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## ***CLIMATE HOPE by Monica Jahan Bose***

**New Arlington Art Truck activation invites you to draw attention to climate change. The 6-word Poem or Illustration you draw on fabric will be in a processional of 70' feet of saris. Learn what you can do about climate change from reps from EcoArlington & Climate4Change.**

Arlington County, Virginia – How can you literally *draw* attention to the issue of climate change? Participate in [CLIMATE HOPE by artist Monica Jahan Bose](#), the year's first program of the season by the Arlington Art Truck, taking place April 7 through May 25, 2024.

April is [National Poetry Month](#). Write a 6-word poem, pledge or illustration focusing on climate change directly onto a hand woven 18-foot-long cotton sari at any of the scheduled activations throughout the County.



Image courtesy of the artist

On Saturday, May 25, the culminating activation at Shirlington Library will encompass an Artist Talk and Community Performance (1:00-2:30 p.m.) in which participants will carry 70' feet of saris billowing with your messages of hope in a procession through the streets of Shirlington and across the Four Mile Run waterway to Jennie Dean Park. Shirlington Library is at 4200 Campbell Avenue. See webpage for full schedule and for registration for the Artist Talk on May 25.

The community partner for this project is the County's [Eco-Action Arlington](#) with guest partners Climate4Change. Learn how simple things you can do at home can help slow climate change.

This activation is part of an ongoing project called 'Storytelling with Saris' by Monica Jahan Bose. A multi-layered collaborative art and advocacy project, it uses woodblock prints on saris, writing, oral history, performance, and film to empower communities in the U.S. and Europe to address climate justice in solidarity with the women of Katakali Village, an island community in Bangladesh on the frontlines of climate change. Through performance art and advocacy workshops and climate art actions in the U.S., Bangladesh, and Europe, communities are engaged to take action to fight against the devastation of our planet. Americans are learning about climate change and reducing climate anxiety through the project by writing poetry and making written commitments on saris in an act of cross-border solidarity.

Launching to acclaim in 2018 with a major grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Arlington Art Truck was a finalist for [Americans for the Arts' 2019 Gard Award](#) for Arts and Community Life. The [Arlington Art Truck](#) embodies the [Arlington Arts](#) mission to revolutionize the traditional model of an arts venue. Packed with digital and traditional creative tools, the "Truck" is a curated mobile toolbox for artists. From April through November, three artists-in-residence hit the streets engaging the public in art projects which are designed to blur the line between participant and presenter.

**More>>>>**

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### About the Artist:

Monica Jahan Bose is a Bangladeshi-American artist and climate activist whose work spans painting, printmaking, film, performance, and installation. Her socially engaged work highlights the intersection of climate, racial, gender, and economic injustice through co-created workshops, art actions, and temporary installations and performances. She has exhibited her work extensively in the US and internationally (22 solo shows, numerous group exhibitions, and more than 25 performances) including solo exhibitions at the Bangladesh National Museum and MACRO Museum of Contemporary Art Rome. Her ongoing decade-long collaborative project STORYTELLING WITH SARIS with women farmers from her ancestral island village has traveled to eight countries and 12 US states, engaging thousands of people. Her work has appeared in the Miami Herald, the Washington Post, Art Asia Pacific, the Milwaukee Sentinel, the Honolulu Star Advertiser, the Japan Times, Prothom Alo and all major newspapers in Bangladesh. The Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum has acquired a collection of her paintings, saris, and archival materials. Monica was an artist delegate to the COP28 climate conference in Dubai, presenting sari installations, workshops, and film screenings. She has a BA in the Practice of Art (Painting) from Wesleyan University, a post-graduate diploma in art from Santiniketan, India, and a JD from Columbia Law School.

### About the Community Partners

[EcoAction Arlington](#) educates, advocates, and acts to create a sustainable community by improving our natural environment, encouraging environmentally friendly behaviors, ensuring environmental justice, and addressing the climate crisis. **Climate4Change** is an Arlington County citizen developed project where they provide simple adjustments in our everyday habits that will help mitigate climate change.

[Arlington Cultural Affairs](#) is a division of Arlington Economic Development which delivers public activities and programs as Arlington Arts. Our mission is to create, support, and promote the arts, connecting artists and community to reflect the diversity of Arlington. We do this by: providing material support to artists and arts organizations in the form of grants, facilities and theater technology; integrating award-winning public art into our built environment; and presenting high quality performing, literary, visual and new media programs across the County.

See schedule below. Look for updates on the webpage and Instagram [@arttruckarlington](#) .

**Wednesday, April 3** – Barcroft School, not open to public

**Sunday, April 7** – 9-1pm - Columbia Pike Farmers Market, [2820 Columbia Pike](#)

**Saturday, April 20** – 8-noon - Lubber Run Farmers Market opening day, [4401 N Henderson Rd](#)

**Sunday, April 21** – 11-5pm - Earth Day, Every Day, [4500-4550 Langston Boulevard](#)

**Sunday, May 5** – 9-1pm - Fairlington Farmers Market opening day, [3308 S Stafford Street](#)

**Thursday May 9** – 3-7 pm - MoCA on the Move with MoCA Arlington at MET Park, [1330 S Fair Street](#)

**Saturday, May 18** – 10-1pm - Family Fun Day in the Park, Alcovia Heights Park, [901 S George Mason Drive](#)

**Saturday May 25** – 11-2:30 pm – Culminating Event at Shirlington Library, [4200 Campbell Avenue](#)

- 11-1: activation outside-(drop by anytime);
- 1-2:30: artist talk in library and community performance/procession from library to Jennie Dean park. \*There is limited space for the artist talk indoors. Free. *Sign up information will be posted on the website and on social media closer to the event date.*