

DPSF Trustee and Sponsor Updates

We are excited to welcome a new member to our board of trustees. **Felipe Sousa-Rodriguez** spent 10 years organizing in LGBTQ and immigrant rights movements. Sousa-Rodriguez was a DPSF grantee 2009 – 2011. Felipe has organized a collective of political educators called the Popular Education Project to reintroduce revolutionary theory practices of social movements across the US. According to Felipe, “Davis-Putter was fundamental for my personal development. I was an undocumented immigrant trying to finish college and every door was closed to me until I found DPSF. I’m extremely grateful for DPSF because it gave me the opportunity to go to school and stay active in the movement.” We are extremely grateful that Felipe has joined us to move the Fund forward!

We would also like to thank **Jim Donaldson**, **Carol Giardina** and **Sora Han** who have left the board after years of commitment to the Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund. We look forward to the student activists they will continue to send our way in the years to come!

Rest in Power, Ruth Hubbard March 3, 1924 – September 1, 2016

We remember **Ruth Hubbard**, who along with her husband, George Wald, became sponsors of the Fund in 1977. Hubbard was the first woman tenured at Harvard University and a biologist who used her knowledge of science to challenge the Vietnam War, racism and gender oppression. Ruth was known and loved as a mentor to LGBTQ, feminist, and politically progressive students and we are grateful for her longtime support of the Fund.

Make your donation online or setup a monthly or quarterly recurring contribution at www.davisputter.org

Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund grantees want freedom and you can help!



Donate today! There is no endowment and we seek no corporate support. Consider joining our **Monthly Movement Builders Circle**.



Spread the word! Host a house party or ask your friends to give. Share DPSF with student activists in your life; they can apply online January 1 - April 1, 2017.



Include the Fund in your will or set up a trust! Your planned gift creates a legacy for the future of student activism - contact us for more information on Planned Giving.

Founders: Chandler Davis, Terry Davis, C. Quentin Davis, Mina D. Caulfield

Sponsors: HuwaidaArraf, Margaret Burnham, Noam Chomsky, Johnnetta B. Cole, Angela Y. Davis, James Donaldson, Ed Dubinsky, Lennox S. Hinds, Nancy J. Hodes, Robin D. G. Kelley, Mel King, Richard C. Lewontin, Jill Nelson, Jan Phillips, Barbara Ransby, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Paul Schachter, Andrés Torres, Mary Helen Washington.

Trustees: Lisa Brock, Kai M. Green, Carlos Jimenez, Carol J. Kraemer, Beth Rose Middleton Manning, Laura McSpedon, Luke Patterson, Walter L. Putter, Clarissa Rojas, Felipe Sousa-Rodriguez, Rachel L. Stocking, Gina Velasco, D Pei Wu.

Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund

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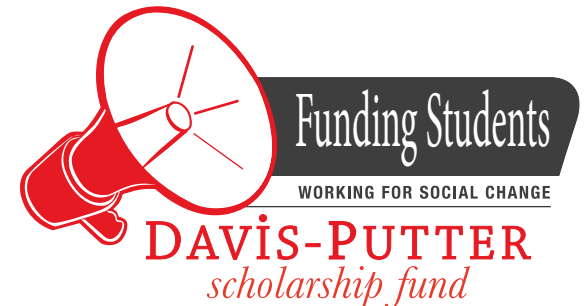
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We Want



Freedom

2016
2017





Davis-Putter grantees want freedom now and they are organizing to make their dreams and demands reality

Our grantees are courageously challenging state repression, police brutality, militarization, deportation, imperialism and capitalist exploitation. They are creating transformative change and building resistance in communities rooted in healing, love and solidarity toward justice and freedom for all!

Mumia Abu-Jamal – Since 1970, as the assistant to the Editor of The Black Panther newspaper until today, nine books later, he has shared his knowledge, thoughts and reflections on social justice, social change...revolution. His book, *We Want Freedom: A Life in the Black Panther Party*, as well as his Prison Radio broadcasts (www.prisonradio.org) continue to teach and inspire generations of activists and revolutionaries, including many of our current and past grantees. Mumia is pursuing a PhD in Comparative Studies which will inform his continued work inspiring social change in the US. ~~~*We are honored to be able to once again support Mumia's scholarly work – he was also a grantee in 1999.*

Zizi Bandera cofounded a queer trans Latinx student group, La Familia, at UC Riverside, and Todxs Somos Familia, an intergenerational LGBTQ immigrant organizing and political advocacy project, while seeking an MA in Public Policy at Mills College.

