

## Artists, researchers and policymakers highlight complexities surrounding global vaccination in <Immune Nations>, an evidence-based art exhibition

*This exhibition presents artistic research from The Vaccine Project, a three-year interdisciplinary and collaborative project co-led by Sean Caulfield and Natalie S. Loveless (University of Alberta) and Steven J. Hoffman (University of Ottawa).*

*Please see [www.thevaccineproject.com](http://www.thevaccineproject.com) for a full list of participants*

The past several years have witnessed extremely heated and polarized international public debate on vaccines, ranging from questions related to their safety to their unacceptably high price in many of the world's poorest countries. <Immune Nations>, an evidence-based art exhibition about the constructive role that art can play in global political discourse around life-saving vaccines, brings attention to these debates and the often complex emotional states that surround them.

Art/creative research has the potential to play an important role in helping to foster a more nuanced, evidence-based discourse around vaccines, at the very least by articulating elusive or emotionally charged issues in ways that other forms of communication often cannot. The outcome of a three-year interdisciplinary and international collaborative research project, the exhibition highlights the work of researchers and visual artists aiming to constructively reframe current discourses surrounding vaccines, identify the limitations of existing approaches, and combine art with research evidence to strategize creative ways of promoting universal vaccination.

The exhibition premiered at Galleri KiT, Trondheim Academy of Fine Arts, in Norway in March 2017, and travels to UNAIDS headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland in May 2017 to coincide with the World Health Assembly.

### Sponsors:

The <Immune Nations> exhibition was created with generous support from the Research Council of Norway, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Killam Cornerstone Grant of Canada, the Global Strategy Lab of the University of Ottawa, the Faculty of Arts of the University of Alberta, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, the Trondheim Academy of Fine Art, and UNAIDS.

Press Release – April 15, 2017

website: [www.thevaccineproject.com/](http://www.thevaccineproject.com/)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/ImmuneNations/](https://facebook.com/ImmuneNations/)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/ImmuneNations](https://twitter.com/ImmuneNations)

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# <Immune Nations>

Curated by Natalie S. Loveless

Participating artists, scholars, and advocates: Jesper Alvaer, Julia Belluz, Sean Caulfield, Timothy Caulfield, Patrick Fafard, Caitlin Fisher, Steven J. Hoffman, Johan Holst, Annemarie Hou, Alison Humphrey, Kaisu Koski, Vicki S. Kwon, Natalie S. Loveless, Patrick Mahon, Lathika Sritharan, Mkrkich Tonoyan, Rachele Viader Knowles

### LOCATION:

#### UNAIDS

20, Avenue Appia  
H-1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

### EXHIBITION DATES:

**May 23 to June 30, 2017**

### OPENING RECEPTION:

**May 23, 2017**  
**5:30–8:30pm**

To visit, please RSVP to  
**[vkwon@ualberta.ca](mailto:vkwon@ualberta.ca)**

MEDIA ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.  
CONTACT INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE.