

CASA GALLINA

CULTURA - COMUNIDAD - MEDIO AMBIENTE

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Basic Bicycle Maintenance Workshop

During the last quarter of 2019, Casa Gallina maintained an intense schedule where the activities corresponding to the thematic strategy **Maize: Biodiversity and Culture in Everyday Consumption** were concluded, and some long-term projects were continued, including the closure of the laboratory of neighborhood initiatives **Creating Community: Brownfield Projects Lab** as well as **Intercultural neighborhood**, the cooking and cinema seasons program. The permanent programs, **Digital Migrants** and **Neighborhood Encounters**, were kept running, inviting new neighbors to join these platforms. In this period a program of activities and workshops was also started on the theme **Rethinking Consumption, Repair Culture**.

At the close of this first year of Casa Gallina, the team is facing new challenges to channel the neighborhood energies that converge in the house. By strengthening the focus on environmental education activities, multiple alliances could be established with several public schools in the neighborhood; they have been offered pedagogical support alternatives on topics of fundamental importance through the design and implementation of educational programs focused on healthy eating, cultivation and environmental empathy.

Alliances with other groups located throughout the country and across Latin America were also initiated this year. They are based on a mutual knowledge of the programs and priorities of action, which in 2020 will result in more collaborative activities that allow joining efforts and learning from experiences of similar organizations in other places. To this end, the exhibition ***Maize: Biodiversity and Culture in Everyday Consumption*** was installed in the Geology Museum at the beginning of the year and then traveled to the Cabañas Museum in Guadalajara.

During this year, diversity was recognized and made visible as a fundamental value of neighborhood life. Both from the point of view of plant species as well as cultural origins and practices, Casa Gallina's programming integrated other ways of living as a neighborhood; incorporating other Mexican languages not only in its workshops and film screenings, but also in its publications. Both the children's book *We Are Maize*, as well as the *Manual for Mapping the Uses of Natural Resources*, soon to be published, were translated into indigenous languages and will be distributed not only in the immediate environs of Santa María la Ribera but also in various communities across the country.



Book *Somos maíz*

Program

Casa Gallina's quarterly schedule was set up around the following strategies:

Producing and Recreating School: Models for Strengthening School Knowledge



Perla Krauze with students of the República de Cuba Primary School

This season saw the start of production of the Perla Krauze mural at the República de Cuba Primary School, a project started in September in collaboration with teacher Cecilia Mata, who is responsible for the school's Visual Arts Club. After several work sessions on the memory of the school, which was called “The school in the Cornfield,” Krauze collected the children's drawings to then design a 14-square-meter mural of stone, volcanic rock and tiles.

Intercultural Neighborhood



Indigenous Languages and Cuisines Workshops

During the autumn a multidisciplinary program was developed whose common axis was the linking of urban daily practices and knowledge with experiences based on rural and indigenous community perspectives. Angélica Palma coordinated the series of workshops called **Indigenous Languages and Cuisines**, in which four poets who write in the native languages Mixe, Totonaco, Purépecha and Otomí were invited to conduct cooking sessions and conversation groups with the neighbors about the daily practices in their communities, the socio-environmental problems they face, and their traditional eating practices. Miguel Iwadare was in charge of the open call to the neighbors and coordinating the **From the Village to the Neighborhood** workshops, in which neighbors professionally dedicated to gastronomy shared family recipes from their places of origin (Hidalgo, Guerrero, Veracruz and Puebla).

The **Indigenous Life** cinema season concluded in October, after having brought together a consistent group of neighbors who watched a series of films that portray the contemporaneity of different indigenous communities in Mexico and Latin America.

Rethinking Consumption, Repair Culture



Advice on Embroidery to Cover Stains and Holes in Fabrics

From October 2019, Casa Gallina began a public program focused on the culture of repair, for which the Salón Huev@ was kitted out with materials that offer more information about this subject. The space hosted various activities on the subject, such as the **Embroidery Workshop for children**, in which the participants learned to make and apply patches to repair their favorite garments, as well as its counterpart for adults, the **Advice on Embroidery to Cover Stains and Holes in Fabrics**, both conducted by Mariana Villeme and Fernanda Poire. The neighbors specialized in repair trades were invited to propose advisory sessions: Efrém Hernández carried out the **Basic Repairs and Maintenance of Glasses Workshop**; Santos González gave his **Advice on electrical installations**; and **Basic Bicycle Maintenance** was taught by Jorge Mendoza.

Harnessing Social Energy: Labs, Prototypes and Neighborhood Projects

Three months of hard work saw the culmination of the Creating Community: Brownfield Projects Lab laboratory, in which neighbors were called upon to propose projects to implement on land designated for communal use. Those who participated in the series of laboratories presented three open ideas to the community; they were based on converting a couple of abandoned properties into spaces for the exchange and construction of initiatives towards the common good.



Creating Community: Brownfield Projects Lab

For more details about the program, we invite you to visit the website www.casagallina.org.mx and become a friend at Facebook Casa Gallina.

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