

DPSF Trustees Update




Our board is growing and we are so excited to welcome this group of activist/scholars! **Matt Birkhold** is a 2012/13 grantee and founder of the Visionary Organizing Lab, created out of his work at the Boggs Center in Detroit. **Dominique Briggins** is a Jobs With Justice organizer and was a student labor activist while attending Clark Atlanta University. **Jordan T. Camp** is a 2009/10 grantee and term assistant professor of American Studies at Barnard College. **Ajamu Dillahunt** has almost four decades of experience working in movements for social change, labor rights and Black Liberation and is the founder of Black Workers for Justice in Raleigh, NC. **Christina Heatherton** is a 2011/12 grantee and assistant professor of American Studies at Barnard College. (Christina and Jordan have co-edited *Policing the Planet: Why the Policing Crisis Led to Black Lives Matter*). **Megan Ybarra** is Assistant Professor of Geography, University of Washington and an organizer with the Northwest Detention Center Resistance. We would also like to thank **Carlos Jimenez** and **D Pei Wu** for their service to our board and grantees as they take their leave.

About the Fund

The Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund was created in 1961 as a memorial to Marian Davis, a teacher and advocate for peace, racial justice and the rights of working people. Founded by her husband, Horace B. Davis, the Fund honors Marian and her family's long history of standing up to McCarthyism. Norton Putter was a civil rights activist who brought needed resources and new energy to the Fund in 1987. Our grantees have been at the forefront of virtually every major progressive social movement as artists, scholars, people's lawyers and frontline organizers and have been integral to the work for peace and justice with the same commitment and passion modeled by Marian, Horace and Norton.

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

Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund grantees are resisting and you can help!

-  **Donate today!** There is no endowment and we seek no corporate support. Consider joining our [Monthly Movement Builders Circle](#).
-  **Amplify the Fund!** Host a house party or ask your friends to give. Share DPSF with student activists in your life – students may apply at www.davisputter.org from January - April 1, 2018 for the 2018/19 academic year.
-  **Invest in the future of the Fund!** Include DPSF 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](#) 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: Matt Birkhold, Dominique Briggins, Lisa Brock, Jordan T. Camp, Ajamu Dillahunt, Kai M. Green, Christina Heatherton, Carol J. Kraemer, Beth Rose Middleton Manning, Laura McSpedon, Luke Patterson, Walter L. Putter, Clarissa Rojas, Felipe Sousa-Rodriguez, Rachel L. Stocking, Gina Velasco and Megan Ybarra.

Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund

Post Office Box 7307

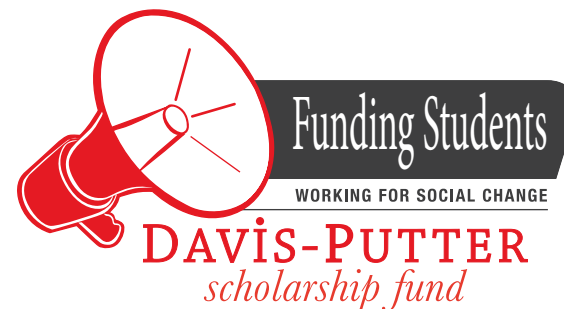
New York, NY 10116-7307

davisputter@davisputter.org

Resist!



2017 2018





Davis-Putter grantees are resisting with passion and courage

These student activists are putting everything on the line to resist dangerous policies and dismantle the legacies of white supremacy, capitalism, militarism and imperialism...the building blocks of this oppressive system. As they dismantle, they imagine, envision and rebuild. Creating a new world of justice and freedom!

Noor Aljawad has organized with Students for Justice in Palestine, documents stories of the Iraqi diaspora and works with the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq, while seeking an MSW at UC Berkeley. **Sarah Biscarra Dilley** is an activist/scholar residing in the un-ceded homeland of the Chochenyo (Ohlone) people, making connections between contemporary recognition issues, absence of treaties, and the petroleum industry, while pursuing a PhD in Native American Studies at University of California, Davis. **Johnny Buck** is from the Wanapum community of the Yakama Nation and focuses on decolonialization, strengthening communities, cross cultural and intertribal relationships striving for social equity and resilience to climate change, while pursuing a BS in Native Environmental Science at Northwest Indian College.

Robert Chan co-founded *The Other Death Penalty Project* which published *"Too Cruel, Not Unusual Enough"* using the stories of prisoners to impact decision-makers and led grassroots efforts challenging a "for-a-fee" communication system in the CA DOC, while pursuing an MA in Humanities at Adams State University. **Leticia Cortés** grew up marching on May Day with Voces de Frontera, became a high school leader of Ripple Effect Milwaukee, addressing severe segregation and is beginning a BA in Early Childhood Education/Educational Policy at Columbia College, Chicago. As a Navajo woman, **Janelle Cronin** was called to be with her people, the Standing Rock Sioux in opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL), returning to Indiana to share their story and build solidarity while working toward an MS in Ecological Science and Engineering at Purdue University researching cultural identity of tribal college students.

