

## Welcome Lisa Brock

Davis-Putter is honored to welcome back **Lisa Brock** as a sponsor of the Fund. Since the mid 1970's we have had a host of activists, organizers and scholars who have lent their name to us to show prospective applicants and donors who we are and what we're about. Sponsors are also asked to support the fund financially and to outreach to their networks to spread the word about DPSF and the grants we have available. Since Doc Brock left our board of trustees in 2019, she has continued to recruit other board members, spread the word to student activists and has hosted fun and inspiring house parties with her husband Otis Cunningham to fundraise for DPSF and deepen our community. Thank you Lisa, for your lasting commitment to DPSF and the student activists we support!

## 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, along with family and friends, 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, now totaling 1112, 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.

**DPSF grantees will not be silent – will you join your voice with theirs?**



**Donate!** There is no endowment and we seek no corporate support - we are grassroots!



**Amplify!** Share DPSF with friends who might support and student activists who might apply at [www.davisputter.org](http://www.davisputter.org). April 1 application deadline.



**Invest!** The future of the Fund depends on you. Make a planned gift today.

**Founders:** Mina D. Caulfield, Terry Davis,  
**Rest in Power:** C. Quentin Davis, H. Chandler Davis, Horace B. Davis, George and Janet Faxon, Sara Gordon, Robert and Jane Hodes, Jessie Lloyd O'Connor, Leonard Radinsky, Dirk Struik, and Ann and Katherine Timpson.

**Sponsors:** Huwaida Arraf, Lisa Brock, Margaret Burnham, Noam Chomsky, Johnnetta B. Cole, Angela Y. Davis, Lennox S. Hinds, Nancy J. Hodes, Robin D. G. Kelley, Jill Nelson, Jan Phillips, Barbara Ransby, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Paul Schachter, Andrés Torres, Mary Helen Washington.

**Trustees:** Matt Birkhold, Karen Bueonavista Hanna, Ben Graham-Putter, Mia Henry, Cedric Johnson, Carol J. Kraemer, Nathalie Meza Contreras, Laura McSpedon, Luke Patterson, Walter L. Putter, Swati Rayasam, Rachel L. Stocking, Gina Velasco, PG Watkins, JM Wong and Megan Ybarra.



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SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

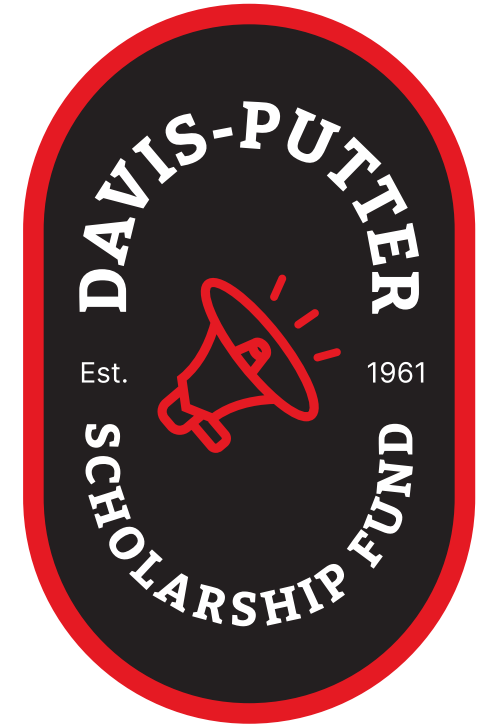


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# We Won't Be Silent



# 2023 2024

# Davis-Putter grantees won't be silent

*Davis-Putter grantees will not be silent! They are raising collective voice for the causes of justice, liberation and self-determination. They will not be silent in the face of economic war on workers, devastation of air, land and water, mass incarceration, colonialization and US funded war and occupation. Read more about them here and join your voice with theirs – in times like these, we need one another to continue building power and strengthening our mass movement for freedom!*

## DPSF Class of 2023/24

**Alec Bates** has been involved in queer activism for over a decade and is currently educating local community activist groups on alternative means of communication, including plans to build off-grid communication networks while working toward a BA in English and Sociology at Middle Tennessee University. **Derrick Braddock** is a “jailhouse lawyer” and criminal punishment reform activist who has been radicalized through disproportionate sentencing, false convictions and 20 years of incarceration, and is currently completing an AA at Adams State University toward a BA in Sociology with an emphasis on legal studies. **Stella Caban** is a land & water protector within Indigenous sovereignty movements particularly in Hawai`i and Boriken (Puerto Rico), committed to decolonizing on Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) while a graduate student at the Thompson School of Social Work at University of Hawai`i – Mānoa.

