Jessalyn Aaland

b. 1981, San Francisco, California

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EDUCATION

2009 San Francisco State University, San Francisco, Single Subject Teaching Credential, English
2003 University of California, San Diego, Bachelor of Arts, Literatures of the World

AWARDS, RESIDENCIES, & GRANTS

2026 Finalist, Creative Power Award, The Walter & Elise Haas Fund, San Francisco
2024 Artist-in-Residence, Oxbow School, Napa, CA
2022 Artist-in-Residence, Oxbow School, Napa, CA
Commission, Emeryville Bus Shelter Poster Series, City of Emeryville, CA
2019 Grant, Alternative Exposure (Organizing Power project), Southern Exposure, San Francisco
Artist-in-Residence, Real Time & Space, Oakland, CA
Commission, San Francisco Art on Market Street Poster Series, San Francisco Arts Commission
2018 Grant, Precipice Fund (Class Set project), Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Portland, OR
Artist-in-Residence, SÍM Residency, Reykjavik, Iceland (October)
Fellow, Political Power Cohort, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA), San Francisco
Artist-in-Residence, North Mountain Residency, North Mountain, WV
2016 Grant, Alternative Exposure (Class Set project), Southern Exposure, San Francisco
Grant, Oakland Stock, Oakland, CA
2013 Artist-in-Residence, Facebook, Menlo Park, CA
2011 Artist-in-Residence, People's Gallery, San Francisco

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Tell Me How to Be a Lily*, Yorba Gallery, Sutter Creek, CA
2019 *Class Set Vol. 1 and 2*, Women's Studio Workshop, Rosendale, NY
Casual Learning Environments, In My Area, San Francisco
2018 *In the Classroom: Social Justice Posters*, Rosenberg Library at City College of San Francisco
2016 *The Pieces Between,* with Audra Knutson, The Mill, San Francisco
Options in Life, Western Relics, San Francisco
2015 *No Rules To Do*, Legion, San Francisco
Nothing to Undo, Econo Jam, Oakland, CA
2013 *Thank You For Your Waiting*, Swarm Gallery, Oakland, CA
2012 *Of Course Not*, with Paul Morgan, Swarm Gallery, Oakland, CA
2011 *Salutation*, with Jennifer Hennesy, People's Gallery, San Francisco
2009 *Hello How Are You*, Tartine Bakery, San Francisco
Good News, with Lisa Rybovich Cralle, Painted Bird, San Francisco
2008 *Secret Garden*, Cafe Royale, San Francisco

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 Small Press Book Bazaar, The Lab, San Francisco (forthcoming)
San Francisco Zine Fest, The Hibernia, San Francisco
San Francisco Art Book Fair, Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco
Printed Matter's Los Angeles Art Book Fair, ArtCenter College of Design, Pasadena, CA
Local Print, University Art Gallery, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
2025 Acid-Free Los Angeles Art Book Market, Marta, Los Angeles
Hush Hush Secret Book Shop, Morgann Trumble Projects, San Jose, CA

Pittsburgh Art Book Fair, Carnegie Art Museum, Pittsburgh
San Francisco Zine Fest, City View at Metreon, San Francisco
San Francisco Art Book Fair, Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco
Printed Matter's Los Angeles Art Book Fair, ArtCenter College of Design, Pasadena, CA
Seattle Art Book Fair, Washington Hall, Seattle

2024 *Unearth,* Side Bitch Project Space, Los Angeles
Ripple Effect, Ruth's Table, San Francisco
Ulises: Assembly, Tufts University Art Galleries, Boston
Vancouver Art Book Fair, The Roundhouse, Vancouver, Canada
San Francisco Art Book Fair, Minnesota Street Project
Isn't Life a Blast: 10 Years of Real Time Residency, Gallery 16, San Francisco
Printmaking as Collective Action, MoMA, New York
Multiple Formats, Boston University
Jersey Art Book Fair, Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ

