

# Davis-Putter 2018

## Scholarship Fund Spring Report

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May 1, 2018

Dear Friend of DPSEF,

For the past decade I have had the privilege of working for the Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund, a Fund whose sole purpose is to support student activists working to radically change systems of oppression in this country. Reflecting on the gratitude I feel for DPSEF, I am inspired and hopeful as I share about the work of our current class of DPSEF grantees. Below, you will read of young activists finding organizing communities at their new colleges, incarcerated activists working to make change inside prison walls, scholars providing radical research and frontline activists resisting and creating ways to remain resilient in these repressive times! As our trustees engage in the work of interviewing applicants to determine who will be our 2018/19 cohort and these activists continue their work for justice, we ask for your continued support!

**Noor Aljawad** organized at UC Berkeley to challenge white supremacist speakers and the demonization of advocates for Palestinian self-determination, while working to create an INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence chapter.

**Sarah Biscarra Dilley** researched tribal history and the ongoing dispossession of her tribe, the yak tityu tityu yak tilhini Northern Chumash, in their decades-long struggle for federal recognition, while organizing an exhibit addressing historic absences of Indigenous voices.

**Johnny Buck** continued his family's history of protecting their salmon fishing rights, taking direct action against the state of Oregon, Washington and the U.S., while continuing to organize and develop young Native American leaders.

**Robert Chan** was a contributor to the International Conference on Penal Abolition (ICOPA 17), while organizing resistance to arbitrary transfers in the CA prison system.

A note from Robert: "When DPSEF first funded me in 2014/2015 for my own bachelor's degree, I was the lone undergraduate here and it seemed it might remain that way. Since then though, I've been able to help California State University, Los Angeles (CSU-LA) find qualified undergraduate candidates; our total is now 48 incarcerated bachelor's candidates. The CSU-LA on-site B.A. program we built here is a progressive school that promotes the critical pedagogy of Paulo Freire and openly engages in the criminal justice reform movement, so I'm confident that in a few years these 48 will be ready to step up as the next wave of incarcerated activists here (CA State Prison/Lancaster County)."

Following the DACA repeal decision, **Leticia Cortés** created a cultural organizing group called Milwaz Talleres in the Son Jarocho community in Chicago, promoting leadership and providing political education on the Chicano Movement, Chicana Art and Resistance.



Moving from Memphis, Tennessee to Little Rock, Arkansas as a DACAmented law student, **Veronica Virgen** worked with Arkansas United to bring awareness about DACA, heightened ICE raids in the Little Rock Latinx Community and to fight for a Clean DREAM Act (shown above).

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**Janelle Cronin** was a visiting scholar in Australia sharing about her work as a Water Protector and the Standing Rock movement, working toward unification of the indigenous people from around the world, while continuing to resist unnecessary pipelines and the shrinkage of the National monuments for fossil fuel development.

**Johanna DeLeon** organized for DACA renewals and a Clean Dream Act following announcements that DACA would be rescinded, while continuing her commitment to strategizing against deportations and strengthening immigrant communities.

**Joseph Dole** continues providing legal assistance to other incarcerated folks, was selected to enroll in the University Without Walls BA program through Northeastern Illinois University, while researching, writing legislation and organizing to bring back parole in Illinois.

**Hana Georg** organized to address environmental racism and the role that gentrification plays in local mainstream ‘greening’ projects, while continuing their work with community security efforts and the Workers’ Art Coalition.

**Kentaro Kaneko** began work with a direct action group of nursing and med students promoting intersectional health justice, organized student response to racism, xenophobia, trans and homophobia in at the School of Nursing at UCSF, while continuing to work against HIV criminalization laws.

**Karen Louviere** worked with the Rebel Diaz Arts Collective supporting Mothers on the Move at the Take Back the Hood March and solidarity efforts with Puerto Rico, while organizing with Brown Girl Recovery, bringing healing spaces and resilience to organizers of color.

**Christina Nesheiwat** organized with the People’s Assembly and the Loyola Law clinic to bring suit against New Orleans with and for city residents who sustained flooding damage, while coordinating a SWANAconnect delegation supporting refugee-led efforts on the ground.

**Jasson Perez** facilitated and led political education for the Assata University boys program on the Black Freedom movement, Black feminism and abolition and anti-sexist practices, while introducing Transformative Justice processes around incidences of violence.

**Elizabeth Perkins** organized the Witness for Peace Southeast tour of Honduran human rights defender Neesa Medina, while supporting the KY Health Justice Network as a hotline volunteer and interpreter as attacks on Kentucky’s one remaining abortion clinic continues.