**Rene Cabrera** co-created a movement to rename his school district with racist roots. He works to create safe spaces for activists to fight against injustices in their communities, while studying Public Administration at Washburn University with plans to transfer to Cornell University in Industrial Labor Relations. **Ivette Casas** (no photo) organizes around health autonomy in the Southwest, focusing on increasing access to medical knowledge and care for undocumented and underserved peoples, while studying Biology. **Chichi Castillo** is an independent filmmaker, visual artist, and musician focusing on queer, femme, and multi-racial identity, sex worker self-determination, anti-carceral politics, and ecologies of care while attending San Francisco State University’s MFA in Cinema program.

**Jaylen Cavil** is a community organizer, activist, a leader with the Des Moines Black Liberation Movement and a law student at Northeastern University School of Law whose activism is centered in the politics of Black liberation with a focus on police and prison abolition. **Paige Chung** is a writer and DJ who uses music to unite, heal, and create freedoms while researching intimacies within nail salons, hip-hop, and DJ turntablism, training at the Beat Junkie Institute of Sound and studying Performing and Media Arts at Cornell. **Lucille Elliott** is the creator of intersectional radical zine Riot Ghouls RVA, organizes with the Queer student lobbying group, the Pride Liberation Project and is a freshman at the Virginia

Commonwealth University School of the Arts studying painting and printmaking.

**Aysia Gilbert** is a Jacksonville, FL - based activist who with the Community Remembrance Project and the Equal Justice Initiative has worked to uncover her community’s history of racial terror, tying the events to modern inequities, while seeking a Master's of Public Policy at Duke University. **Dustin Gordon**, with other incarcerated members in Michigan’s DOC organized a video conference, “Radical Mission: Inspiring Collaborative Action Through Restorative Culture,” while teaching English classes to aspiring writers and college bound incarcerated activists and working on a M.A. in Humanities from California State University that focuses on Prison Abolition and Liberation. **Nicholas Greven** is a long-time abolitionist community organizer from Indiana who is now pursuing a JD at the City University of New York School of Law to advance the causes of prisoner solidarity and abolition, as well as tenant and worker defense.

Born in Mindanao, Philippines, **Nur Jannah Kaalim** fights for the rights of immigrant domestic workers, works to strengthen grassroots movements for immigrant and refugee inclusion and is committed to the global fight against militarism, state violence, and displacement, while pursuing a Master’s degree in Migration Studies at the University of San Francisco. **Banah Khamis** established the Philly Palestine Coalition working toward land justice, Black, brown, indigenous, and queer liberation,

and transnational solidarity, while leading the Students for Justice in Palestine chapter and pursuing a B.A. in Global Studies, Political Science, and French at Drexel University. **Darrin Lester** launched several unique programs within the West Virginia Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation promoting healing from past trauma and advocating for education within the prison industrial complex before his release in 2021 and is currently an MSW candidate at West Virginia University.

**Jelina Liu** is studying political communication at George Washington University in D.C., has a background in climate change organizing and co-founded the GWU chapter of Dissenters, a new QTBIPOC led anti-militarist, anti-imperialist, anti-war youth organization which is leading a divestment campaign targeting GWU’s investments in weapons manufacturers. **Shayna Naranjo**, from Kha’p’o Owingeh, one of the 19 Pueblos in New Mexico, is committed to strengthening Indigenous community capacities for health, community care, and well-being—health equity through her work for Indigenous youth support, sacred site protection, and ethnic studies, while currently an MPH student at the Yale School of Public Health. **Ijeoma Okoro** is a junior public health science major at the University of Maryland College Park, focusing on racial bias in medicine and ways of incorporating implicit bias awareness, advocating for police reforms and improved treatment for incarcerated youth.

**Monique Orozco** is a Chicana of Michoacán and Jalisco, Mexico and American Indian Ancestry who blends cultural work with grassroots organizing dedicated to the trans-

continental Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives crisis while entering The Colleges of Law, Ventura, CA. **Leslie Perez** is committed to intersectional, decolonial, anti-capitalist, and nonhierarchical community building and action, while attending the California Institute of Integral Studies where they are pursuing a PhD in Anthropology and Social Change furthering archeological significance to protect their Native lands. **free Pierre** is a student of abolition and a poet at heart who supports movements within Black communities around liberation and community self-determination, while seeking a JD at UCLA School of Law.

