

Climate Change and Health Arts Seminar for Youth 20 – 31 July 2020

The Climate Change and Health Arts Seminar for Youth took place from July 20 - 31, 2020. The Seminar was funded by RMI Ministry of Health, Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (SUPA) - GCCA+, Marshall Islands Conservation Society (MICS), with support from College of the Marshall Islands (CMI). The Seminar was coordinated and facilitated by the nonprofit Jo-Jikum, a local youth environmentalist nonprofit. The purpose of the Seminar was to use the arts to engage students in issues related to climate change and health. The agenda is shown in Annex 1.

The Seminar took place at the CMI campus, and from 9am - 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. The Seminar worked with 39 students in total, 13 boys and 23 girls, with representation from high schools across Majuro and Micronesia. The 39 students came from the Marshall Islands High School, Assumption High School, COOP School, Seventh Day Adventist High School, Kwajalein High School, Marshall Islands Baptist Christian Academy, and Xavier High School, and were from 9th to 12 grades. Annex 2 presents the participants list.

The Seminar daily schedule was broken up into team building exercises and presentations from relevant stakeholders in the mornings, followed by intensive art classes in the afternoons. Students were able to choose between weaving, painting, songwriting, and poetry for their art classes - they ranked their top preferences and they stayed in these classes for the duration of the seminar.

Local artist professionals taught the art classes. Poet Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner taught poetry, mural artist Aravapo Leo and Debbie Shultz taught painting, master weaver Susan Jieta taught traditional Marshallese jaki-ed weaving, and Barab Harris, local singer taught songwriting. The camp was also assisted and facilitated by 6 college student interns - these interns acted as "camp counselors" and provided additional administrative support as well as moral support for the students. A component of preparation for the seminar was spent in providing leadership workshops to these 6 interns to provide proper support for them as well.

The team building exercises component of the seminar was meant to help develop a safe space for the students, one where they could be comfortable with one another and with the instructors and interns. It was also meant to support community building so the participants could see themselves as artists together.

The presentations included representatives from the Ministry of Health, Climate Change Directorate, Weather Station, Culture Language and Law Commission, CMI Land Grant, Red Cross, and MICS. Besides presentations, the students were able to go on two field trips - one for coastal planting with Land Grant, and another to snorkel to observe coral bleaching effects with MICS. The topics of discussions included COVID-19 and links to climate change, general climate change and health linkages, climate change and its effects on manit (Marshallese culture), coastal erosion and coral bleaching.

To prepare for the final showcase, students were given a few days in the last week of the Seminar to focus on their arts classes, without the interruption of presentations. The final showcase was the night of July 31, with students sharing their painted and woven pieces, and the poets and songwriters performing their new work, with opening remarks from the Secretary of Health Jack Niendenthal.

The products created from the Seminar are in the process of being shared. The songs will be recorded by the local radio station 103.5, while the poetry and art work will be reprinted into small chapbooks by local printers. The weaving will be framed and along with the artwork will be transferred to the Majuro Hospital for display, before being transferred to other

locations for the purposes of dissemination. A video showing the highlights of the camp will also be shared through social media online, while a blog post will be written by the interns about their experience running the camp for the Jo-Jikum website.

Annex 1 Climate Change and Health Seminar Schedule

Seminar Schedule

MONDAY 07/20	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 - 11:00 am Introductions - goals, aspirations Getting to know one another, buddy system	11:00 - 12 pm Climate Change Intro	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 pm [Icebreaker]	1:30 - 3 pm Art Workshops	3-3:30 Closing circle
TUESDAY 07/21	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 -11:00 am Maximizing/ Minimizing Learning Experience	11:00 - 12 pm Climate change + impacts on culture and Manit (CLLC presentation)	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 pm [Icebreaker]	1:30 - 3pm Art Workshops	3-3:30 pm Closing circle
WEDNESDAY 07/22	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 - 11:00 am [icebreaker]	11:00 - 12 pm Climate change + Disease outbreak - Covid + Dengue (MOH/covid taskforce rep)	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00 - 1:30 pm [Icebreaker]	1:30-3 pm Art Workshops	3-3:30 pm Closing circle
THURSDAY 07/23	9:00 AM Breakfast 9:30-10:30 Ice breakers	10:30 - 12 pm Arts Workshop	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-3:30 Climate Change + effects on Oceans Scuba Diving Field Trip to observe coral bleaching		
FRIDAY 07/24	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 - 11:00 am	11:00 - 12pm Climate change + Mental Health	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 [Icebreaker]	1:30-3pm Art Workshops	3-3:30 pm Closing circle

	[Closed Eye Tool]	(MOH Mental Health rep + MIEPI]				
MONDAY 07/27	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 -11:00 am [Icebreaker]	11:00 - 12 pm Arts Workshops	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 closing circle		
TUESDAY 07/28	9:00 AM Breakfast 9:30-10:30 Ice breakers/team building exercises	10:00 - 12 pm Art Workshops	12:00-1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 Climate change + Coastal Erosion Land Grant		3-3:30 pm Closing circle
WEDNESDAY 07/29	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 -11:00 am [Icebreaker]	11:00 - 12 pm Climate Change International Advocacy (CCD rep + youth panel)	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 pm [icebreaker]	1:30-3pm Art Workshops	3-3:30 pm Closing circle
THURSDAY 07/30	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 -11:00 am [Icebreaker]	10:30 - 12 pm Arts Workshops	12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-1:30 pm Closing Circle		
FRIDAY 08/1	9:00 AM Breakfast 10:00 -11:00 am Icebreaker	11:00- 12 PM Final Art Workshops	12:00- 1:00 pm Lunch	1:00-2:30 Final Art Workshops/ Prep for Showcase	2:30-3:30 pm Seminar Closing Circle and Thanks	6:00 pm PERFORMANCE NIGHT!
SATURDAY 8/2	SEMINAR PICNIC 9 am - 5 pm					

Annex 2 Participants List

	NAME	SCHOOL	GENDER
1	Abraham Compass	MIHS	M
2	Amy Kios		F
3	Angelica Ditchen	Baptist	F
4	Bruce-Shen	COOP	M
5	Cassandra Donato	MBCA	F
6	Christin Batol	SDA	F
7	Dantyann Tartious	MIHS	F
8	Danty Tartious	MIHS	F
10	Emosi Maotokani	MIHS	M
11	Hazel Peter	COOP	F
13	Hovell Dako	Assumption	M
14	Isabella Nurruhn	COOP	F
15	Jenjen Malimai	Baptist	M
16	Jennica Kamram	Xavier High School	F
17	Jennifer Nia Wase	COOP	F
18	Jijju Ken	Assumption	M
19	Juston T Shamory	MIHS	M
20	Kathrene Heneus	MIHS	F
21	Kiyoshi Tadashi	MIHS	M
22	Kyla Haine	MIHS	F
23	Lexxy M Typhoon	MIHS	F
24	Lillia Jack	MIHS	F
25	Lillyann Bing	COOP	F
26	Lorna T Z Lokebol	MIHS	F
27	Maati Anterea	MIHS	F
28	Marck Concepcion	Baptist	M
29	Marian Ishiguro	COOP	F
30	Maryann L John	MIHS	F
31	Minnie Yao	COOP	F
32	Miriam Maika	MIHS	F
34	Percy Lord	SDA	M
35	Ryan Nevado	Xavier High School/COOP	M
36	Saprina Lajar	MIHS	F
37	Shannon Robert	Kwajalein High School	F
38	Telli Lanki	Baptist	M
39	Winmar Jr. Morris	MIHS	M