

All About the Process: Intersections of Student Engagement, Creativity, and Learning

Western Pennsylvania
ACRL Chapter / *West Virginia*
Spring Conference

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ONE SPACE TWO PARTNERS

- The University Library System
- The Center for Creativity



University of
Pittsburgh | Library System



CENTER FOR
CREATIVITY

What is Text & conText?

The Text & conText Lab, a Center for Creativity University Library System partnership on the third floor of Hillman Library, provides an active environment for the creation, manipulation, and or disassembly of text. Text & conText is open to all Pitt students, faculty, and staff. Both individual and group work can be accommodated; this space is for experiential activity rather than study.

Who Uses THE SPACE AND How



HOURS & VISITS

Monday – Friday,
open to anyone in
the Pitt community
to drop-in



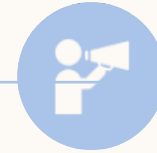
INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

For course-related
or personal projects



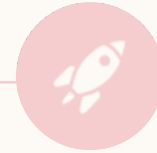
CLASSES

Instructors across
subjects and
disciplines schedule
time in the lab



WORKSHOPS

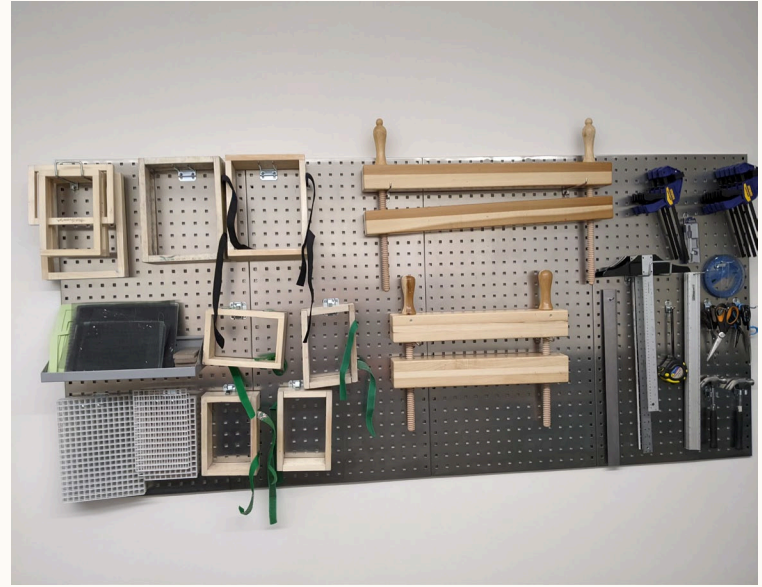
Bookplates, pop-up
books, hands-on
teambuilding, and
more!



EXTERNAL VISITORS

Of all ages!

