A mixed-media sculptor, Io Palmer uses her artistic talents to give voice to issues of class structure and her teaching skills to inspire future artists.

Trained originally as a ceramicist, Io uses a variety of processes and materials, including fabric, steel, sound, and wood, to create large-scale works that explore complex issues of class, capitalism, and societal excess. She has completed artist residencies in locations across the United States and Asia, including the Kathmandu Contemporary Art Center in Nepal, the Sanskriti Foundation in New Delhi, and the Art Channel Artist Residency in Beijing.

She received a 2018-2019 Fulbright Scholars award for her “Created, Consumed, and Scrubbed” investigation on how the fabrics of India are created, cared for, and move through society.

Another of her works-in-progress, In Ceramics In Science, is bringing together WSU Pullman fine art students with WSU Spokane medical students to create a public art mural reflecting the role of ceramic materials across healthcare.

Palmer regularly teaches courses in art foundations, ceramics, performance, and sculpture. For the 2018 First-Year Focus program on the Pullman campus, she will lead a newly designed Introduction to Art course which looks at the intersection of art and sports in modern society.