2023 SFMOMA Small Press Book Bazaar, San Francisco
BOG (curated by Colpa Press), FOG Art Fair, Fort Mason, San Francisco
Boston Art Book Fair, Boston Institute for Contemporary Art, Boston
New Moon Figure Eight, 120710 Art, Berkeley, CA
Old Friends/New Friends, Creativity Explored, San Francisco
Printed Matter's Los Angeles Art Book Fair, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
Undercommons Archive, Adobe Books, San Francisco
Pyramid Scheme, Bass & Reiner, San Francisco

2021 *35th Annual Emeryville Art Exhibition*, Emeryville, CA
RePurposeful, Randall Museum, San Francisco

2019 *Printed Publics: Contemporary Art and Design Publishing in the Bay Area,* SFMOMA, San Francisco

2018 *Náttúrulegt,* SÍM Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland
Political Birthdays, Dream Farm Commons, Oakland, CA
Made on the Mountain: North Mountain Residency Retrospective, Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV

2017 *Printing the City*, South Square Gallery, Bradford, UK
Group Hang, The Lab, San Francisco

2016 *Tania Bruguera: Talking to Power/Hablándole al Poder*, YBCA, San Francisco

2015 *Anti Lab: A Resource for Creative Resistance*, Gallery 2301, Oakland, CA

2014 *Anniversary Show*, Incline Gallery, San Francisco
Anonymously Altered, Adobe Gallery, San Francisco
Headlands Art Auction, Headlands Center for the Arts/SOMArts, San Francisco

2012 *Stretch & Expose*, San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery, San Francisco
The Reading Nook, Narwhal Projects, Toronto, ON

2011 *Spatial Reinvention*, Famous Four Colors, Oakland, CA
Bay Area '00's Poster/Flyer Excavation, 21 Grand, Oakland, CA

2008 *Illusion of the Reverie*, Fort Gallery, Oakland, CA

2007 *Sensory Deprivation Swamp*, Mini Dutch Gallery, Chicago
Works on Paper, Gallery One, San Francisco
Printed in Blood, The Artel, Kingston, ON / Xpace, Toronto, ON

SELECT PRINT & PUBLICATIONS

2026 "Please do not hang out in the street: Oakland DIY music spaces of the early 21st century."Oakland Review of Books, commissioned essay
God Only Knows: A Field Guide to California Vanity Plates, book published by Current Editions

2025 *Girltalk*, book published by Current Editions

2024 *Hold That Line!,* booklet published by Current Editions

2023 *Emeryville Cool Fun Booklet,* booklet published by Current Editions
Not Recommended for Children Under 3 Years of Age: 25 Years of Sticker Packaging, published by Current Editions

2021 *Organizing Power Volume 2: Negotiating Union Contracts for the Arts/Nonprofit Worker,* published by Current Editions

2020 *Emeryville Cool Fun Facts*, Risograph-printed newsletters

2019 *Organizing Power: How to Unionize Your Arts/Nonprofit Workplace,* booklet published by Current Editions

A Brief and Inconclusive History of San Francisco's Market Street, booklet published by Current Editions
"Guide for Youth Protestors," adapted guide, curriculum, and introductory essay included in John Mink's *Teaching Resistance: Radicals, Revolutionaries, and Cultural Subversives in the Classroom*, PM Press
"The Practice of Freedom." SFMOMA'S Open Space, commissioned essay

2017 *Guide for Youth Protestors*, self-published pamphlet

SELECT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

2026 *From the Bench*, online talk, San Francisco Center for the Book

2024 Small press panel discussion, Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA
Inseparable:Publication Design and Content (organized by Draw Down Books), Jersey Art Book Fair

2023 *Extended Hours*, performance, Institute of Contemporary Art San Francisco
Organizing Power: Unionizing for Arts Workers, panel discussion (organizer), Los Angeles Art Book Fair

2022 *Artists Over Institutions: How Can Arts Organizations Support the Needs of Living, Working Artists?*, Beyond the Studio podcast panel discussion, Institute of Contemporary Art San Francisco

