

BLMG interview cont.

Aside from the role the garden plays in feeding folks, how else does it benefit the broader community?
As an active occupation protest, the garden serves as a beacon for the movement to end oppression in all its forms. As organizers of the space, Black Star Farmers seeks to bring in activists who are organizing around both local and international issues so that we can build solidarity across movements and gain a deeper understanding of the oppression we are all facing.

The city claim's it needs to renovate the turf to open the space up for community events like concerts and such. Is that valid?
The city will always act in the ruling class's interest and seek to co-opt the word "community" to represent the more "acceptable" housed working middle class aligned with their interest. In the case of the garden, they are not interested in allowing a radical space to exist. They will continue to attempt to leverage their version of the community against us.

What has community resistance looked like/has it been successful?

Community resistance initially looked like rallying a large community to support the garden through constant occupation, emailing city officials, letters of support, petitions, and surveys. Even though SPR claims to care about the community, the most effective strategy so far has been the constant occupation of the garden. Even with 1000s of emails sent and 100s of signatures on our letter of support, SPR is still intent on removing the garden.

After our successful resistance to their attempt to violently remove the garden on October 24th, they have shifted to attacking the garden by sweeping our unhouseed comrades from the space weekly and harassing them daily. We have shifted our efforts to support our unhouseed comrades by resisting the weekly sweeps and working collectively to keep folks warm, fed, and dry.

How can folks help?

First of all, join us in constantly occupying the space. This looks like signing up for shifts in the garden, bringing food and hot drinks, and joining the sweep resistance when notified of sweeps.

In addition, we are also imagining how the space will function going forward. We have committees planning various aspects of the space, from events to land stewardship to organizational structure. If interested, we will get you into the appropriate signal threads.

Lastly, you can go to www.blackstarfarmers.org and complete the actions. Let's keep putting pressure on the city. Let them not go a day without an email popping up in their inbox reminding them of the violence they enact in their community daily.



#6
DEC
'23

SEE INSIDE: Rad Benefit Shows + More From All
'Round the Sound

Save the Black Lives Memorial Garden!

The City of Seattle is actively seeking to destroy one of the last physical legacies of 2020s sweeping protests for Black Lives. **Sabotage Noise** presents a short Q&A with the lovely folks of Black Star Farmers, who have helped steward the threatened Black Lives Memorial Garden for over 3 years.

So let's go straight to the roots. How did Black Lives Matter Memorial Gardens get started?

Black Lives Memorial Garden was created during the summer of 2020 amid the Capitol Hill Occupied Protest during the George Floyd protests. A small group of activists decided to initiate a garden project in the middle of the "Sun Bowl" to memorialize those murdered by the police and raise awareness of the importance of Land and Food sovereignty.

Once the community learned of the project, residents from all over Seattle and even the greater PNW showed up to support it. In 3 days, most of the current footprint was built, and thousands of plants were donated.

How do y'all maintain the garden?

For the past three years, Black Star Farmers has been stewarding the space and working to continue to organize communities around land and food sovereignty. To do this, BSF holds monthly events in the space to activate and facilitate initiating new community members to the space. Every week during the growing season, we host drop-in stewarding hours for our more regular volunteers. During these weekly sessions, we support our "guerrilla gardeners" to take on greater responsibility as their knowledge of the land grows.

We noticed some signage around the garden about feeding the community. How does the garden factor into that?

The garden serves as a no-barrier land stewardship space where working-class community members can begin to organize around our most critical need: food. Once we acknowledge this need and understand reciprocity with the land, we can begin to meet our caloric and medicinal needs from the landscape surrounding us. BLMG is an access point where the community can learn about reciprocity and begin to take back their power through food sovereignty.



ROAD SHOWS + BENEFITS

OLYMPIA

The Mortuary

@olymortuary

Dec 12 8pm - HEZ (Panama)/Physique/Fugitive
Bubble/Daydream/Malaise

December 8 7pm - TRASH-MASS**

December 15 8pm - Midwinter Solstice Rave**

December 16 6pm - Christmas Slam at the
Mortuary**

January 6 4-11pm - Paperclip/Shellshock/Skelm

Tacoma

The Gravel Pit

@gravelpittacoma

Seasonal Break

Solidarity Center
(1220 S 23rd St)

Dec 9 4-9pm - IWW Bake
Sale ~~

To host radical events at this
new community space,
check out
[patreon.com/HilltopSolidari
tyCenter](https://patreon.com/HilltopSolidarityCenter) or email
hilltopsolidarity@proton.me

SEATTLE

Left Bank Books @leftbankbookscollective
(92 Pike St)

Every 1st Thursday 7:30-11pm - Open Mic (Dec 7, Jan 4)~~

Pipsqueak
(173 16th Ave)

@pipsqueak.seattle

EVERY 1st Sunday 3-5pm - Prisoner Letter Writing ~~

December 4 1-4pm - Know your Rights for restaurant
workers~~

December 6 6-8pm - Queer/Trans Art Jam~~

December 10 12:30-5pm - Queer Sewing and Mending~~

Vera Project @veraproject
(305 Harrison St.)

Dec 3 6pm - Benefit show for Casa del Xolo ft. art
vendors + Somesurprises, Medium Weekend, Maya
Marie, Russian Blue, AP Macroeconomics

BREMERTON

The Charleston

@thecharleston333
(333 N Callow Ave)

Dec 28 5pm - IWW Movie Night**

WANT TO LIST YOUR
COOL SHOW OR BENEFIT
EVENT FOR MUTUAL AID -
LABOR SOLIDARITY -
PRISONER SUPPORT -
ANARCHY GENERALLY?

CONTACT SABOTAGE
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Kitsap County-Based Mutual Aid Benefit Show Booking



KEY

!! = SNP Hosted

** = NOTAFLOF

~~ - Free Entry