



Craft Stories

As we all wrestle with new norms – new ways of thinking, of being and operating – these craft-inspired stories amplify the impacts of craft cross-culturally and across diverse communities amid the current health and social justice crisis.



Portrait: Anjali Pinto

Maker x Maker Artist Showcase: Alicia Goodwin

In a strategic effort to support artist livelihoods and amplify maker stories in regional marketplaces and creative communities amid the economic fallout of the pandemic, ACC developed a new artist-centric content platform. Debuted in spring 2020, **Maker x Maker** allows artists to showcase other makers they admire. Our first contributor, Chicago-based jewelry artist Alicia Goodwin, shared a shortlist of a few of her favorite Black makers to follow, offering an inside look at their work from the perspective of a fellow artist. Some of these artists included Shenequa Brooks, a textile weaving artist; Ogechi Anyanwu, a leather artist; and Nacinimod Deodee, a crochet artist.

CRAFT THINKING

[Not] In Isolation Film Project

Craft Thinking: [Not] In Isolation Film Series

When the COVID-19 global pandemic hit in spring 2020, a craft video revival exploded as isolated maker communities across the country took to social media to connect and share the varied ways craft can impact their communities. In collaboration with artists, filmmakers, and organizations, ACC commissioned a series of short video projects to tell stories of makers and artist projects pursuing community-based and craft-inspired humanitarian relief efforts across the country in response to the pandemic. The film series, **Craft Thinking: [Not] In Isolation**, has become a beacon of hope and a resource of inspiration for many to be shared, mined, and used as examples of how makers and maker communities have responded to the crisis.



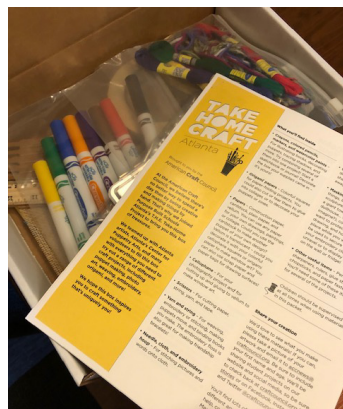
Photo: Annie Spratt



Portrait: Celeste Noche

Take Home Craft | Atlanta

Take Home Craft | Atlanta is a pilot program collaboration between ACC and Purpose Built Schools Atlanta with the goal of generating craft-based art educational opportunities for low-income neighborhoods in Southeast Atlanta that develop inventiveness, resourcefulness, and cognitive and emotional skills. This pilot project quickly evolved as an immediate response program to adapt to the urgent needs of at-risk children isolated at home without access to art supplies, activities, or the time and attention of their art teachers, which they would normally have in their schools. Delivering the kits to children during the summer months ensured they had ample time to work with the prompts and materials before the start of the upcoming school year.



American Craft/The Queue: **Korsha Wilson**

The wildly popular ***American Craft*** magazine transports readers into the world of craft, sharing stories of the many diverse perspectives and cultures that craft represents. **The Queue** was established in spring 2020 to engage the community and draw more online attention to the content created for the magazine by inviting contributors from each issue to share what they are currently excited about. For example, food podcast host Korsha Wilson, who was featured in the Kitchen Table issue of *American Craft*, also shares personal perspectives, listening recommendations, and more in The Queue. Delivered to 30,000 ACC email subscribers each week and presented as a blog post on the ACC website, The Queue has averaged 17,000 readers visiting and exploring the content to date.