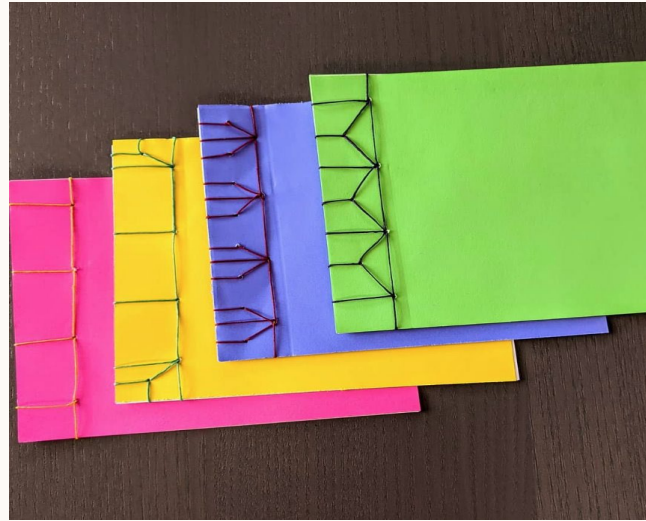




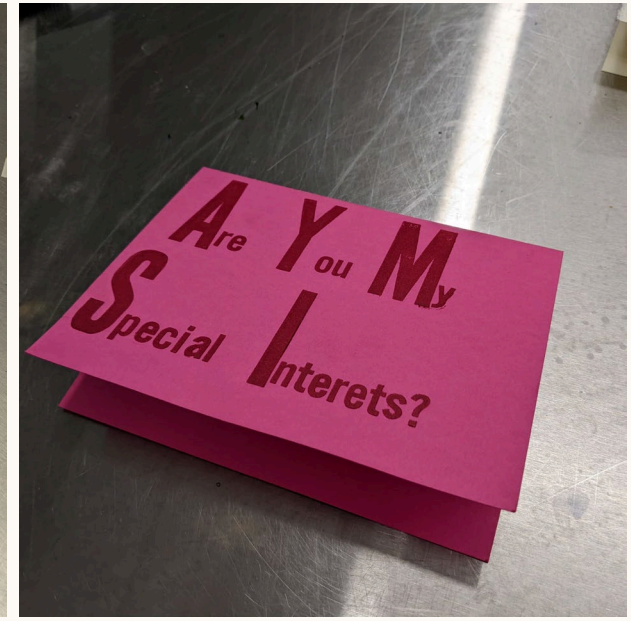
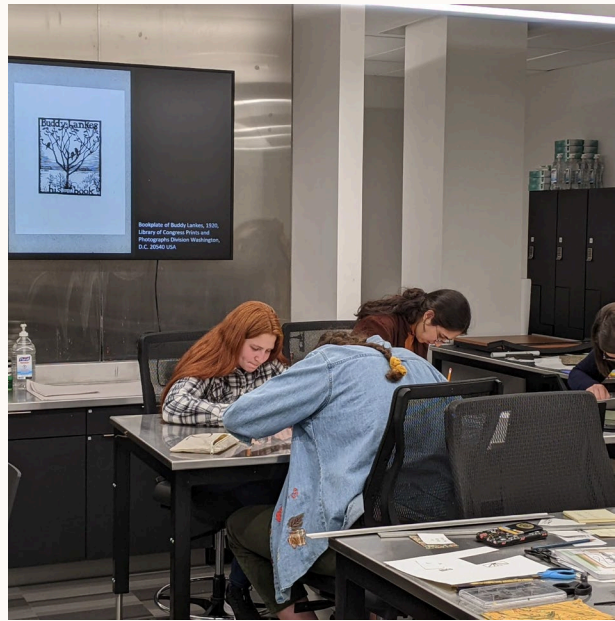
HANDS ON!



ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES



CREATING WITH CONTEXT: A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS BRINGING LIBRARY COLLECTIONS TO LIFE



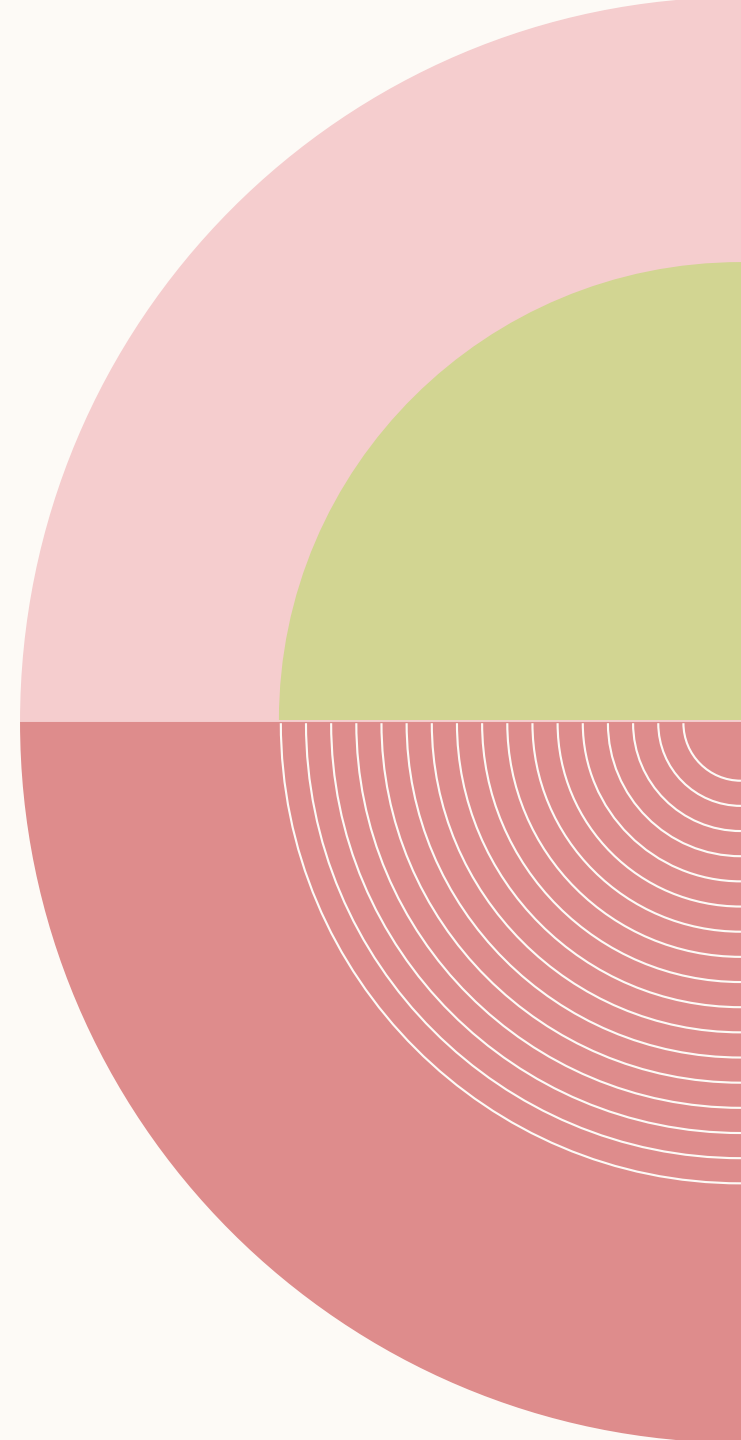
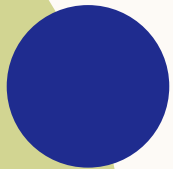


THE EXPERIENCE

- Prioritizing the process --
- Learning to problem-solve --
- Thinking, making, creating --
 - Slowing down --
 - Taking risks --
- Connecting with others --

THE POWER OF PROCESS

- Getting into the "flow"
 - Focus on the present moment
 - Lose track of time
 - Let go of self-consciousness
 - Gain greater clarity
 - Embrace imperfections





LEARNING THEORY

From:

- Behaviorism –
- Cognitivism –
- Constructivism –

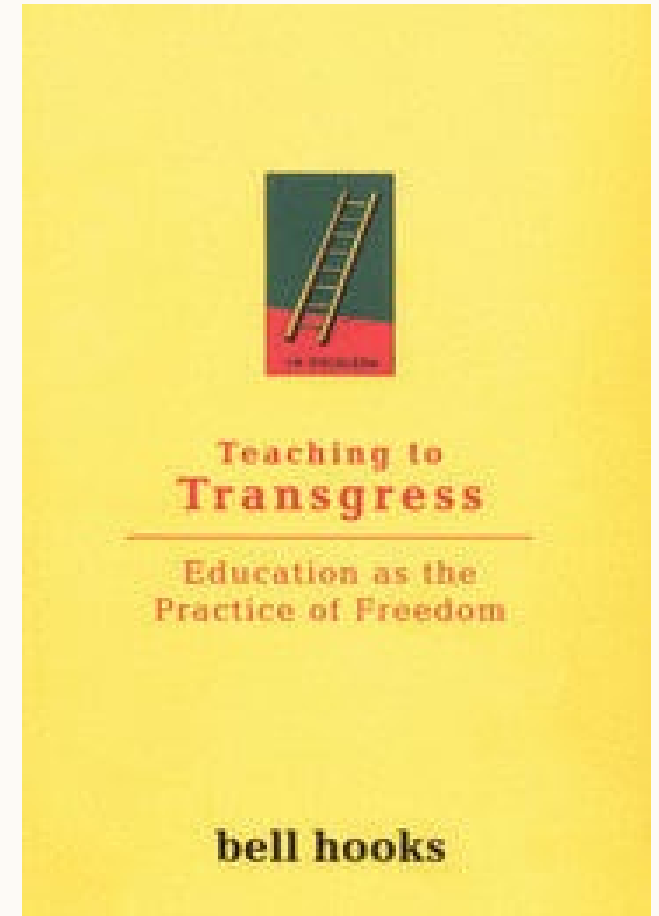
Toward:

- Constructionism –
- Situated Learning –

“

Education should be a process of self-discovery, where students learn to think critically, question authority, and challenge the status quo. ”

bell hooks
author, theorist,
educator, social
critic



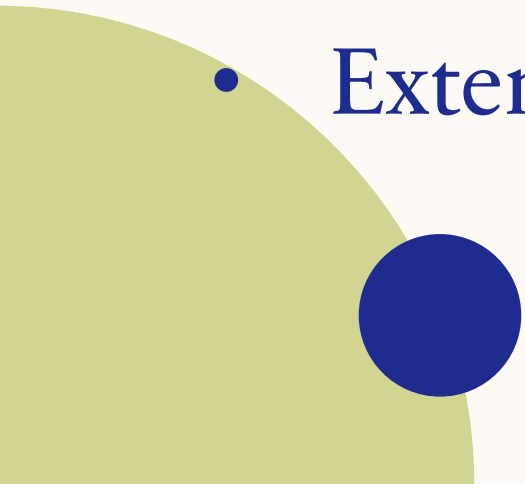
CONNECTIONS

- Open, available, and accessible
- Finding a safe space
- Meeting new people
- Spending time with friends
- Practicing creative processes through authenticity



