees, arts council members and planning committee members attended in addition to the community at large. The location is fully equipped with a stage, sound, lighting, and ample seating. The venue was donated and served as a tremendous opportunity to make music in a setting perfectly equipped to support the audience experience and to be efficient with use of our budget.



“This has been an idea that’s been percolating since Covid. I’m so grateful for Bellwether and the opportunity to really dive in and play with AI, music, and Coding.”

– Christina Medawar, founder, artistic director and Flutist for The Sustain Music Project

Bellevue Spring District hosted our Concert Under the Stars on Saturday, September 9th. The event, slated from 6-9PM was to include local Choreographer Kathryn Van Meter leading audiences through an experiential demonstration that explores the mechanics of movement, followed by a live music concert from Sustain Music Project. The intent was to invite audiences to move a little, grab food from local food trucks, and enjoy a concert that features a diverse program that ranged from Bach’s intricate fugue to a piece composed through computer algorithms.

This first event had its challenges due to an IT issue with Sustain Music Project (the Artistic Director’s laptop crashed, resulting in a 1.5-hour delay). Due to this unforeseen circumstance beyond our control, we decided to cancel the dance demonstration because there were not enough audience members in attendance to the delay. Add to that a late arriving ice cream truck and the event quickly altered to a concert only atmosphere.

Algo-rhythms: The Intersection of Music and Technology, presented by Sustain Music Project was an innovative concert that featured a diverse musical program ranging from Bach’s intricate fugues to a composition composed through computer algorithms. Audiences were immersed in the multi-sensory experience as the six featured instruments—flute, clarinet, trumpet, violin, viola, and cello—unveiled the intriguing connections between music and math, accompanied by mesmerizing video projections and computer-generated music videos.

ASSESSMENT:

This was a great first-person event however, the location could have used stronger attendance. Even though we pushed Bellhop, a location site needs to have the ability to draw stronger attendance in the future.



“Days like today are why I do this work! I definitely can see this growing and if I can get the funding, presenting this work again. Bellwether for sure gave me the stage I needed to experiment and take my work to the next level.”

– Cole Devoy, artist and creator of *Connative*

Bellevue College hosted two local artist installations on September 16th, from 2-5PM: *Connative* by Cole Devoy and *Groove* by Arabella Bautista. *Connative* was an immersive installation that brings to life the interconnected, ephemeral, and dynamic nature of all things through the seamless integration of generative dance and generative, interactive digital projections. Within the installation, dancers gracefully performed in harmony with ever-changing digital landscapes, creating a symbiotic relationship between human expression, technology, and the visual realm. As participants engaged with the installation, they became part of a captivating exploration of the interplay between movement, art, and the profound interconnectedness that weaves through our existence.

Groove was an ode to rave culture digitally via video poetry combining dance and video synthesis. In addition to video art, audience members were invited to be a part of the dance party. Live hardware techno with synthesized projections and amalgamated moving image projections that never were the same twice gave a hint of the underground party scene.

This in-person Bellwether event also had its challenges as Cole arrived 2-hours late to his Load-in and tech rehearsal, and Arabella was absent completely due to illness and instead, called in friends to convert the room into her installation vision. Because of this, Arabella's show time was delayed by an hour.

Initial concerns about location site and parking were quickly mitigated with signs, parking videos and updates on social media. Additionally, classes at Bellevue College were scheduled to start the following Monday, which allowed for a healthy flow of new students and their parents walking the campus and asking about the event.

ASSESSMENT:

If possible, it would have been a stronger decision to host the event after classes started to build interest within the student body. Additionally, if Bellwether is to host emerging visual artists as part of the celebration, pairing them with a professional mentor who could help guide due dates and storyboarding would be extremely beneficial.



“Opportunities like this are invaluable for our students. Communicating their vision and sharing their product with audiences and professionals at today’s Bellwether event is a critical part of their training. Thank you, thank you, thank you for including us and giving our students a platform to amplify their work.”

– David Robinson, DigiPen Faculty, Curriculum Development

Marketplace at Factoria hosted our third in-person Bellwether event on September 23rd from 11AM-1PM. 20 student teams from DigiPen Institute of Technology competed for five finalists’ spots in a public showcase of their original video games as well as a chance for a first and second place cash prize. This educational showcase provided a performance space for students as well as allowing audiences to see the work behind the art of making technology.