Lydia X. Z. Brown (Autistic Hoya) is a second year Public Interest Law Scholar at Northeastern University School of Law who organizes to advance transformative change and end violence against multiply-marginalized disabled people, especially institutionalization, incarceration, and policing.

Johnny Buck is a member of the Yakama Nation and works to strengthen tribal communities' resilience to climate change while seeking a BS in Environmental Science at the Northwest Indian College.

Lindsey Chen cofounded Queer Vision Access Project and Parisol to organize Asian-American communities around ending the prison-industrial complex, heteropatriarchy, anti-Black racism, imperialism and colonization, while enrolled in University of Washington's MSW program.

Luz Flores works to end youth incarceration, school to prison pipeline, gang injunctions and police brutality, and is currently a leader with the LA Chapter of Black Lives Matter, while completing a BA in African-American Studies at UCLA.

Yessica Gonzalez creates intentional spaces for youth to become politicized and works to stop deportations and the collaboration between ICE and local law enforcement, while pursuing a BA in Gender and Ethnic Studies at UCLA.

Amrah Salomon Johnson has focused on gentrification, immigrant rights, Indigenous/Latinx struggles, environmental justice and worker struggles globally and with United Students Against Sweatshops in the US, while working on a PhD in Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego.

Cyrée Jarelle Johnson coordinates local action and provides thought leadership behind the movement for black lives and disability justice, is the poetry editor for *The Deaf Poets Society*, a Deaf and Disabled literary magazine, and is beginning an MFA at Columbia University.

David Lemus is a campus organizer, leading efforts against tuition increases, in solidarity with campus custodial workers, and recently for space for students of color and queer and trans students while working to complete a BA in Ethnic Studies and Spanish Literature at UC Berkeley.

Marianna Luna is an activist, creating a body of work that addresses issues of borders, racial terror in dominant media, a growing "militainment" culture and the spiritual manifestations of resistance

in communities while working on an MA in Media Studies at the New School. After gaining Conscientious Objector status, **Jake Maier** became active in Iraq Veterans Against the War and Veterans for Peace and their #VetsVsHate campaign, and has begun an MSW at NYU to explore what sustains toxic masculinity.

Marco "Mu" Maldonado is a leader of the Restorative Justice Project at Graterford Prison and writes for activist groups like DeCarcerate, PA, giving voice to the realities and injustices of prison life, while completing an MA in Humanities from Cal State - Dominguez Hills.

Mala Maya organized #WickedPissed, an action protesting the corporatization of Boston Pride in solidarity with trans women of color and is a leader with Black and Pink, an LGBTQ prison abolitionist group, while completing a degree in Photojournalism at Boston University.

Cherise Morris organizes for prison abolition, community education for liberation, independent radical media and centering legacies of Black women's resistances, is a researcher for Brown University's Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice and is beginning an MA in Public Humanities.

Andrea Perez cofounded a student-led organization at Whittier College called Poets Organizing Workers' Economic Rights (POWER), coordinating with local unions in solidarity with campus workers while pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in History and Global Cultural Studies.

Claudia Perez cofounded RAIZ (Resistencia, Autonomia, Igualdad, Liderazgo), politicizing immigrant youth, creating consciousness and strategizing for community organizing and mobilizing women in Santa Ana to infuse healing, cultural knowledge and experience into that work while completing a BA in Sociology at UC Irvine.

Jasson Perez works to build a Black Freedom Movement through organizing, popular education and mass disobedience campaigns to end state violence, focusing on its connections with Palestinian Liberation struggles and the South African movements, while completing a degree in Economics and Black Studies at the University of Illinois, Chicago.

Leslie Quintanilla was a leader in the student coalition movement that led to the creation of Raza, Black and Inter-Tribal resource Centers as well as a requirement for all students to take an ethnic studies course at UC San Diego, where she is currently researching autonomy,

borders and de-colonial possibilities toward a PhD in Ethnic Studies.

Loubna Qutami is a founder and central organizer in the Palestinian Youth Movement, a transnational grassroots movement and is a PhD candidate in Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Riverside.

Dashamelle Robinson cofounded a Black liberation group which organizes and educates around tenant's rights, police brutality, anti-blackness, transphobia, misogyny, and intersectionality while completing an MSW at the University of Southern California. As a high school senior, **Lupe Salmeron** organized a 300 person school walkout for the city wide "A Day Without Latinos" protest of anti-immigrant bills, currently works with Voces de la Frontera, and is beginning a Political Science degree at Edgewood College.

