

# FIELDWORK @ THE FABRIC WORKSHOP AND MUSEUM

Naomi Lawrence '24

Faculty Advisors: Prof. Matthew Feliz, Tiffany Stahl

Field Supervisor: Christina Roberts

## The Fabric Workshop and Museum

- contemporary art museum
- artists in residence work with FWM studio staff to create exhibitions
- screenprinting studio produces hand printed fabric for exhibitions
- screenprinting apprenticeship program trains young and emerging artists
- permanent collection contains artist boxes from each artist who has done a residency



## Takeaways

- it's a very different experience making art for someone else
  - working within a pre-specified set of criteria, with external feedback, some but not complete creative freedom, presents a different set of challenges
  - while I struggled at first and checked in at every step with my supervisor, I gradually learned to trust myself more and was able to work more independently
- the importance of collaboration and delegation for large creative projects
  - there are so many people working on each exhibition at FWM, with such a wide range of skills and expertise
  - it would be impossible for one person to do all of the things necessary to complete one of these exhibitions, or even to have complete creative control over each decision

## My Projects

- Risa Puno: Group Hug
  - an interactive game installation exploring the dynamics of caring for others and being cared for – visitors choose a path when they enter the exhibit, cared for (relaxing in a chair nestled in a giant coconut shell) and care for (playing a game of whack-a-mole to keep the chairs reclined as long as possible)
  - I designed and made four paper butterflies – each had different motifs inspired by one of the artist's grandparents
  - I also assisted with painting coconut shells, cutting felt plants, stuffing and sewing felt leaves
- John Jarboe: The Rose Garden
  - a maze of interconnected rooms that leads the viewer through the artist's gender journey
  - I assisted with attaching and arranging scales on the giant fish sculpture, decorating the fish fins and tail, arranging and attaching dried roses to the wall
  - I also ran some errands to get materials
- Questionnaire
  - in between working on exhibitions, I developed a visitor questionnaire for Group Hug
  - the format can hopefully be used for future exhibitions