Each of the five game finalist teams received \$500, with the second-place team winning an additional \$1500, and the first-place team winning an additional \$3500. Judges for the competition included Jamie Gault, Project Lead at Niantic; Joshua Howard, Consultant for Mobile Game Doctor; Danan Davis, Senior technology producer at Wizards of the Coast; Jessica Blair, President of Roll to Market and Go to Games; and Angelica Baca, Senior UX Analyst/Designer at Big Fish Games.

Judging criteria for the elite five finalist teams included

1. Original, Interesting Characters
2. Original, Interesting Setting and Plot
3. Conflicting Goals with Satisfying Endings
4. Balanced, Intentional, Interesting Choices/Options
5. Inclusivity
6. Prose Styling
7. Creative Stats, Consistently Applied
8. Length and Coding Efficiency
9. Overall, Judge’s Choice

Each of the five finalist game teams were voted upon by DigiPen Faculty and included:



GAME: Dimensional Gears:

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdPp0zMd-dA>

Game download: https://store.steampowered.com/app/2122040/Dimensional_Gears/

Team roster: Noah Taublieb, Daniel Nunes, Gilberto Jimenez, Damian Rouse, AJ Bussman, Michael Zander, Ben Thompson, Nattamon Chungwatana, Vatsapon Asawakittiporn, and Keion Rodriguez

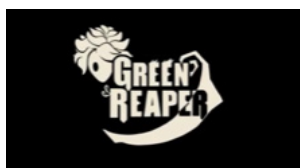


GAME: FPS Chess:

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dkn9uunxmwM>

Game download: https://store.steampowered.com/app/2021910/FPS_Chess/

Team roster: Hadi Alhussieni, Yi Gian and Chau Nguyen

**GAME: Pogglewash:****Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhKIPkH0Amw>**Game download:** <https://store.steampowered.com/app/2417620/Pogglewash/>**Team roster:** Frankie Camarillo, Chris Dowell, Eric Herbst, Luke Campbell, Oliver Chung, Garrett Lusignan, Rowan Thompson, Andrew Terrell, Ava Rooney, Hailey Conway, Andrew Yan, Elena Rasskazova, Harriet Clarke, Nikole Mcelhose, Antonio Leder, Noah Taublieb, Apichaya Apichatwong, Lynn Kubo, David Cascante, David Cruse, Jackson Fischer, Mac Roshak, Steven Kugies, Sam Marsden, Megan Meadows, and Anna Stockton**GAME: Mirage:****Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKEL1612pio>**Game download:** <https://store.steampowered.com/app/2387210/Mirage/>**Team roster:** Alexander Weiss, Annabel Sun, Anya Yatskova, Dylan Reeves, Grant Schatz, Gregory Kolesnikov, Jacob Anderson, Jasmine Hansen, Kiki Eidsmore, Melissa Foster, Sabina Malla, Sean Williams, and Andrew Cartera**GAME: Green Reaper:****Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul1VTzhD6kg>**Game download:** https://store.steampowered.com/app/2387110/Green_Reaper/**Team Roster:** Ariel Moss, Dal Rivas, Dottie Johnson, Ethan Yant, Louis Hu, Megan Erchukiat, Thatchawat Napasab, Leo Li, Veronika Pavlova, Carlos Fernandez, Grant Wu, Qiaochu Liu, Spencer Williams, Lucas Martins, Prasad Arunprasad, Rob Ogden, Ina Almacen, Devin Busenbark, Jade Bae, Ari Surprise, Karlye Shank, El Schaefer, and Adam Doolittle**ASSESSMENT:**

This event was one of the most fun and electrifying. The faculty volunteers and student teams were incredibly professional, allowing for load-in and strike to be easy. Additionally, Marketplace at Factoria was a wonderful site location partner and made sure we were in a high foot traffic spot for the competition. Furthermore, cross promotion for this event was easy because of pre-established relationships from past events PACE has produced with DigiPen (TechTober) and Marketplace at Factoria (Arts Without Barriers).

LEFT:
1st Place
Winners:
Green Reaper



RIGHT:
2nd Place
Winners:
Dimensional
Gears



“This was fun! I’ll volunteer for your event anytime! OMG.... DJ Indica is the best! And I’ve worked with Kathryn Van Meter at Village... and Jehan gave me this bowl... best day ever! You know how to throw a party!”

