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UConn Board of Trustees Meeting
2/24/2021
Your story matters ...

- English: https://pandemic-journaling-project.chip.uconn.edu/
- Spanish: https://pandemic-journaling-project-espanol.chip.uconn.edu/
Goals

1. “Pre-design” a historical archive that includes those often left out of historical records

2. Collect and analyze basic quantitative + rich qualitative data about pandemic experiences from a broad range of people around the world

3. Provide a valuable public service

4. Offer journaling opportunity with potential mental health benefit
How it Works

● Baseline/brief weekly survey + two weekly journaling prompts delivered by email OR text message, including the weekly question:
  ○ How is the coronavirus pandemic affecting your life right now?

● For each entry, participants can:
  - Write (or dictate)
  - Record their voice
  - Upload a photo & write/talk about it
"Usually, history is written only by the powerful. When the history of COVID-19 is written, let's make sure that doesn't happen."

- 1000+ people
- 40+ countries
- 7,500+ entries

- 49% White
- 10% Hispanic or Latino
- 9% Black
- 7% Asian or Pacific Islander
- 13% Mixed Race or Other

80% contributing in English
20% contributing in Spanish

[Website Link]
Dissemination & Recruitment

- Social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter)
- Short video (Global Affairs)
- Media coverage (radio, podcasts, newspapers)
- Professional listservs
- Unions
- Educators

How will you tell your COVID-19 story to your children & grandchildren?
What does your work look like right now?
Share your story with the Pandemic Journaling Project

These are unprecedented times.
Make sure your story is remembered, in your own words.
Advisory Board & Student Advisory Board

Member Endorsements

"The changes the pandemic has wrought are not just on the objective world around us, but on our subjective experience of the world. In helping us to capture, record and navigate our collective subjective experiences of this global crisis, PJP gives us not only the rare opportunity to track our inner experiences of outer pain, it will open a window between the past and the future.

MICHAEL LYNCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR, UCONN HUMANITIES INSTITUTE"

"Which histories will become our History? This is a summer of resistance. This movement for human dignity fights for a better world, where every human can flourish. With gratitude to Black and Indigenous activists (and their allies) for nurturing the possibility of hope and change: Let’s record this moment!

CORONA ZHANG
MASTERC IN PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT"
U.S. Participants, by ZIP code
PJP around the world

- Most from U.S.
- Also a significant # from Mexico
- Over 40 countries represented
Hey Educators!

Visit our EDUCATOR RESOURCES page for fresh ideas for your Fall classes.

- Teens age 15-17 can now participate with parent/guardian consent
How will journals be preserved?

1. **MyJournal** - participants can log in securely to view and download their journals

2. **Featured Entries** - curated, rotating selection of entries (shared anonymously, with explicit consent)

3. **Qualitative Data Repository (Syracuse U)** - After data collection is complete, all materials will be deposited and made accessible, under set terms, to interested researchers.

4. **Historical Archive** - After 25 years, all data will be deposited as a public historical record in a university archive.
‘Right Now Feels So Long and Without Any End in Sight’

More than 700 people have been keeping digital diaries as part of the Pandemic Journaling Project. It may be the most complete record of our shifting moods in this isolating year.
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  ○ Anthropology
Extra Slides:  
*PJP Voices*
“Home with the kids. The outputs: a unicorn, a dog with a bowl, and a self-portrait.”
“The west coast is engulfed in smoke and horrible air pollution from the worst wildfires in history.

Climate change is here and it’s catastrophic.”
Politics & Injustice

“... African Americans are being racially profiled, murdered and disrespected on the daily. Now this COVID virus which is killing many of our friends and family. ...”
Seeing Differently

“I’m doing a lot of photography and zooming in on things that would have escaped notice before… Each picture is supposed to tell a story and this was ours. Two beings with nothing but time to observe each other.”