

CASA GALLINA

CULTURA · COMUNIDAD · MEDIO AMBIENTE

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Blind Dinner with Friends

At the start of 2023, Casa Gallina maintained an intense programming both in Santa María la Ribera as well as in other territories through alliances with various agents and organizations that develop deep-rooted work in their locations in states such as Chiapas, Milpa Alta and Veracruz. The local work in Santa María la Ribera occurred both in-house as in local institutions —the Geology Museum and primary schools in the neighborhood— with whom long-term alliances have been forged. We share greater details on certain activities from this period below:

Environment and Community



Workshop Communal Orchards

The workshop Communal Orchards was held from March to May, taught by the horticulturalist Alonso Camilo Pérez. Over the course of six sessions, neighbors who regularly grow vegetables reinforced their knowledge on agroecology, by means of planning long-term work strategies that are appropriate for the characteristics of their orchard, as well as the communal benefits that each can provide. They also carried out design and planning exercises, to reorient the sense of certain planting areas in Casa Gallina, for future educational activities.



Spring Dance for elderly people

The Encounters program included the following events: on March 22nd, to mark the beginning of Spring, 50 elderly people attended the **Spring Dance**; in May

cooks from the local restaurant *El Chiringuito* prepared a three course dinner for the encounter **Blind Dinner with Friends**; and the program **Stories and Flavors We Inhabit**, in which neighbors share and prepare their traditional family recipes, began in April.

Artistic Projects



Exhibition *Where is our coat?* at Geology Museum

As of February 15th, the exhibition ***Where is our coat?*** can be seen in the Geology Museum, with work by the artist Dulce Chacón and research by the biologist Fausto Bolom Ton. The presentation offers a glimpse of the importance of biodiversity of flora that exists in the Chiapas Highlands and its relation with the cultural practices of original communities in their ritual, food, medicinal and construction uses. The exhibition will remain on display until June 18th and has been visited by various school groups from educational institutions in the neighborhood as well as groups of neighbors.



We Make Our River at USBI Veracruz's Gallery of Contemporary Art

We Make Our River is being presented in USBI Veracruz's Gallery of Contemporary Art from April 25th to June 30th. The exhibition is an adaptation of the book of the same name edited by Casa Gallina containing poems by Adolfo Córdova, photographs by Dolores Medel, Enero and Abril, as well as illustrations by Cuauhtémoc Wetzka. The exhibition proposal was curated by Cataina Pérez and Josué Martínez, the work of photographer Lizette Flores was included in this exhibition. The **Laboratory on Mediation Strategies: We Make Our River** was held as part of the linkage to activate the exhibition, in which reading mediators, university professors, students carrying out their social service and different agents striving to activate the exhibition designed material to be used in the gallery with specific audiences.

Educational Program



Workshop Flavors and Knowledge of the Maizefield

The most recent publication, ***Flavors and Knowledge of the Maizefield*** - developed in collaboration with Calpulli Tecalco A.C.— has nourished a progra of cooking workshops held in-house, along with the communal creation of a mural in San Pedro Atocpan, Milpa Alta. The publication gathers an educational process developed between both initiatives, which included a series of workshops and field trips to approach and learn fundamental aspects of growing a maizefield, its produce, their different uses as food and their recipes. The publication has permitted the development of cooking workshops to prepare traditional regional recipes that have allowed neighbors from Santa Maria to learn about the communal importance of food preparation in Milpa Alta.



Inhabitants show at Middle School Moisés Sáenz

The stage artist Alejandro Chávez and the musician Andrés González Domínguez, in alliance with Middle School *Moisés Sáenz* presented to the school community the show ***Inhabitants***, which is inspired on the biodiversity that exists in a neighborhood such as Santa María la Ribera. The performance —that included the use of dry leaves, gathered daily in the school to produce their own compost— aimed to promote interest in naturalist observing of the school gardens, promoted through body expression.

Communal Services



The Earth Nook at Primary School *El Pensador Mexicano*

The Primary Schools *El Pensador Mexicano* and *Augusto César Sandino* hosted **The Earth Nook** in their libraries, a collection gathered by Casa Gallina that includes didactic, ludic and bibliographic material on the environment. In *Augusto César Sandino*, the teacher Martha Garay developed the program **Training on Activation of Literary Collections For School Libraries** for teachers, in order to provide the tools to activate the material.



Little Earth Nook at *Elena Zapata* Preschool

The *Elena Zapata* Preschool received the **Little Earth Nook**, a version of the environmental education contents adapted for infants and toddlers. This material can be activated through a training program for teachers designed by Mónica Alba, a specialist in environmental education.

Other Alliances



Workshop Methodologies for Environmental Education in Preschool Learning

The workshop **Methodologies for Environmental Education in Preschool Learning** was held through an alliance with the National School for Preschool Teachers. During the sessions, the future teachers worked on strategies of communal intervention and learning surrounding environmental education at preschool level



Ecological Ranch *El Arco* at Communal Shop.

During April we welcomed **Ecological Ranch *El Arco***, an agroecological project located in Tlalpan. The project's members led the workshop **Food and the Earth: Introductory Workshop on Urban Agroecology**, which delved into the importance of production and conservation of land through composting of domestic waste and maximizing crops through domestic dehydration techniques. **Ecological Ranch *El Arco*** also offered their dairy and meat products to neighbors through the **Communal Shop**.

The search for new allies, associated funds and platforms with which to develop collaborative projects is fundamental for the growth and impact of our actions. We invite you to join this effort and [donate](#) through our website, so that we can continue to develop our programs.



For greater details on our program, you are kindly invited to visit our website www.casagallina.org.mx and to follow us on social media: [Facebook Casa Gallina](#), [Instagram casa_gallina](#), [Youtube Casa Gallina](#).