**Chanravy Proeung** is a dedicated grassroots organizer and Khmer American focused on disrupting the school to prison to deportation pipeline, while pursuing a graduate degree at Yale University in Healthcare Management with a concentration in Global Health. **Alex Prolman** is a nursing student at UNC Chapel Hill with organizing roots in the climate justice movement and with the Bull City Tenants Union in Durham, NC where he plans to become a nurse advocate for an equitable and accessible health care system. **Cassie Rubio** is a co-chair of The Feminist Front mobilizing thousands of youth around healing, reproductive, educational and climate justice, using filmmaking to bridge their love of activism and art together while completing an MFA in Television Writing from Stony Brook University.

**Somdeng Danny Thongsy** is a 1st-gen low-income student, carceral impacted community leader and faith organizer, a refugee from Laos and member of Underground Scholars majoring in Sociology at UC Berkeley. **Cassandra Villanueva** is a social, racial and economic justice organizer who led the American Federation of Teacher unionization campaign at the University of New Mexico, and is seeking a Sociology and Teaching degree at Eastern New Mexico University.



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Read more about our 2023/24 grantees at [davisputter.org](https://davisputter.org)

# From the Frontlines:

Davis-Putter grantees are rising up for a ceasefire in Gaza and for an end to the occupation and genocide of the Palestinian people.

**Banah Khamis, current grantee and co-founder of the Philly Palestine Coalition wrote,** “Since the start of the current aggression on Gaza, I have been involved in campus-based and city-wide organizing efforts. On campus, mass open letters addressed to university presidents were sent across Philadelphia and universities in the area, garnering the support of student organizations, calling for the recognition of Palestinian students on campus. There was a national call for an end to university administrations' complicity in the ongoing ethnic cleansing in Gaza, organizing powerful walkouts that amplified our collective voice across campuses. Through the Philly Palestine Coalition, we organized vigils and emergency rallies, drawing thousands, making for one of the largest protests in Philadelphia. We took a stand against media bias and suppression and mobilized en masse to City Hall. We joined forces with anti-Zionist Jewish organizations, including IfNotNow Philly and Jewish Voice for Peace Philly, to call for an immediate ceasefire.”

Leading civil disobedience organized by Jewish Voice for Peace and If Not Now at a US Congressional Building on October 19, **Rabbi Ari Lev Fornari** (DPSF grantee 2008-2010 and Senior Rabbi at Kol Tzedek, a Voice for Justice, a Reconstructionist synagogue in West Philadelphia) called out, with protesters repeating...“We are / US Jews / And we are here / Representing / Thousands / thousands / thousands / of Jews. / You cannot exploit our grief. / You cannot call our grief / A reason to kill / to fund killing / We are here to call on President Biden and the US Congress / To use their power / To de-escalate Israel / To defund the occupation”



**Huwaida Arraf**, a 2007 DPSF grantee, co-founder of the International Solidarity Movement, civil rights attorney and a DPSF Sponsor stands with US Jews and allies during the mass civil disobedience above. She said, “What we are witnessing is truly horrific. I can only hope that most people can see beyond the rhetoric and propaganda and that the power of our collective voices will help bring the atrocities to an end -- a ceasefire first, but then true determination to end Israel’s system of settler colonial domination that has oppressed Palestinians for almost eight decades.”

## Jessie Lloyd O’Connor Scholar

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 **Jorge Corona**, a formerly undocumented and DACAmented immigrant from Mexico. As a video journalist, Jorge was part of organizing his union. He creates visuals for Make the Road New York and is a creative storytelling mentor with the Writer’s Guild Initiative while an MFA student at NYU’s Graduate Film program

## Marilyn Buck Award

Marilyn Buck was a political prisoner, poet and past DPSF grantee who worked in solidarity with Black Liberation struggles to end white supremacy. She sent regular donations and supportive notes from her jail cell, leaving a generous bequest following her death in 2010. To honor her memory and legacy,

The Marilyn Buck Award is given to an incarcerated or formerly incarcerated activist working for justice. **Dan Fortune** is



our awardee this year, actively involved in organizations inside and outside prison walls that advocate for justice-impacted individuals, he serves on the executive board of the only active NAACP branch in Maine and is a member of the Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition. He is studying Conflict Resolution at George Mason University's Carter Graduate School.

**Go to [www.davisputter.org](http://www.davisputter.org) between January 1 and April 1 to apply for a scholarship**