Joe Dole focuses his writing and activism on criminal law, prisoners' rights, freedom of information, the stigmatization of incarcerated people and the politics of mass incarceration, while taking Carceral Studies courses from Ohio University. **Patricia Frazier** joined Assata's Daughters (a grassroots intergenerational collective of radical Black women who work to escalate, deepen, and sustain the Black Lives Matter movement) to challenge the problems faced in impoverished neighborhoods, while beginning a BA in Film and Creative Writing at Columbia College in Chicago. With Anakbayan-New York, **Amanda Jimenez** organizes to combat gentrification in immigrant, working-class Filipino neighborhoods, connecting issues in the Philippines to NYC, Palestine and Venezuela solidarity movements, while completing a BA in International Studies/Asian Studies at CUNY, City College of New York.

Kentaro Kaneko works to end institutionalized racism, health care disparities, trans and homophobia, displacement and the prison industrial complex with ACT-UP San Francisco and Critical Resistance, while beginning a Master's Nurse Practitioner program at UC San Francisco. **Karen Louviere** works with the Rebel Diaz Arts Collective using art and hip hop as tools of resistance, organizing for tenant's rights, against police brutality and connecting all issues to capitalism, while completing an MSW in Community Organizing Methods at Hunter College, City University of New York. **Robin Castel Navarro** works for the right to self-determination

for the Lumad (indigenous) and Moro (Muslim) communities and defense of ancestral lands in the southern Philippines, connecting with issues faced by the Filipino/a diaspora, while pursuing her Masters of Social Work at CSU East Bay.

Christina Nesheiwat is a co-founder of SWANAconnect, a transnational anti-racist, anti-imperialist organization creating solidarity between South West Asian and North African volunteers in the US with refugee communities in Greece, and with the People's Assembly, organizes residents of the Orleans Parish while completing her MSW at Tulane. **Jasson Perez** works to build a Black Freedom Movement through political education with Assata's Daughters, policy advocacy around universal basic income and research on economics and Abolition Socialism, while completing a BA in Economics and Black Studies at the University of Illinois, Chicago. **Elizabeth Perkins** is a reproductive justice, queer rights, and economic justice activist working with the Kentucky Health Justice Network to improve abortion access and defend the only abortion clinic in the state, while seeking a dual MSSW/MA in Women and Gender Studies at the University of Louisville.

Loubna Qutami is a founder of the Palestinian Youth Movement, a member of the Anti-Oppression Committee for UAW 2865, (the first labor union in the US to vote yes to BDS - boycott, divest and sanction) and is a PhD candidate in Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Riverside. **Jensine Raihan** became a leader with DRUM - Desis Rising Up and Moving as a high school student, organizing for educational and racial justice, Palestinian solidarity and against the U.S. war on working-class people and is beginning a BS in Computer Science at NYU. **Luke Risher** organized for racial and economic justice with Philadelphia Student Union and UrbEd to save public education and challenge the over-policing and underfunding in Philly schools and is attending Howard University to study Community Development, Human Development, Art and Education.

Active in BLM and Black Liberation Project in Minneapolis and beginning a BA in Political Science at The New School, **Amir Sharif** co-founded Educate Ya' Self at his high school to fight against systemic racial oppression and white supremacy. **Christian Snow** serves on the support team of Assata's Daughters and as a third year Public Interest Scholar at

Northeastern University School of Law is pursuing legal studies to become a power tool for impoverished Black and Brown communities fighting oppressive forces in their community. **Basil Soper** organizes for LGBTQ rights in North Carolina focusing on altering the trans narrative in the media through his online publications on sites such as: *HuffPost*, *The Nation* and *Harper's Bazaar*, created a multi-media project called *Transilient* and is returning to school to complete a BA in Creative Writing at The New School.