Ash Stephens works to abolish state and interpersonal violence of people of color, particularly Black trans and gender non-conforming people, which is also the focus of his dissertation research toward a PhD in Criminology, Law & Justice at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Inspired by divestment work she had done with Students for Justice in Palestine, **Nancy Uddin** cofounded the CUNY Prison Divest at Hunter College and plans to start NYU Prison divest while working on a BA in Journalism and Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU.

Gisela Zuniga is a filmmaker focusing on US-Mexico border politics and Chicana feminism and is committed to "making art that resists oppression and creates something beautiful and liberating" while completing a BFA at New York University.

Read more about our 2016/17 grantees at www.davisputter.org

Go to www.davisputter.org between January 1 and April 1 to apply for a scholarship.

Make an online one-time or recurring contribution at www.davisputter.org



Mumia Abu-Jama Zizi Bandera Lydia X. Z. Brown Johnny Buck

Lindsey Chen Luz Flores Yessica Gonzalez Amrah Salomon Johnson Cyrée Jarelle Johnson David Lemus Marianna Luna

Jake Maier Marco "Mu" Maldonado Mala Maya Cherise Morris Andrea Perez Claudia Perez Jasson Perez

Leslie Quintanilla Loubna Qutami Dashamelle Robinson Lupe Salmeron Ash Stephens Nancy Uddin Gisela Zuniga

Jessie Lloyd O'Connor Scholar – Andrea Flores



Each year the Fund selects a grantee who honors the legacy of commitment to peace and justice modeled by Jessie Lloyd O'Connor, a labor journalist, organizer and an early and beloved member of our Board. With her husband Harvey, Jessie opened heart and home to activists seeking respite. Our **Jessie Lloyd O'Connor Scholar** this year is **Andrea Flores**. Andrea became involved with United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS) during freshman year at UT Austin and is now the regional organizer, leading the student-worker solidarity movement there. She works to expand the base for the labor movement by establishing new campus chapters as well as providing training and leadership skills for new organizers from marginalized communities, working with Austin Socialist Collective. The Collective is leading the Fight For 15 effort in the Austin area. She is focused on empowering women of color organizers and completely committed to her role in class struggle. She will complete a BA in Psychology at University of Texas - Austin next year.

The Marilyn Buck Award – Tara Belcher

Marilyn Buck was a political prisoner and poet who worked in solidarity with Black Liberation struggles to end white supremacy. She received grants from the Fund in 2003 and 2004, and died of a rare cancer in 2010. Marilyn supported the Fund with regular donations and supportive notes from her jail cell, and with a generous bequest following her death. To honor her memory and legacy, **The Marilyn Buck Award** is given to an incarcerated or formerly incarcerated activist working for justice. This year, the award is given to **Tara Belcher**. After 18 years of incarceration, she has witnessed and experienced the negative aspects of criminalization over rehabilitation and works with community leaders and detention centers to reduce rates of recidivism. Her leadership of a campaign advocating for restoration of voting rights for felons who have served their time drew the attention of the Equal Justice Initiative, which assisted Tara in the creation of African Females Against Repression Initiative (AFARI). She hopes to complete a BSW and use a restorative justice model to make change in her community once released.



Anne Braden Award – Elizabeth Vega



This award honors long-time civil rights activist and Davis-Putter trustee Anne Braden by recognizing a student activist working in the South and keeping racism central to all aspects of their movement work. **Elizabeth Vega** is our **Anne Braden Awardee** this year. Although she is in currently St Louis, she has lived and organized in both Louisville and Berea, KY. At Berea, she organized for fair wages on campus and mobilized students to be a part of Occupy Wall Street. According to Vega, she “became a full time activist the day Mike Brown was murdered by police in Ferguson,” and spent the next year fully immersed in protests, providing jail support, making art for use in actions and being arrested for civil disobedience 8 times. In standing with the young people of Ferguson during that critical time, she came to understand this as “generational genocide.” Vega cofounded Artist STL, a collective committed to making social justice visual and created a mirrored casket for *Ferguson October*, which has been accepted into a Smithsonian collection. She created ART House, (Achieving Resilience Together), a space for grassroots organizers and an open space for neighborhood involvement. She is working on a Master’s of Education in Community Counseling at the University of MO – St Louis.

New Online Application Process

In 2017, our application process will undergo a change that we hope will prove beneficial for our applicants as well as our board. From January 1 until April 1, student activists will be able to apply for a Davis-Putter scholarship by completing an application online. A link on our website, www.davisputter.org, will allow applicants to create an account, complete the application and upload all required materials. Incarcerated students who do not have access to the internet can request a paper application. Paper applications submitted by incarcerated students must be postmarked by April 1, 2017.