– Emma Ponce Arroyo, HS Volunteer

Downtown Bellevue Park was a buzz of excitement on September 30th with a Silent Disco Party! DJ Indica pumped up the crowd, dance demonstrations and an all ages play list allowed for audiences to explore the intersections of technology, music and dance. Participants checked out ceramic pieces created by local artist Jehan Osanyin, had their photos taken by local vendor photo-tainment, enjoyed some delicious food from local food trucks Chicken N’Fix and Sugar and Spoon Ice cream, and celebrated! Finally, City Officials and PACE Board members and friends were all able to honor Bellwether and its legacy together in a connected party hosted by Executive Director, Lora Unger. Once again, Tiffany Wilson and a pared down band performed live for those guests who prefer music through a mic as opposed to a headset. Light refreshments were also provided. This closing party was also open to all who attended the Silent Disco, allowing for a great social platform to dance, listen to a live singer, eat, mingle, and just enjoy the magic that is our beloved Downtown Park. The Silent Disco also fit harmoniously with city placemaking, meaning that hundreds could enjoy a fun dance party equipped with music for four hours while not disturbing the other uses and purposes of the park.

ASSESSMENT:

While rain leading up to the event may have caused a worry or two, we were extremely fortunate that the clouds departed, and the sun appeared right as our event was starting. Collaborating with Michelle at the Park department was a dream. The original intention of having tents hosted by local tech companies never came to fruition despite our efforts to collaborate and partner.



AUGUST 26

Bellwether Kick-Off Artist Celebration Event: Speakeasy Themed



Roz

Roz is an established singer who performs her own songs with an infectious charm and personalized lyrics. From opera, gospel, pop, Latin and r&b, she fully embodies her slogan, “Feel the heart, hear the soul.” Her originals are timeless and speak to all ages. Roz has had the opportunity to travel overseas, been a recipient of a top honor in music at her college, a grad assistant at Wichita State and The University of Kansas, an

adjunct professor at Butler County Community College, a vocal instructor, and currently teaches at Seattle Drum School and substitute teaches for a few other music schools along with performing as a solo, duo, trio along with a new Latin/jazz/funk group, UnCommon Combo.

Roz was a natural teacher before receiving her degree but has had the opportunity to teach children to adults for over 20 years. She currently teaches private voice, piano, guitar and violin. She has also been a choir director and has taught music theory in the community college. Her style is relaxed, honest but encouraging. Bringing confidence out of the person is a great reward along with following the student’s and parent’s desire for their child. Teaching how to read music is important but will focus on their level of interest. She is a new radio dj of a show called Getting Real with Roz on the Infinitel Radio.

Roz has been in several professional choirs and orchestras and has performed in operas, musicals and stage plays from Ain’t Misbehavin’, by Fats Waller, A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry, Cinderella in La Cenerentola by Rossini and many others. She plays several instruments and brings a smile to many through her beautiful story telling style and comedic timing. Once you experience Roz live, you know she belongs on stage. Join a musical sojourn with her as she takes you on her musical journey!

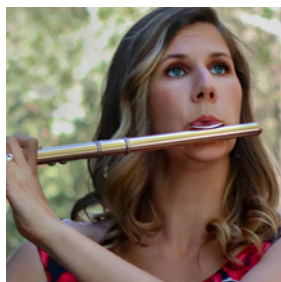


Tiffany Wilson Band

Tiffany Wilson is a true musical artist and songwriter whose voice speaks to something real and soulful. Not content with writing only standard love songs, her latest album “#SeeSharp” also speaks of inner and outer change, politics, and vision of a brighter future.

As a solo artist, Tiffany released her first original project “Music Therapy” in 2009 and her sophomore album “#SEESHARP” in July 2016. With this project, Tiffany’s plan is to use her voice, pen and outlook to shed some light and love on what’s taking place in our shared world.

The production of her sophomore release is a conscious blend of the sounds of the past and the future. It is a mix of classic live soul & funk music filtered through her contemporary R&B roots and sensibilities. Eschewing the retro soul fad and moving towards a unique combination of past, present, and future—Ms. Wilson is a true original.

SEPTEMBER 9**Bellwether Concert Under the Stars at the Spring District
Algo-rhythms: The Intersection of Music and Technology****Christina Medawar, Sustain Music Project**

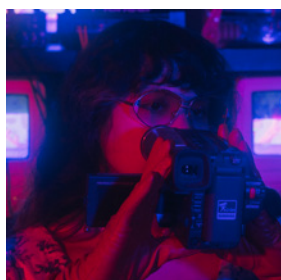
Seattle native Christina Medawar is founder, artistic director, and flutist for The Sustain Music Project, a Pacific Northwest-based classical music ensemble that presents innovative concerts, combining chamber music with experiences ranging from yoga practice to culinary adventures, lighting, storytelling, and other artistic and theatrical experiences. Christina performed in the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra from 2010-2018 as acting principal flute (2017-2018) and as second flute/piccolo (2010-2017). She is a frequent substitute with

the Seattle Symphony and the Seattle Opera and has performed with the Houston Ballet and the contemporary ensemble Musiq in Houston, TX.