Felipe Vargas is a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin who has organized around DACA, border re-entry, for-profit immigrant detention center infiltrations and stopping deportations, while working with the National UnDACAmented Research Project at Harvard University to collect the testimonies of undocumented youth. **Veronica Virgen** works to end deportations, assists undocumented immigrants with defense against deportation, and organizes for reproductive justice and against police brutality in community coalitions while beginning a law degree at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, William H. Bowen School of Law. **Paige Watkins** helped charter the Detroit chapter of Black Youth Project 100 (BYP100) and works to combat the rapid gentrification in the city, creating space for and resisting the displacement of Black Detroiters while working toward an MA in Community Development at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Kiyan Williams is a writer, multidisciplinary artist, and organizer who "in the tradition of Nikki Giovanni, Marlon Riggs, Marsha P. Johnson, and June Jordan, uses art as a tool to inspire deep and radical change" while working on an MFA in Visual Arts at Columbia University. **Silvia Zuvieta-Rodriguez** became involved with Austin Immigrant Rights Coalition following her father's deportation, is a founding member of Youth Rise Texas (YRT), organizing teens who have had their parents incarcerated and/or deported and is beginning a BA in Global Studies and International Relations at University of Texas Austin.

Read more about our 2017/18 grantees at www.davisputter.org



Noor Aljawad



Sarah Biscarra Dilley



Johnny Buck



Robert Chan



Leticia Cortés



Janelle Cronin



Joe Dole



Patricia Frazier



Amanda Jimenez



Kentaro Kaneko



Karen Louviere



Robin Castel Navarro



Christina Nesheiwat



Jasson Perez



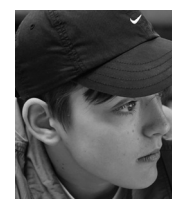
Elizabeth Perkins



Loubna Qutami



Jensine Raihan



Luke Risher



Amir Sharif



Christian Snow



Basil Soper



Felipe Vargas



Veronica Virgen



Paige Watkins



Kiyan Williams



Silvia Zuvieta-Rodriguez

Jessie Lloyd O'Connor Scholar – Hana Georg



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, who with her husband Harvey, opened heart and home to activists seeking respite. Our **Jessie Lloyd O'Connor Scholar** this year is **Hana Georg**. Hana began organizing as a high school student working to improve the public school system in LA and then in Brooklyn with queer youth organizing and Rise-Up Radio, a youth led collective at WBAI. They were involved with Students Against War and Student-Worker Solidarity Collective at UC Santa Cruz. Returning to Brooklyn, Hana joined the electrician's union and is working with labor and immigrant worker movements, co-founding an artist/activist collective, specifically to engage working-class people in dialogue around race, gender and immigration. Most recently Hana has been involved with Showing up for Racial Justice (SURJ), working to build a critical mass of white anti-racists in support of POC-led movements. Of pursuing a landscape architecture degree, Hana says, "This unique field will enable my work on physical landscape to extend into political landscape, designing with the specific intent to address injustice, and to take on the impactful role of urban planning with an awareness of social-historical context and histories of displacement." Hana will begin a Masters in Landscape Architecture/Urban Design at City College of New York.

The Marilyn Buck Award – Oloth Insyxiengmay

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 **Oloth Insyxiengmay**. Oloth found acceptance in a gang at the tender age of 11 and by 15, was sentenced to prison for life. During his 23 year incarceration, Oloth has taken the lessons of solidarity, community and survival to turn the Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Awareness Group at Clallam Bay Corrections Center into a liberating space working in solidarity with other organizations on the inside and outside to raise social awareness around matters related to imperialism, white supremacy, racism, sexism, poverty and the prison industrial complex. Oloth says of his work, "By educating our communities about their positionality in society and the systems of their suffering, we help transform and politicize our peers into agents for social change." He is currently studying towards an AA degree at Seattle Central Community College and will continue at University of Washington to pursue a BA in Sociology.



Note: Oloth was paroled in September, but has been transferred to the Northwest Detention Center, awaiting a citizenship hearing. We stand in solidarity with Oloth and hope this grant will provide significant support and structure as he works to reengage back in his community.

Anne Braden Award – Johana DeLeon



The Anne Braden Award was created to honor this long-time civil rights activist and Davis-Putter Trustee. The award recognizes an undergraduate working in the South, keeping racism central to all aspects of their movement work. This year's recipient is **Johana DeLeon**, who first became an activist because she was undocumented, joined the San Antonio Immigrant Youth Movement, coming out of the shadows, fighting for in-state tuition and educating the San Antonio community about DACA, higher education and their rights. At the Karnes Detention Center, she began working with detained mothers, who were facing death if deported. Together they launched public campaigns to fight their deportations and expose the injustices at the facility. As the campaign continued, more and more women were being taken off of the deportation list and given opportunities to fight their cases. When the women launched a hunger strike to protest the conditions, Johana was a key person in helping get their stories out to the media and ultimately helping to make many changes at the center. She continues her work with formerly detained families while seeking a Bachelor's of Social Work Degree at UT-Austin. We know Anne would be standing with Johana and the many immigrant folks facing deportation today.

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