REFLECTIONS

- Developing a creative practice
- Working beyond our comfort zone
- Teaching through facilitation
- Practicing trauma-informed pedagogy
- Learning along with students
- Extending our professional network

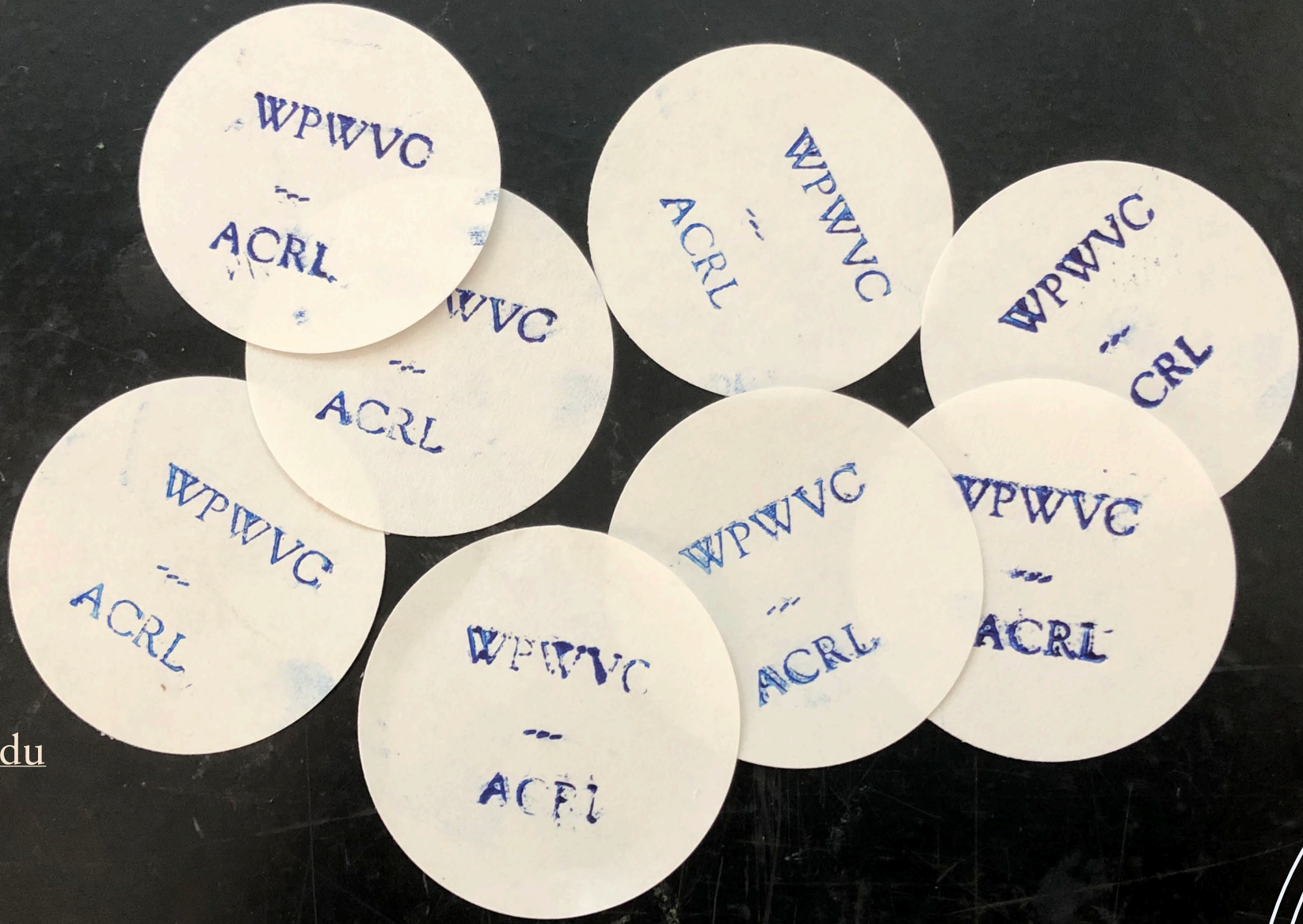


EVOLVING LIBRARY SPACES

- An alternative venue for knowledge transmission
- A lab to learn through active experimentation and analogies
- An environment that fosters intellectual curiosity
- A place to apprehend the book as a physical object, with a materiality and a history
- A nest for a growing community



THANK YOU



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