



11th Anniversary of Casa Gallina

Between September and December, Casa Gallina carried out a series of community, artistic and educational initiatives focused on environmental care, knowledge exchange and strengthening ties in Santa María la Ribera and other allied territories. Through workshops, gatherings with productive projects, creative processes, activities for children and collective celebrations, the program promoted agroecological practices, local artistic expressions, neighborhood memory exercises and shared spaces that enrich community life. These actions, developed together with neighbors, artists, collectives and external collaborators, formed a diverse program that focused on the territory, participation and the exchange of knowledge.

Below are the details of the initiatives that shaped these months of work and encounters.

Environment and Community



Cooperativa Autónoma Cimarronez at the **Miscelánea en común**

We welcomed four productive projects that brought new food options and learning opportunities to the neighborhood: Cooperativa Autónoma Cimarronez, Calpulli Tecalco, Millith and Bosquenativo. They offered a range of agro-ecological products including cacao, honey, corn and coffee. Alongside the sale of their goods, the invited promoters designed activities that benefited the community: workshops, lectures, demonstrations, and tastings, where they shared their production models, the characteristics of their territories, and the possibilities of their ingredients in recipes that could be incorporated into the community's family diets.

Art Projects



Artistic process with neighborhood women led by Adriana Salazar

In October, neighbors Lourdes Terán and Daniela Aguilar held the course **Botanical Prints of the Landscape of Santa María la Ribera**. Over four sessions, participants identified plants, shrubs, and trees growing in the neighborhood, along with the dyeing qualities of some species. During a walk through the streets, leaves and flowers were collected and connected to the exhibition **Seeds** at the Geology Museum. Finally, through a process involving copper pipes, heat, and steam, that dyed both individual and collective canvases.

In November, we welcomed Colombian artist Adriana Salazar, who shared with a group of neighbors a weaving technique originally used to make fishing nets, working with henequen rope— an agave fiber used in many utilitarian objects. Participants began weaving a bag, with the intention of continuing this creative dialogue in 2026 and following up on the collective project involving manual work with textiles, dyes, and warps.



Photo and Territory project with Mariela Sancari and Adolfo Córdova

As part of the **Photo and Territory** project, artist Mariela Sancari and writer Adolfo Córdova led a workshop with a group of elderly women who, through their personal stories and photo albums, explored narratives in which the Santa María la Ribera neighborhood appears as a protagonist in constant transformation rather than simply a backdrop.

During November and December, the group focused on collectively creating a publication. This work continues a process that began in February, when they first started reviewing family albums and writing texts inspired by the experiences captured in those images.

Educational Program



Little Fridays at the Fábrica de Huertos

Viernes chiquitos (Little Fridays) is a program designed for local schoolchildren who have the last Friday of each month off due to faculty council meetings at the elementary level. In September, U can skate—a collective of local women skateboarders—led the learning sessions from scratch. In October, the arts education project Creative Adventures dedicated a session to making portable Day of the Dead altars with reused materials. And in November, two neighbors who are urban cyclists accompanied children as they learned and improved their biking skills.



This fall, the Casa Gallina garden welcomed new neighbors interested in learning about the agroecological work carried out each season. The abundance of corn leaves and papayas created the opportunity to cook together. In a session of **Cooking with Garden Products**, led by neighbor Rosa María Palma, participants prepared tamales and a dessert made with the garden's harvest.



Milpa Cooking Workshop

In September, as part of the celebration of Corn Month, we held a series of workshops called **Cocina de la milpa** (Cooking from the Cornfield), which we co-designed with Calpulli Tecalco. In this program, four traditional cooks shared six recipes using ingredients available in the cornfields of San Pedro Atocpan, Milpa Alta. During the sessions, participants discussed regional values related to sourcing ingredients, such as terrace farming of corn and livestock activities in the area; festivals associated with certain dishes; and the importance of creating learning opportunities to train new generations of cooks who will inherit and sustain traditional culinary knowledge.

Community Services



Baxin Family at Casa Gallina's Anniversary

In September, we partnered with the Capital Verde Farmers' Market to host a screening of two short films as part of its eighth anniversary celebrating agroecological, local, and accessible food. Later, the Baxin family from Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz, visited Casa Gallina to celebrate the project's eleventh anniversary. Together, we prepared tatabiguiyayo, a traditional dish that was shared with more than 150 attendees, who also enjoyed son jarocho music from their region.

Other Alliances



Collective mural in San Pedro Atocpan

In October, in partnership with the Banamex Art and Culture Development Call, a collective mural was created in San Pedro Atocpan, Milpa Alta. The project was developed in collaboration with Calpulli Tecalco, Vuelta Sur, and Jarabes San Pedro Atocpan. The initiative created a community gathering space where 47 people participated. Through activities of exchange and reflection, they explored the richness of the region's agroforestry systems, the diversity of milpa-based agriculture, and the ways these practices relate to Nahua worldviews and local ecotechnologies.



We ended the year with the crowdfunding campaign **Aquí es una casa** (This Is a Home), which seeks to produce a children's book in accordion-format and a series of community activities, the result of a collaborative process with children from Santa María la Ribera and Milpa Alta. With illustrations by Pepe Retana and texts by Alejandra Retana, the book invites readers to explore both territories from dawn to dusk, guided by the voices of the children who inhabit them.

We invite you to join this initiative and support it with a donation to make this project possible!

[Donate](#)

For more details about the programs, please 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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