

CCS Collabinar

Data Quality and Citizen Science:

Critically analyzing data stories and gaps

About the presentation: How do we discern what constitutes "quality" data as diverse stakeholders play their part in shaping it? Across the globe, citizen engagement with practices of data collection, analysis, and visualization has helped to contextualize complex social and environmental issues — balancing the quantitative narratives powerful actors compose with community-based standpoints. All data is situated in particular perspectives and delimits how topics get represented. The stories that emerge from data are informed by the aims and commitments of those producing it, along with the cultural contexts of its production. What gets counted, how data standards are defined, and how information gets presented graphically all involve decisions about what issues matter and why.

Topics to be discussed:

- How do we define data quality in the context of citizen science?
- How can we visually render gaps in data alongside data narratives?
- How might citizen scientists repurpose data, produced in contexts opposed to their commitments, towards alternative ends?
- How should we train the next generation of critical citizen data practitioners?
- Engaging youth with data and community action through the Center's "[Our Forests](#)" project in Nevada County



The **CCS Collabinar** invites our partners from across the globe to bring us their most exciting challenges and opportunities in community and citizen science. Each event supports mutual learning, and advances projects and partnerships.

Presenter:



Lindsay Poirier is a cultural anthropologist of data cultures, expertise, and infrastructure. Interlacing training in both ethnography and computer science, Poirier critically examines datasets and data infrastructures as ethnographic artifacts, while she also theorizes and implements alternative data models and platforms.

Tuesday, Feb. 18th

- **11:00-12:00 PM:** interactive presentation and discussion
- **12:00-1:00 PM:** optional sharing and project workshopping

1460 Drew Ave

Davis, CA 95616

- To participate online or in-person, please RSVP: <http://bit.ly/Collabinar09>