2019 Teaching Artist workshop series, Mission High School with YBCA, San Francisco
Organizing Power, panel discussion (organizer), YBCA, San Francisco
Artist talk, Real Time + Space, Oakland, CA

2018 *Poster Power! The Role of Art in Making Change* talk, Rosenberg Library and City College San Francisco
Poster Making with Jessalyn Aaland workshop, The Mix at San Francisco Public Library, San Francisco
Reading the World: Looking at Artworks with a Critical Lens, talk, Legion of Honor Museum, San Francisco

2017 *Creating a "Class Set" of Social Justice Posters*, workshop, The Hamlin School, San Francisco
Creating a "Class Set" of Social Justice Posters, workshop, Teachers for Social Justice conference, San Francisco
In Print/Imprint: Designing Political Print Pieces with Users in Mind, workshop, Does Art Have Users? symposium, SFMOMA
Gallery talk: Corita Kent, SFMOMA, San Francisco

2016 *Hopes, Dreams, Family, Resistance, Resilience*, workshop, Radical Art Theory Tuesdays, Southern Exposure, San Francisco

PRESS

Alexandra, Rae. "SFMOMA Became a Pet Portrait Studio for a Day." KQED 6 February 2023. Web.
Anderson, Margaret. "8 indie publishing gems worth your time and money." Fast Company 22 May 2025. Web.
Bishara, Hakim. "Bay Area Artists Put Together an A-Z Guide for Forming a Museum Union." Hyperallergic 26 October 2021. Web.
Bishara, Hakim. "New York's Jewish Museum Staff Push to Unionize." Hyperallergic 11 January 2022. Web.
Cheng, Dewitt, "Roundabouts." East Bay Express 8 February 2012. Print
Cruz, Lenika. "Contemplating Clutter." East Bay Express 27 March 2013. Print.
Facebook Artist-in-Residence Program Season 2. Menlo Park, CA: Facebook, Inc. 2014. Print.
Farr, Kristin. Interview. Juxtapoz Magazine Fall 2020. Print.
Fox, O.K., Lucia Love, and Sarah Crowe. "Organizing Art Worker Power w/ Jessalyn Aaland." Art and Labor September 2021. Podcast.
Griffey, Jeremiah. "Filling the Che." San Diego Reader 2 March 2006. Print.
Harrington, Caitlin. "Layered Paper, Vinyl Art Headlines New Show At Western Relics." Hoodline 21 June 2016. Web.
Hotchkiss, Sarah. "Activists' Messages Line Market Street, Route of Historic Marche.s" KQED 29 August 2019. Web.
"Jessalyn Aaland and Paul Morgan, 'Of Course Not' at Swarm Gallery." Oakland Art Enthusiast 1 February 2012. Web.
Kiyoizumi, A.J. "Collage Collection is a Recollection." The Daily Californian [Berkeley, CA] 20 March 2013. Print.
Meline, Gabe. "8 of the Coolest Things We Saw at the SF Art Book Fair." KQED 19 July 2024. Web.
O'Donoghue, Liam. "No one's trying to get famous: Oakland Underground, Part 1." East Bay Yesterday 11 August 2026. Podcast.
Open Form. Menlo Park, CA: Facebook, Inc. 2017. Print.
Randall, Randy. "Hyphenate Jessalyn Aaland." Hyphenate with Randy Randall 9 August 2026. Podcast.
Rhoades, Kate and Mayosun Wazwaz. "Plants (with Jessalyn Aaland)." Congratulations Pine Tree 20 July 2016. Podcast.
SFMOMA and Stink Studios. *Duct Tape and Dreams: Reviving the Soapbox Derby at McLaren Par*k. 2023. Video.

COLLECTIONS

Alameda County Arts Commission, Arte Útil Archive, College of the Atlantic, Columbia University, Goldsmiths' College, University of London, Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles Contemporary Archive, Meta, NYU, San Francisco State University, School of the Museum Fine Arts, Tufts University, SFMOMA Library and Archives, University of California, Santa Cruz, University of Michigan, Williams College