



Weekly Newsletter: February 8-12

With a new semester, The People's Pitzer is heading in a new direction. This Spring, TPP is focusing on the intersection of civic engagement and activism, and will be aiming to highlight how activists, scholars, and organizers enact change through civic action. From popular movements to government pressure; from letter writing to education, TPP is going to be bringing together all facets of civic activism to teach, empower, and enact change ourselves. We hope you'll join us.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 12: Our first TPP meeting of the semester is this Friday at **3:00pm PST**. Stop by to hear our plans for the semester, as well as to share any thoughts you may have.
Zoom Link to come.

Feb. 22: From **3:30-4:45pm PST**, TPP will be hosting a workshop for Project Pericles' Debating for Democracy (D4D) "Letter to An Elected Official Competition." This competition, designed to engage college students nationwide with letter writing for political change, could even win you a \$500 grant for a community project of your choosing. Keep your eyes out for more information, and in the meantime learn more about D4D [here](#).

A New Section

In keeping with our mission of highlighting alternate forms of civic activism, we're introducing a new newsletter section: Each week, we'll give an explanation of a strategic principle proposed by community organizers and activists. These examples all come from Beautiful Trouble and its contributors, a movement of grassroots organizers making community organizing more accessible globally. Learn more about them [at their website](#).

Praxis in Action

as described by Joshua Kahn

Growth and sustainability in social movements relies on constant reflection and awareness of which tactics worked and which did not. The idea of Praxis (from theory, to action, to reflection) is one familiar to many at Pitzer, and allows organizers and activists to improve upon action already taken for the future of their cause. Kahn also reminds activists of the importance of a "culture of praxis," ensuring that all members of a movement can learn and grow in their own activism.

Learn more about Kahn's Praxis principle [here](#).

Want to Get Involved?

Fill out [this survey](#) to be added to our mailing list. Still looking for more? The People's Pitzer is seeking passionate students for a host of leadership positions. Keep an eye on your inbox for more application information, or reach out directly to Benjamin Shaw at benshaw@students.pitzer.edu.

As always, follow us on Instagram and Facebook [@ThePeoplesPitzer](#).
Questions? Comments? Concerns? Email Benjamin Shaw at benshaw@students.pitzer.edu.



Biweekly Newsletter: February 22-26

The For the People Act

Democrats in the House and Senate have rallied around H.R. 1, better known as the For the People Act. The package of voting reforms is hailed by many as a necessary improvement of voting rights, but opposition argues that the bill enables too much government control and weakens efforts led by the GOP to purge voter rolls of "inconsistencies." The resolution passed the House in the past, but was blocked by a Republican-majority Senate.

Now, Democrats in both chambers support its passing.

For more information about the For the People Act, as well as a summary of its main points and ways you can get involved, visit [Common Cause](#).

Upcoming Events

Feb. 22: From **3:30-5:00pm PST**, TPP will be hosting a workshop for Project Pericles' Debating for Democracy (D4D) "Letter to An Elected Official Competition." This competition, designed to engage college students nationwide with letter writing for political change, could even win you a \$500 grant for a community project of your choosing. No preparation is needed to attend, and in the meantime learn more about D4D [here](#).

Zoom Link: <https://pitzer.zoom.us/j/81333402112>

Feb. 26: Our next bi-weekly TPP meeting is Friday from **3:00-4:00pm PST**. Join us to hear about upcoming events, brainstorm action items for this semester, and hear an important announcement about student positions.

Zoom Link: <https://pitzer.zoom.us/j/84144568006>

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Art and Messaging

as described by in [Beautiful Trouble](#)

Art can serve as a powerful message for social movements, using its deep questioning and potential for alternative thought as a contrast to often bland political rhetoric. In using art to inspire action, the observer is moved to interpret the piece themselves, drawing them closer to the cause at hand. While still retaining a clear message, art for social change can be inspirational, engaging, and beautiful.

Learn more about this principle [here](#).

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THE PEOPLE'S PITZER CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Biweekly Newsletter: March 15th – 19th

Series: Civic Change, Power, and Voice



In the coming weeks, TPP will be hosting a multi-part speaker series with speakers from across the civic activism fight. The series is aimed at shining light on alternate forms of making change, and the ways students can get involved. We'll be joined by community organizers fighting for climate justice and police abolition, civic educators, elected officials and more. Want to learn about people using popular action to shape the future? Join us for the events. We're excited to have you! To learn more, keep an eye on your inbox and visit the .Events Calendar for [info](#) on our

upcoming [events](#).

Upcoming Events

March 24: Hear from California Governor's Office researcher Dana Nothnagel from **3-4pm PST** as we discuss working in civic channels, activism inside and outside the system, the future of activism, and more. For more information, visit the People's Pitzer Website and [event calendar](#).

April 8: Join us on Zoom from **1-2pm PST** for a conversation with Hamid Khan, campaign coordinator for the [Stop LAPD Spying Coalition](#). For more information, visit the People's Pitzer Website and [event calendar](#).

Leadership Opportunities

Are you looking to make change at Pitzer and in wider communities? TPP is looking to recruit volunteer leaders for a host of positions. Leaders will gain experience and have the chance to shape civic engagement at the college. Positions are open for community outreach, management, communications, policy analysis, and more. Fill out [this survey](#) to receive more information.

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The Overton Window

as described in [Beautiful Trouble](#)

The Overton Window, named for think tank staffer Joseph Overton, is the limit of what is considered "acceptable" when examining public policy options. Shifting this window allows for positions once considered radical to be placed within the window of reasonable options. Beautiful Trouble encourages raising the voices of platforms more extreme than one's own to make the original goal appear more moderate (and closer to the acceptable mainstream) by comparison. While tricky to pull off, successfully shifting the window can benefit the public good and advance social causes through policy work.

Learn more about the Overton Window [here](#).

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