Through hands-on research and support of Palestinian Refugee youth, **Loubna Qutami** developed a more critical understanding of the intersections of the global refugee crisis, Zionism, racism, imperialism, the militarization of borders, climate change and capitalism in crisis, presenting her findings at the American Studies Association.

**Jensine Raihan** represented Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM) at an anti-capitalist Landless Peasant Workers Movement (MST) school in Brazil, informing their racial-immigrant justice work in New York City particularly after the repeal of DACA.

**Luke Risher** became involved in *HUResist* which is the heart of student activism at Howard University, organizing to build student power and work in solidarity with community, while staying connected to Philadelphia public education organizing with UrbEd.



**Patricia Frazier** organized with Assata’s Daughters’ No Cop Academy Campaign (above with 1974-78 DPSF grantee, Frank Chapman of the Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression) and was named Chicago’s Youth Poet Laureate, to be published by Haymarket Books.



**Oloth Insyxiengmay** was released from the Northwest Detention Center in January and has been settling in to his community, classes at Seattle Central Community College and organizing with, FIGHT, one of the groups he help found while incarcerated (shown above left with JM Wong, a 2012/13 DPSF grantee at the “No New Youth Jail” protest).

# From New York to San Francisco, DPSF grantees challenged US military support of fascism in the Philippines.



**Amanda Jimenez** (holding banner, right) serves as in leadership for Anakbayan New York, organizing with their anti-gentrification Defend Little Manila campaign and demanding an end to US support for President Duterte's rising threat of dictatorship in the Philippines.



**Robin Navarro** educated and mobilized around the worsening state of Martial Law and human rights violations under the US-Duterte regime (#BANTRUMP Rally in San Francisco protesting growing US military aid).

New to NYC and The New School, **Amir Sharif** worked on domestic politics, economic sanctions, DACA and the liberation of Palestine with independent student-run organizations that serve as a hub for much of the organizing on campus.

**Christian Snow** continued leading Assata's Daughters, guiding the organization into its next phase of stability, creating infrastructure, supporting the No Cop Academy campaign, and building relationships with partners, while assisting with wrongful conviction and police brutality cases with the People's Law Office in Chicago.

**Basil Soper** worked on growing and developing the 2018 organizational plan for *Transilient*, a project documenting the stories of trans folks in 17 states across the country while writing education articles altering the trans narrative in the media.

**Felipe Vargas** focused his research on how undocumented and DACAmented young activists, have undermined attempts by private foundations and nonprofit organizations to domesticate their radical social movements and the ways in which organizing and civil disobedience strengthens their post traumatic growth and resiliency.

**Paige Watkins** completed the BOLD Amandla Praxis organizer training and worked to develop impact strategies to shift the narrative of Detroit's ecosystem, while organizing direct action and growing the Detroit BYP100 chapter.

**Kiyan Williams** continued work with Harriet's Apothecary, a healing village committed to the liberation of Black people, specifically trans and genderqueer activists/organizers navigating transphobia and anti-Black violence during public protests and demonstrations.

**Silvia Zuvieta-Rodriguez** chronicled the challenges and the journey through her Dad's deportation and her work to bring him home while mobilizing new immigration justice leaders with Youth Rise Texas.

*Your past giving has helped support the crucial work of these student activists. Will you give generously today to support the DPSF grantees chosen for 2018/19? Your gift will directly impact the amount we award in June.*

*In Solidarity,*

*Carol J. Kraemer, Director*

*P.S. Please consider joining our Monthly Movement Building Circle by setting up a recurring gift at [www.davisputter.org](http://www.davisputter.org), hosting a house party fundraiser or supporting the future of the Fund with a designated planned gift! You can contact me at [davisputter@davisputter.org](mailto:davisputter@davisputter.org).*

# Allen E. Silverstone... Présenté!

September 20, 1942 - November 19, 2017



Allen was an early organizer of Students for a Democratic Society and the DuBois Club. While at MIT, he was heavily involved in the anti-war movement (photo above, 1965), as well as the formation of Science for the People and the Union of Concerned Scientists. Allen joined the then named Marian Davis Memorial Fund board in 1975 and continued serving until 2013. He was extremely committed to supporting and encouraging student activists. Annie Le, a 2013/14 DPSF grantee wrote, "Dr. Silverstone was my interviewer during my cycle. It was an immense pleasure to speak to him. He offered me a great sense of confidence in pursuing my path in medicine as a person committed to social justice and health equity. I lament not having the opportunity to ever meet him in person. I share in the mourning of his passing, and will continue fighting like hell for the living. Rest in power!"

We are so grateful to Allen for his years of commitment to the Fund and would like to thank his family, friends and colleagues for the generous memorial gifts sent to DPSF honoring Allen and his legacy. Allen's full obituary can be read in the Syracuse Post Standard (<http://obits.syracuse.com>)

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