Peter Boghossian’s 2015 Projects and Events

@peterboghossian

January 24

Los Angeles

**Fundraiser**

With Michael Shermer and Bill Nye

February

**Article**

*Scientific American*, with Victor Stenger and James Lindsay: “Physicists Are Philosophers, Too”

(This is Vic’s last published work.)

February 28

Portland

**Academic Presentation**

“Sustainability and Tyranny: ‘Was Democracy Just a Moment?’”

<http://www.oas.pdx.edu>

Introductory paragraph (draft)

Entire disciplines, university classes and degrees have sprung up as a result of the sustainability movement. And for good reason: If even moderate voices in the movement are correct, then we’re in for potentially species-threatening events in the near future. The list of environmental horrors is endless, as are the proposed potential solutions. Articles in college textbooks propose everything from geo-engineering, to electric cars, to “cap and trade,” to growing our own vegetables. What is scarcely mentioned, however, is *the* most important issue that can move the world towards the ideal of sustainability: Population control. Its conspicuous absence in the academic literature and in pop-culture leads one to wonder about the integrity and the forthrightness of those who articulate the virtues of sustainability.

April 9-12

New York City

**Lecture** (unconfirmed)

Corrective Mechanisms: How to Discern Truth from Makebelieve

<http://necss.org/>

June 1

**Game**

JUX <http://elbowfish.myshopify.com/collections/our-games/products/jux?variant=827267027>

JUX is an unpredictable story-building card game that unfolds in two dimensions. You and other players are co-authors of your own wacky, where's-it-going tale. Start with the best way or the worst way to achieve an objective (for example, "greet a space alien," "go on vacation," "deliver a eulogy"). Then continue the story by creating a short phrase, inspired by one of the quirky illustration cards in your hand.

Other players will continue to build the story, branch it off in new directions—or, challenge your narrative. Show your appreciation for a particularly clever or creative contribution by showering that player with tokens.

June 3, 2015 (target date)

**App**

The purpose of the app is to help users talk people out of faith and superstition and into reason. Tens of thousands of hours have gone into making the most comprehensive training tool ever created. Users will be challenged by and guided through thousands of questions, responses, and brief real life “street” videos. Contributors include: David Smalley, Raphael Lataster, Susan Blackmore, Jacques Rousseau, Chris Matheson, Herb Silverman, Robert Price, Russell Blackford, Jake Farr-Wharton, and many others.

June 5-7

Vancouver, BC

**Lecture**

Imagine No Religion 5

<http://imaginenoreligion.ca/>

June 10-July 15

Australia

**Speaking tour**

Dates and venues are forthcoming.

**Paper** (currently completing, tentative title)

Critical Thinking, Pedagogy, and Jiu Jitsu: Wedding Physical Resistance to Critical Rationality

Abstract (draft)

The purpose of this paper is to argue that training methodologies similar to those used in Brazilian jiu jitsu and other realistic combat arts like Western boxing, Muay Thai, Kickboxing, and college wrestling, should constitute the pedagogical core of college critical thinking courses. To make this argument, first, we briefly define and explain “critical thinking” using the American Philosophical Association’s Delphi Report; second, we describe traditional content that is taught in nearly all undergraduate critical thinking classes and explain why this content may not achieve its epistemological and educational ambitions; third, we discuss the pedagogy, termed “aliveness,” used in jiu jitsu and Mixed Martial Arts training; and finally, we detail how to thematically incorporate pedagogical aspects of aliveness into critical thinking classes through the use of the “I Method” (Introduction, Isolation, Integration).