Christina is an avid supporter of music outreach and education. She was a recipient of the Sviatoslav Richter Fund for Entrepreneurial Music Outreach in 2008 from Rice University and was the coordinator for the Just-for-U Music Program (a series of outreach concerts for elementary-aged children) at Rice University for which she received a 2008 Mayor's Volunteer Houston award. Christina holds her masters degree from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and her bachelor's degree from Manhattan School of Music.

SEPTEMBER 16**Bellwether Art Installations at Bellevue College****Cole Devoy: Creator of "Connative"**

Cole Devoy (he/him) is a Multidisciplinary Artist, Curator, and Experience Designer from Seattle. With a bold artistic voice, he seeks to push the boundaries of conventional thinking and expand consciousness. His work delves into the nuanced exploration of visual communication, unraveling the emergence of meaning and inviting viewers to engage with thought-provoking concepts. Through his innovative approach, he crafts experiences that invite audiences to question their perceptions and embrace the transformative power of art.

**Arabella Bautista: Creator of "Groove"**

Arabella is a mixed-media artist that highlights Filipino aesthetics and old technology. They're a part of the House of Kilig art collective and a lifelong learner.

SEPTEMBER 30

Bellwether Culminating Silent Disco Dance Party

**DJ Indica Jones**

I like cats, dogs and salads. I also like to dance. I think that is what separates me from other DJ's. And my super fresh skills on the 1's and 2's. I'm based out of Seattle with over 2000 shows and events under my belt. I'm a DJ that creates energy. I take nothing and make it into something. My goal at any event is to make the party people happy and the bar sales going till the last drop. I keep the dance floor packed and make memories for my party people. I absolutely love what I do.

I've played almost every major festival in Washington and am a resident DJ at many clubs and venues including Nectar Lounge, Barboza on Cap hill, Pono Ranch, Ballard Loft. Additionally, I work with the production team for Oktoberfest, Kirkland Uncorked, Fremont Fair, Seattle Scotch and Beer Fest as their resident DJ. My goal is to play Las Vegas. Vegas baby!!! DJ Indica Jones is a veteran PNW DJ with well over 2000 shows and appearances at major festivals across the region under his belt. He has an infectious energy that keeps the dance floor packed and makes fantastic memories for party people. DJ Indica is a resident DJ at multiple iconic clubs throughout the region including Nectar Lounge and Barboza.

**Kathryn Van Meter**

Kathryn Van Meter is an award winning, multi-hyphenate theatre and film artist, whose 25-year career encompasses work as a Director, Choreographer, Actor, Educator, Activist and Intimacy Director. She is passionate about cultivating an embodied practice grounded in consent, joy and curiosity. Her theatrical work has been seen throughout the PNW including the 5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle Rep, ACT, Seattle Opera, Village Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare Company and the

Seattle Men's Chorus. Kathryn's work as a teaching artist has taken her around the world from New Hampshire to Iowa, South Africa to Siberia. As an artist/activist, Kathryn worked with A.S.T.E.P. (Artists Striving to End Poverty) to develop One World Through Theatre, a generative theatrical conversation between high school students in South Africa, North Carolina, and Washington. Onscreen, Kathryn choreographed 13 Reasons Why (Netflix) and Crater (Disney+) and was the Intimacy Coordinator for Echoes (Netflix). She has won multiple awards for her choreography and in 2016 Kathryn worked with the US Dept. of Labor to develop the national definition for the occupation of "Choreographer." She is a proud member of SDC, AGMA, AEA, and the newly formed Choreographer's Guild.

**Jéhan Òsanyìn**

Jéhan Òsanyìn (they/them) is an internationally recognized theatre artist, somatic abolitionist, whitewater boater, and afro futurist facilitator. They are the Founding Executive Director of earthseedxjéhan, a theatrical producing company and experiential art studio where research and performances explore the stories our bodies tell. Recent projects include, directing The Wonderful Wizard of Oz at Seattle Children's Theatre, directing and co-producing Cloud Tectonics with Sound

Theatre Company, serving as the Understudy Director at the 5th Avenue Theatre for The Wiz and Into the Woods. They also directed the radioplay Wonder Boy and worked as the Associate Director for Afterwords, both at the 5th.