



Casa Gallina's Urban Garden

From January to April 2025, Casa Gallina drove a series of community, artistic and educational activities focused on environmental care, collective memory and strengthening social networks in Santa Maria la Ribera and other regions of the country.

Agroecological practices, reflections on food culture and practices, the creative use of digital tools, gaming as an educational medium and art as a way of critical dialogue were promoted through workshops, exhibitions, film series, collaborative publications and cultural exchanges. These actions, in collaboration with neighbors, artists, educators and collectives consolidated a diverse program that focuses on community involvement, territory and human connection.

Below we share the details of these initiatives that seek to strengthen our community and celebrate our alliances.

Environment and Community



Cooking workshop with Chinampa Amanalli

In February and March, the **Miscelánea en común** -a community initiative offering local handmade goods- brought 2 experiences of production families to the neighborhood: the *Chinampa Amanalli* from the Caltongo neighborhood in Xochimilco and the *Rancho Orgánico María* from Valle de Santiago in Guanajuato. Both projects develop their production under the precepts of agroecology and in addition to their productive work, offered for sale eggs, honey, salt, vegetables, aromatic herbs and garden supplies, they also highlight their work as educational inspiration projects that generate programs in their home communities and that were shared in Casa Gallina with the community of Santa María la Ribera through talks on productive models in territories as well as a program of cooking workshops.



Launch of the book *Stories and Flavors we Inhabit*

In January we celebrated the launch of the book ***Stories and Flavors we Inhabit***, a publication on food-related phenomena such as migration, consumption, identity, memory and emotional ties. The book was written and coordinated collaboratively by neighbors, the Casa Gallina education staff and Miguel Iwadare, a researcher of intangible heritage. At the event, the neighbors celebrated by sharing. They brought food for the group, as well as their words which were a true gift and words of encouragement to continue developing a work effort to complex the reflection on the phenomenon of food in the neighborhood, which was planned to continue in April.

Art Projects



Guided tour to the exhibition *Open air archive vol. 1*

From February to April, the Geology Museum hosted the exhibition ***Open air archive vol. 1*** by artist Enrique Méndez de Hoyos, a critical and poetic look at mining in Zacatecas and its impact on community life. Through a video with testimonies from inhabitants of Vetagrando, cartographic serigraphs and dialogue with the research of sociologist Darcy Tetreault, the exhibition built an intimate and interdisciplinary narrative on the social, economic and environmental effects of extractive processes. An invitation to reflect on mining footprints, from local to global points of view.

Educational Program



Workshop **Digitality for Seniors**

A group of seniors in the neighborhood approached the digital world through the **Digitality for Seniors** workshops focused on basic computer and cell phone use. Throughout different modules, they became familiar with digital tools, identified safe online sites, and explored the use of social media, digital paperwork, and artificial intelligence to support their daily lives. The experience allowed them to discover new forms of communication and participation, learning from practice and collective care.



Workshop **Traveling Toys**

Children from Santiago, Chile and the Santa María la Ribera neighborhood participated in a postal exchange through the workshop **Traveling Toys**, organized in collaboration with the Salvador Allende Solidarity Museum (MSSA). From the recovery and creation of toys at Casa Gallina and MSSA, they shared cards, drawings and images of their processes, reflecting on the game from their local contexts and creating bonds through imagination and correspondence.

Community Services



Film club series Vetagrande: Zacatecas in the cinema

Within the framework of the exhibition ***Open-air archive vol. 1***, organized by Casa Gallina's film club, the film series **Vetagrande: Zacatecas in the cinema** was held which included the screening of three films: *Knowing*, *The Middle of the World* and *Zapata*. This series explored the presence of the population of Vetagrande in various film productions, offering a unique look at the social, historical and cultural implications of mining in this town in Zacatecas.



Listening Session: To Beno's Tune

Neighborhood meetings continued as a valuable opportunity to strengthen coexistence in the neighborhood. On March 20, we celebrated the **Spring Dance**, a space designed especially for older adults, where new and well-known neighbors gathered to dance and share food in a festive atmosphere. We also had the opportunity to meet within the framework of the **Musical Flavors**, a series of neighborhood meetings that, on this occasion, included an emotional **Listening Session: To Beno's Tune**. Joining us was Ilan Lieberman, visual artist and director of the documentary about his father, ethnomusicologist Beno Lieberman. Guided by him, we listened to the soundtrack of the film in a double LP to follow the music, and with the guidance of Miguel Iwadare, food was prepared from three of the recorded music regions. The next day the film was projected, and we were able to talk with the director at the end.

Other Alliances



Casa Gallina's books on the new releases table at El Gato Centinela bookstore

During the first quarter of the year, we strengthened the distribution of our publications thanks to the collaboration with independent bookstores. In Mexico City, Casa Gallina's publications are available in the following bookstores: Mise en Print, Gallina de Guinea, OrionKids, U-Tópicas, Librería Merlina, Conuco, Volcana lugar común, and Glaciar libros helados. We also reached new readers in Chiapas, through El Gato Centinela (San Cristóbal de las Casas), and in Veracruz, in El entusiasmo libros (Xalapa). At the same time, we participated in trade shows and specialized events to promote our editions: Independent Art Book Fair, Coyoacán International Book Fair, La Rosa Book Fair and the presentation of the book **Alientos** at the Aztlán International Children's and Young Adult Book Fair. We were also present at the meeting *Community, Collective Action for Urban Health*, organized by BikeNCity and the Embassy of the Netherlands (Huerto Roma Verde), and at the Academic Symposium at Sor Juana's Cloister University.



Workshop-course **Recreate: Environmental Education Strategies through Play**

A group of 32 educators, teachers and students from Mexico City, State of Mexico, Morelos and Veracruz participated in the workshop-course **Recreate: Environmental Education Strategies through Play**, a training and accompaniment space focused on the development of environmental projects with children. Throughout several sessions held between March and April, they explored the use of the board game ***I Recreate the City*** as a playful and flexible tool, designed to adapt to different groups and contexts. This program, officially recognized by the Ministry of Public Education (SEP) through the Unit of the Teaching Career System (USICAMM), provided an environment to share experiences, methodologies and knowledge from play and collaborative practice.



We Make Our River exhibition in Chacaltianguis, Veracruz

In January we received the reissue of book ***We Make Our River*** as well as a curatorial kit with which community mediation actions were carried out this first quarter of 2025. Mediator Catalina Pérez Meléndez, in collaboration with local mediators, coordinated workshops, exhibitions and meetings in Tlacotalpan, Chacaltianguis, Tlacojalpan, Veracruz, the Island of Viejo Soyaltepec, Oaxaca and San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas where ways of imagining and representing the relationship with the river, memory and territory were explored. The participation of children, teenagers, mothers, teachers, women embroiderers and the elderly gave shape to a sensitive exchange network that combined art, oral history, Mazatec language, embroidery, community radio and listening to the environment with a hydrophone. An affectionate and collective journey through the waters that link us.

For more details about the programs, visit our website www.casagallina.org.mx and follow us on social networks: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook Casa Gallina](#), [Instagram casa_gallina](#), [Youtube Casa Gallina](#).

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