Zoe Bray
Visual Arts

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Zoe Bray is a visual artist, based in Reno, hailing from Europe, with roots in the Basque Country. She has lived in various countries and speaks five languages, including Spanish. She has a background in anthropology and fine art. Her practice focuses on painting and drawing from life, using traditional techniques. Bray specializes in portraiture, illustration, and craft. Her interest lies in pushing the boundaries of fine art while combining it with ethnographic inquiry to address issues of contemporary life, including identity and human-nature relations. Via exhibitions, performances, and teaching, she seeks to build bridges between communities and the natural environment.

In Bray's workshops, she encourages collaboration while exploring personal artistic impulses. As an artist and educator, she feels it’s important to think outside the box and to challenge established ways of thinking. She encourages her students to use non-conventional materials, including trash, and turning these into new sculptural forms and artistic contraptions. In story-telling exercises, Bray encourages participants to collaborate and explore different identities. She stresses the importance of bringing students out of the classroom to interact with the natural environment.

Bray earned an MA in Social Anthropology from the University of Edinburgh (Scotland) and a PhD in Social and Political Science from the European University Institute (Italy). These studies gave her a professional foundation in ethnographic work. She is trained in the traditional techniques of fine art, having studied drawing, sculpting, and painting, from the model, at the traditional atelier-style school of the Charles Cecil Studios and at the Florence Academy, in Florence, Italy. She seeks, through art-making in its various forms, to bring out and reflect on different cosmologies and human-nature relations.

Program Types
Workshops, classes, residencies.

Language Proficiencies
English—fluent
Basque—advanced
French—fluent
Spanish—fluent
Italian—fluent
Hebrew—beginner
Arabic—beginner

Fees
Contact to inquire

Availability
Contact to inquire

Audiences
Grades PreK–12, Young
Adult, Adult, Seniors, ESL/ELL

Venues
Schools, colleges, and community organizations

Technical requirements
Contact to inquire

Counties
Statewide

School & Community Workshops
Introduction to Still-Life Drawing and Painting
Tracing Trash
Making Trash Art
Sculpture from the Waste Stream
Art from Nature